

CAAB's newsletter is designed to ensure that our IDA/MDA Savers are fully informed about relevant money management topics, effective savings strategies, financial education opportunities in the DC area, and upcoming CAAB events. Every month, we will feature a different article focusing on strategies or products that can help you plan for and achieve your savings goals.

Getting Started with Savings: Advice for Teens

By Nakeya Mitchell

Over the last school year, CAAB has been fortunate to have a talented intern from the Urban Alliance Foundation working alongside our staff. A recent graduate of Anacostia Senior High School, Nakeya Mitchell is saving for her education in an IDA and taking financial education and other courses through Urban Alliance. This fall, Nakeya will be headed for college, but in the meantime, she has this advice to share with other teens who may soon be receiving their first paychecks as summer interns to get them started down the road to savings.

Teens should realize that now is a prime time to start saving. Saving money is important because having no money at all is a bad thing. Like my grandmother always says, "Having no money and wanting something is very bad, but having money and wanting something is the best thing in the world."

If teens start saving as soon as they get their first paid job, by the time they graduate from high school they can have enough money to help pay for some of their college expenses. For example, they could use their savings to help pay for items like food, a

computer, and other college costs. Having some of your own money saved to help pay for your expenses can also take a lot of stress off your parents - especially if they aren't sure where they will get the money to pay college tuition.

Saving also shows your parents that you are responsible. It proves that you are ready for the real world. When you get a job and save some of the money you get from your paycheck, it shows that you are taking initiative and looking forward



into the future. Here are 5 helpful tips to help teens start saving:

- Save your change. When you see a coin on the ground, pick it up and put it in your pocket. Over time, they will add up.
- Try to save at least half of what you make. For every dollar you earn, put at least 50 cents in your piggy bank.

Even this small savings can help you build something to come back to in the future.

- Make your money work for you. If you have any spare money in your pocket put it in your bank account. While leftover money is in your pocket it's not doing anything, but if you put it in your bank account it can grow with interest.
- Spend your money wisely. Don't spend your money on just anything, because once you really need something you might not have enough money to get it because you just spent all your money on something you didn't need.

- Set savings goals. Once you think of a good goal, take a picture of it or write it down and put it somewhere where you can see it every day. This will remind you to put some money in your bank account to help you reach your goal.

In the end, saving is important to help you have a good living. It can be hard for teens to save because they think that they can start saving as an adult but by that time, it may be too late. By

CONGRATULATIONS!

The following savers made asset purchases in the month of June.

Home

Jose Enrique Esquivel
Rachel Anne Dickerson
Ana Ayala

Education

Shanita Conley
Natasha Brown
Hershell Hager
Sariane Leigh
Billey Johnson

starting early, you can build good savings habits and if you put money in the bank it can grow without you having to do anything.

We hope Nakeya's wise words can be helpful to those just getting started with savings. For more information and resources that can help teens improve their financial literacy, visit the resources page on the CAAB website at <http://caab.org/resources/resources-about-financial-education.php#youth> or call CAAB at 202-419-1440.

Share your experience!

Does a teen you know want to start saving for college, a car, or some other big ticket item? Share what you've learned as an IDA/MDA saver!

Dealing with banks and reading monthly statements can be intimidating to people new to saving. Talk to them about the tips you picked up in money management class, and what you've figured out in your own budgeting and saving.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Money Management Classes at CAAB

at 1801 K St NW, Suite M100 (Farragut West & Farragut North metro stops)

New round of Money Management classes starts this month!

(Free) Complete your financial education requirements for the IDA or MDA program and meet other people saving towards their life goals just like you. Saturdays, July 28 through September 8, 10 am - 12 pm

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| July 28 | Creating wealth, setting financial goals, and tracking expenses |
| Aug 4 | Understanding Credit |
| Aug 11 | Knowing Your Rights |
| Aug 18 | Budgeting |
| Aug 25 | Financial Institutions and Products |
| Sept 8 | Cash Flow 101 Game |

Microsoft Software Training Courses

at Southeastern University, 501 Street SW (Waterfront-SEU metro)

Microsoft Word Advanced (\$75) Fri, July 27 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Property Management Certificate Program

at CCAHE, Greater Southeast Community Hospital, 1310 Southern Ave SE (Southern Ave metro)

Fundamentals of Property Management (\$600) Every Wednesday, July 25, August 1, 8, and 15, from 6:00 - 9:00 pm

This 4-week course will teach the principles and practices of residential, commercial, and retail property management. Topics include: how to structure and manage operations and maintenance, how to manage personnel effectively, property types, management agreements, maintenance and security issues, and tenants' relationships. Textbooks and materials provided through registration fee. Scholarships available for 30 low-income women living in Wards 6, 7, 8, Prince George's County, and Montgomery County (contact Southeastern University Center at 202-478-8231 for more information).

Small Business Classes

offered by the Washington Area Community Investment Fund and held at 2041 MLK Jr. Avenue SE (Anacostia metro)

Starting and Financing Your Business (Free) Tuesday, August 7, from 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Learn how to finance a start-up business at this FREE seminar taught by industry experts. Please come prepared with your questions!

ATTENTION WOMEN!

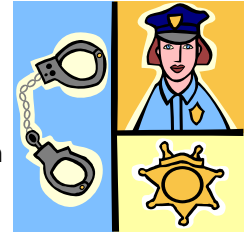
Would you like a job with a starting salary of \$30,000-\$46,000 a year with full benefits, plus over-time?

If this sounds good to you, come learn about a new free career preparation program for careers in:

- ◇ law enforcement
- ◇ public safety
- ◇ emergency response

These occupations can be found in a number of sectors in our DC area economy, but only a small portion of the well-paying positions in these occupations are held by women - this program aims to change that!

Information session: Thursday, July 26, 6:30 - 8:00 pm at Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW) offices at 1001 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 930 (entrance on K between 17th & Conn., Farragut Square metro). Must register: call Vivian Staples at (202) 464-1596 x101.



Accountholder Tip

Citibank collects a 10 cent service charge on every cash deposit you make into your IDA or MDA. This doesn't sound like much, but wouldn't you rather keep your money than give it to the bank? To avoid this charge, either make your monthly deposits by check (remember, minimum monthly deposit is \$25 for the IDA program and \$50 for the MDA program) or even better, set up direct deposit through your employer (your employer provides the form and sets up the direct deposit).

CAAB CORNER

Noticed an improvement in our website recently? Thanks goes to Kyle Chin, who joined CAAB as a summer intern through the OCA (formerly Organization of Chinese Americans) internship program. He'll be working with us full-time through September 13, assisting with administrative tasks as well as website maintenance and marketing activities. After his stint with CAAB, Kyle will enter his sophomore year at the University of California, San Diego as an undeclared Bio-Science major. Kyle is a runner and is also a cook - he's been taking lessons from his dad since before he can remember.

Capital Area Asset Builders
1801 K Street NW, Suite M100
Washington, DC 20006
Phone: 202-419-1440
Fax: 202-419-1447
www.caab.org