

Asset Building Agenda for DC in 2016

Family Assets Count Data in Action

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Family Assets Count

- What is the Family Assets Count?
 - Family Assets Count is a new approach to expanding financial security that combines cutting-edge data with tools for ***building coalitions*** that enable the creation of more effective partnerships and solutions to household financial vulnerability in America.

About United Way NCA

- United Way NCA is moving in a new strategic direction, with asset building in low and moderate income communities as a core focus

About CAAB

- CAAB's work is driven by our Vision of Prosperity and Financial Security for All.
- Through our Financial Education, Matched Savings and Consumer Education programs, and research and advocacy, CAAB is working to ensure that all residents in the Greater DC Area have opportunities to save and invest in their dreams.

Building a Common Agenda for DC

Where do we start?

1. Maximize and Expand Coverage of the EITC
2. Increase Matched Savings Programs for Youth and Adults
3. Increase Integration of Financial Capability and Asset-Building into Public and Nonprofit Services

1. Maximize and Expand Coverage of the EITC

- Maintain the DC EITC and its refundable status
- Expand EITC eligibility to assist additional working, low-income families
- Increase awareness of the EITC among the most financially vulnerable DC residents
- Promote EITC and free tax preparation services among immigrant communities in their primary language
- Expand offering of free tax-preparation services for DC's most financially vulnerable residents

Why Focus on the EITC?

- Strongest local EITC: 40% of federal EITC
- In 2014,
 - 54,000 DC families benefited from EITC
 - \$125 Million in federal EITC
 - \$52 Million in DC EITC
 - 18% of DC's population receives federal EITC
- Between 7,000 to 11,000 eligible DC residents do not claim EITC

2. Increase Matched Savings Programs for Youth and Adults

- Encourage savings dedicated to pursuing postsecondary education, establishing a small business or purchasing a home for the first time
- Allocate funding for DC matched savings created under the D.C. Opportunities Act of 2000
- Explore opportunities to scale up other matched savings programs

The Power of Matched Savings

- Examples from DC Since 1997
 - About 2,500 DC residents have benefited from IDAs: Total savings of over \$4.7 Million
 - Individuals have saved over \$1.3 Million
 - Earned additional match of over \$3.4 Million
 - Over 900 Homes purchased
 - Over 350 Businesses launched
 - Over 1,100 College enrollments
- Beyond IDAs: CFSA and DHS programs

3. Increase Integration of Financial Capability and Asset-Building into Public and Nonprofit Services

- Evaluate the impact of CAAB's Department of Employment Services' pilot program integrating the delivery of financial capability services with workforce services
- Expand funding and delivery of integrated financial capability services over the long term through key social services
- Research models of financial empowerment centers in other major cities and adopt the most appropriate model for implementation in the District of Columbia
- Incentivize partnerships between technical assistance providers, community lenders and service providers to ensure delivery of financial capability services to entrepreneurs

Envisioning Integrated Services

- Average credit card debt for DC residents is over \$11,000
- Over half of DC residents have subprime credit
- Nearly 25% of DC residents are underbanked
- Weaving financial capability into fabric of delivery of social services
 - DC Government-supported services
 - CBO-supported services

Thank You

