

February 19, 2010

National Network to End Domestic Violence Recognizes America Saves Week

Washington, D.C. – The National Network to End Domestic Violence today recognized America Saves Week as part of its work to empower survivors of domestic violence financially. While the economy does not create domestic violence, the severity and frequency of abuse can get worse in an economic downturn. At the same time, the economy can limit options for survivors of abuse to escape.

“Finances represent a tremendous barrier for survivors of domestic violence to escape,” said Sue Else, president of the National Network to End Domestic Violence. “America Saves Week encourages everyone to become financially independent. For so many victims of domestic violence financial independence can be a pathway to safety.”

First launched in 2001, America Saves is a national social marketing campaign that encourages low and moderate income individuals to save money, reduce debt and build wealth. America Saves Week runs from February 21-28.

America Saves partners with more than 500 financial institutions to provide no or low fee, low opening balance savings accounts that allow small savers to achieve success. More than 1,000 non-profit organizations, companies, government agencies, educational institutions, religious institutions, and unions participate in America Saves Week.

“The National Network to End Domestic Violence is deeply committed helping survivors of domestic abuse with financial tips and best practices,” said Else. “From day-to-day budgeting to long-term retirement planning, we offer tools to help victims get back on their feet and thrive.”

The National Network and The Allstate Foundation have forged a unique partnership combining domestic violence expertise with financial expertise to serve survivors of abuse. The partnership has produced a comprehensive financial education curriculum designed for survivors of domestic violence. For more information, visit <http://nnedv.org/projects/allstatefoundtion.html> and <http://www.clicktoempower.org/>.

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NNEDV, a 501(c)(3) organization, is a leading voice for domestic violence victims and their allies. Its members include the 56 state and territorial coalitions against domestic violence. It works closely with them to understand the needs of domestic violence victims and advocacy programs. NNEDV has been a premiere national organization advancing the movement against domestic violence for the past 15 years, after leading efforts among domestic violence advocates and survivors in urging Congress to pass the landmark Violence Against Women Act of 1994. To learn more about NNEDV, please visit www.nnedv.org.

HIGHLIGHTS

View tips on Comparing Banking Services from *the Moving Ahead Through Financial Management* curriculum, Module Two (pp.11-13). To access the curriculum, go to www.clicktoempower.org.

Curriculum Highlights on Comparing Bank Services:

In order to compare banks, consider the services they offer and discover the fees that are charged for these services.

- ? Checking accounts: fees, minimum balance requirements and overdraft charges
- ? Automated Teller Machines (ATMs): availability and fees
- ? Savings accounts and products: interest rates, restrictions and penalties on withdrawal
- ? Bank branch hours: are they convenient for your work schedule
- ? Telephone services: available 24 hours, automated or immediate connection to a consultant
- ? Online banking and bill pay
- ? Safety of money: look for the FDIC logo.

Participate in America Saves Week: Sign Up for the e-Wealth Coach Series

Would you like to receive monthly e-mails from national experts on topics such as money management, investment basics, building wealth through homeownership, saving during tax time, and getting out of debt?

If you do, then take action and subscribe to America Saves Week Build Wealth Not Debt e-mails by signing up at: www.americasavesweek.org/individuals/receivemessages.asp.

NNEDV is a proud to support America Saves Week, February 21 – 28, 2010. To learn more about how your organization can participate go to, www.americasavesweek.org.