



# IMPACT 2018

Through Extension programs across the nation, Family and Consumer Science Extension Educators provide a multitude of educational opportunities to meet the needs of diverse audiences.

## Financial Management

Most American families don't have the necessary skills to manage or stretch today's financial resources. Extension Family and Consumer Sciences educators provide training and support in the areas of financial literacy, personal financial management, resource management, and general economic well-being that address these issues.

### Lifelong Money Management Skills

In **Minnesota**, a Children, Youth, and Families at Risk program, *Financial Education: American Indian Youth*, offered culturally relevant financial lessons that engaged 40 American Indian youth. Lessons incorporated Ojibwe language and storytelling through legends. As a result, 90% of the students indicated a goal of saving money. The *Reality Store* simulations reached 10,288 **Virginia** youth in 177 sessions with assistance from 1,734 community partners. In a survey, 88% said they learned more about using money and 90% stated the program provided new ideas on how to handle money in the future.

**New Jersey** Extension developed a financial education curriculum to meet high school content standards and trained 250 teachers in face-to-face sessions or webinars with state funding. The *Real Money Real World* program (RMRW) reached 14,499 **Ohio** youth. After participating in RMRW, 57% indicated seeing the importance of having a spending and savings plan; 63% saw how important it is to make wise financial decisions.

*"A lot of things surprised me. The things that surprised me the most was how much child care is. My mom always told me everything adds up, but oh boy it really does!" – Ohio participant*

The *Captain Cash* program was taught to 3,644 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in school districts across **Indiana**. Students learned basic

concepts of personal finance, changed the way they think about saving money, and made big strides towards understanding the process of borrowing money.

### Basic Money Management

In **Utah**, 5,107 adults attended one of the 338 financial education programs. Four series also were taught in Spanish.

*"I really needed this workshop series to get in control of my finances to cut back on spending and organize my important paperwork. I really want to get out of debt." – Utah participant*

In **Virginia**, 584 financial literacy workshops reached 3,608 adults with the support of 353 Extension Master Financial Volunteers. Surveys revealed behavior changes: increasing 206% among those planning on writing short-term financial goals and 226% among those planning on writing a spending/savings plan.

**Wyoming** trained 15 *Master Money Manager Coaches*. Coaches reported an increase of 87% in their ability to offer programming.

*Your Money, Your Goals* train-the-trainer workshops were held in **Maryland**, reaching 38 front-line staff from 10 agencies to help consumers with financial empowerment and literacy.

In **Michigan**, 665 adults participated in the *Money Management* 6-lesson series. Evaluation results showed that more than 75% of participants track income and spending, save regularly, and pay bills on time. Families in the *MoneySmart In HeadStart* program in **Wisconsin** trained 1,101 adults using monthly newsletters, financial

literacy workshops, and financial coaching. Participants report feeling less worried about finances and having less difficulty paying bills.

**Delaware** provided *Financial Management Training* for 46 social workers and community leaders to help them address financial management questions while counseling others. All of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they felt prepared to use the tools and resources with clients.



*Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)* sites in **Missouri** and **Georgia** served 1,527 rural or low-income residents with filing free income tax returns, saving more than

\$34,500 in preparation fees. Financial education and encouragement to save part of their refund was provided. *The Balance Sheet*, a quarterly financial management e-newsletter reached 11,000 consumers, association volunteers, agency staff and county officials in **New York**. In the past 10 years, 27 *Protecting Your Personal Identity* sessions were held for 540 participants in **Idaho**. Sessions are updated annually.

*Money Smart* reached 1,493 **Texans** with low financial knowledge and skills. Results show a statistically significant increase in participants' knowledge of the program's concepts. In **Oklahoma**, 23 *Check and Balance* sessions provided 600 low-income adult participants valuable life skills. Surveys show a 75% increase in tracking income and spending and confidence in financial future.

Twelve counties in **Kentucky** hosted *Small Steps to Health and Wealth* challenges reaching 350 people. Participants reported saving more than \$7,605 and preparing meals at home, saving \$17,486. *Financial Education and Family Asset Protection* in **Minnesota** was provided for 257 Latinos learning to be financially stable, protecting family assets, and integrating into rural communities. Confidence

in improving or maintaining a good credit score increased from 68% before to 98% after the program.

I'm going to open a ROTH IRA after I get my first job." – **Missouri** participant

## Seniors

When you can't talk for yourself, you need family or friends to make decisions (possibly both health and financial) for you. **Illinois** Extension's program, *Super Powers: Your Wishes Done Right* helped 245 adults fill out legal documents used to communicate their wishes. *Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansas* (SHICK) was offered to 7,482 participants. Seniors gained financial knowledge and skills for sound financial decisions via telephone and one-on-one, in-person sessions in local Extension offices and at events and public presentations. Participants saved \$4,245,340. **Kentucky's Estate Planning** had 379 participants. According to surveys, 97% planned to create at least one specific estate planning goal and 96% will take action toward implementing an estate planning goal.

"I learned how to identify scams and protect myself." – **Minnesota** participant

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Raising kids, Eating right, Spending smart 

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