

NFCC PRESS RELEASE

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NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR
CREDIT COUNSELING

*Knowing the difference can
make all the difference.*

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NFCC MARKS FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH WITH SERIES OF EVENTS

Silver Spring, MD – The National Foundation for Credit Counseling (NFCC) is proud to continue its five-decade long mission of promoting financial literacy, and commends Congress for recognizing the importance of financial education by designating April as Financial Literacy Month.

“The NFCC continues to set the standard as we strive to realize our vision of creating a national culture of financial responsibility in this country,” said NFCC president and CEO Susan C. Keating. “Financial Literacy Month offers the opportunity to focus and maintain attention on this critical issue.”

Even though every month is Financial Literacy Month at the NFCC, April takes on a special significance when the NFCC and its Member Agencies seize the opportunity to create a new awareness around financial education with a series of events, including:

- **National Financial Literacy Poster Contest Winner Awarded.** From more than 4,000 posters that were submitted, Leah Ellyson’s expression of this year’s theme, “I’m going to be a millionaire because...” was selected as the winner. Leah is an 11th grader from North Marion High School in Farmington, WV and will be honored tonight at the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy Annual Awards Dinner in Washington, DC. Leah will receive a \$500 savings bond from the NFCC, and will tour Washington, DC, meeting with various dignitaries. (*Contact the NFCC for images of the winning posters.*)
- **Presentation of National Survey Results on Consumer Financial Literacy.** This annual national survey, conducted by Harris Interactive, Inc. focuses on how closely Americans monitor and keep track of their own finances, who they turn to for advice and help, how receptive they are to professional financial advice and education and their overall financial health. The complete results of this survey will be released at a Congressional Briefing on Capitol Hill on April 28.
- **Direct Consumer Assistance Through Special MSN Message Board Event.** Also on April 28, NFCC-certified counselors will be on-hand from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern Time on the MSN Money “Ask a Counselor” message board to discuss a topic on everyone’s mind: How to Put the Financial Basics in Place and Become Financially Stable.
- **New Online Financial Counseling and Education Resource** The NFCC will launch its new consumer Web site at www.DebtAdvice.org on April 10. The new site will feature important consumer tools including budget and mortgage calculators, financial literacy quizzes, *Financial Fast Facts* video tips, and information on how to reach local certified credit and housing counselors. The new site will also provide helpful information on a number of issues from bankruptcy counseling and education to foreclosure prevention and identity theft.

- **NFCC Member Agencies** nationwide will be hosting events specific to their communities during Financial Literacy Month.

“The wide variety of events that we have planned for Financial Literacy Month is a real indication of how important it is to raise the level of financial know-how in this country,” continued Keating. “From school children to seniors, it is vitally important that all Americans take responsibility for their financial future.”

To find the NFCC Member Agency closest to you, or to learn about Financial Literacy Month events in your area, call (800) 388-2227 or en Español, dial (800) 682-9832. To locate an agency online go to www.DebtAdvice.org.

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The National Foundation for Credit Counseling (NFCC), founded in 1951, is the nation’s largest and longest serving national nonprofit credit counseling organization. The NFCC’s mission is to promote the national agenda for financially responsible behavior and build capacity for its members to deliver the highest quality financial education and counseling services. NFCC Members annually help more than three million consumers through close to 900 community-based offices nationwide. For free and affordable confidential advice through a reputable NFCC Member, call 1 (800) 388-2227, (en Español (800) 682-9832) or visit www.nfcc.org.