



The Bank in the Community

The Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond values its connections with Fifth District communities and works to strengthen those relationships through our contact with constituents across all of our functions and through the charitable activities of our employees. The Bank conducts annual United Way campaigns at its Richmond, Baltimore, and Charlotte Offices, and our employees participate in numerous community service projects through our FedCorps volunteer program.

In addition, by reaching out to and talking with people in the Fifth District, the Bank's staff learns a great deal about economic conditions in the region and uses that information to help in the formulation of monetary policy. This interaction is also invaluable in learning about, and sharing insights regarding, community development issues facing our many constituents.

In 2006, for instance, the Bank's President, senior officers, and economists gave more than 100 talks throughout the District on a wide range of topics related to the economy, banking, and policy. Our economic education division conducted programs for teachers and students from the elementary school level through college. A number of departments within the Bank partnered with local organizations to hold a forum addressing regional economic issues in southwest Virginia and southern West Virginia. And the Community Affairs Office organized housing and economic development seminars in Maryland and South Carolina. Moving forward, providing resources to increase public understanding of the financial system and the broader economy will remain a high priority for the Bank, as will our efforts to deepen our own understanding of the economic successes and challenges facing communities in our region.