

Lawrence Financial Stability Center





September 24, 2012

Networking With LCW

One of LCW's great successes is our ability to engage our members in a 'networking' approach to improving their own lives *and* their community. Over the years LCW has catalyzed over \$80 million dollars in local investment through new home purchases, educational credentials, and small business capitalization.

We see the Lawrence Financial Stability Center as the next step in achieving even greater community collaboration. By partnering with United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley, and our City's anchor institutions, we foresee tremendous opportunity to advance the revitalization of Lawrence from the inside out.





Lawrence Saves Campaign



2010 Design Team



2011 500 Conversations



2012 Financial Stability Center





Design Team Report



- 1. Trust between people and the financial service industry is fractured
- 2. People do not know where to turn for reliable financial information and resources
- We need to help youth learn about good financial management
- 4. Is living healthy affordable in Lawrence?





500 Conversations – Brief Findings

		Adult	Youth
Savings goal	1) 2) 3)	Home ownership Retirement Debt reduction	 Education Car "Other" – License, clothes, skateboard
What Helps?	1) 2) 3)	Family Financial group/class Internet	 Parents Other family Friends
What Gets in the Way?	1) 2) 3)	Not earning enough Lack of information/ education Lack trust in financial institutions	 Not earning enough Need help with planning No jobs for teens
Services Wanted	1) 2) 3)	Financial education, 2) Awareness of services 3) Mutual support opportunities	 Financial education Awareness of services More people helping each other

Focus Group Highlights

- Debt Repair
- Savings / Advocating Relationships with Local Lenders
- Financial Coaching
- Job Search / Career Coaching
- Higher Education / Career Certification
- Health & Finances
- Parent/Children Peer Group
- Building Wealth Education Workshops (Couples / Individuals)









Basic Needs Partnerships

- Public Benefits Screening
- Benefit Program Referrals
- Healthy Living Resources

Financial Institution Partnerships Access to Financial Products

Basic Banking Connections

- Savings Incentives
- Debt Consolidation/Credit Repair
 - Small Dollar Loans
 - Lending Circles
 - Small Business Lending

Existing LCW Programs

Homeownership Counseling Wallet Wise Financial Ed IDAs (Matched Savings Programs) VITA (Free Tax Assistance) ESL ABE / GED Soft Skills

Financial Coaching

Basic Computer Skills

Expanding / Emerging Programs

Building Wealth Workshop Savings Club Peer Support Groups Consumer Action Groups Small Business IDAs

Educational Partnerships

- FAFSA
- College Counseling
- Career Coaching
- GED/ABE/ESOL
- Certifications / Degrees

Workforce Development Partnerships

- Career Coaching
- Job Readiness
- Job Search
- Resume Development
 - Skills Training
- Certificate Programs
- Employer and Job Connections







Maximizing Income Support

Job and Career Development

Asset Building and Retention

Partnerships in Benefit Screening, Veteran Services, Healthy Living, Child Care

Partnerships in Job Creation, Soft-skill Development, Educational Credential Credit Improvement, Debt Reduction, Homeownership, Savings, Banking Relationships







Achieving Economic Mobility and Independence

Thank you



