New ways for you to access financial education

Local News

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OLYMPIA - The Washington State Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) continues to seek new methods of helping all Washington residents get the information they need to make sound financial decisions. In an effort to meet Gov. Chris Gregoire's challenge for state agencies to improve customer service with reduced resources, DFI is pleased to share the many ways we're doing more with less.

To reach more Washington residents while using fewer resources and funds, we've joined the world of Web 2.0 and are adding new ways to provide access to much-needed resources, including: Financial Education Clearinghouse
(which includes a link to resources for the recently or soon-to-be unemployed) Financial Education Blog Financial Education Twitter How DFI Protects Consumers Financial Education YouTube Channel
(where we've compiled a host of financial education videos from a variety of reliable resources) Consumer Twitter Page Financial Education Calendar With these new points of access, Washington consumers may now receive immediate updates and get the latest information on how protect and improve their financial well-being, including: Financial resources for the unemployed; How to talk with your children about the family budget in today's economy; How to verify the license of a business; Staying up-to-date on fraud alerts; Getting help and avoiding foreclosure; How to avoid mortgage fraud and foreclosure rescue fraud; How to avoid becoming a victim of predatory lending; and Access to financial education events and resources for the whole family. Adhering to our mission of "Regulating financial services to protect and educate the public and promote economic vitality" DFI will continue to add additional resources and increase the number of methods to make this information available to Washington residents as they arise. Understanding that Washington residents face many challenges in today's economy, DFI is partnering with KCTS 9 PBS in Seattle for their "Tough Times" series on how to survive in a down economy http://www.kcts9.org/toughtimes. DFI's Steven C. Sherman, Esq., a Financial Legal Examiner in our Consumer Services Division will participate in the second in the series on housing and Martin Cordell, Supervisor, Securities Division Criminal Unit of the Enforcement Section will be on hand for the third in the series on personal finance and protecting your investments.

DFI is assisting the City of Tacoma Safe and Clean Team, Federal Reserve Board, United Way of Tacoma-Pierce County and numerous non-profit organizations to offer help to homeowners facing foreclosure with a free all-day workshop. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 14
Foreclosure Intervention Workshop
Evergreen College Tacoma Campus
1210 6th Ave.
Tacoma, WA
Call 1.800.368.1455 to register.
Visit www.homeownership.wa.gov for more information.

We're also partnering with AARP (and other partners including FINRA, Microsoft and the Washington Attorney General's Office) on four "Taking Charge In Tough Times" education outreach events

throughout the state. Wednesday, April 8
Three Rivers Convention Center
7016 Grandridge Blvd.
Kennewick, WA 99336 Wednesday, April 22
Red Lion Hotel Bellevue
11211 Main St.
Bellevue, WA 98004 Wednesday, May 6
Vancouver Red Lion Hotel at the Quay
100 Columbia St.
Vancouver, WA 98660 Wednesday, June 3
Red Lion Hotel at the Park
303 W. North River Dr.
Spokane, WA 99201 All events will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Space is limited. Register by calling toll-free 1-877-926-8300.