

NFCC PRESS RELEASE

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NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR
CREDIT COUNSELING

*Knowing the difference can
make all the difference.*

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**NFCC MARKS FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH
WITH SERIES OF EVENTS**

Awareness Efforts to Establish National Culture of Financial Responsibility

Silver Spring, MD – In a letter to the NFCC from the White House dated March 3, 2008, President Bush said the following:

“Financial literacy is important for all Americans so they can manage their money wisely and safeguard themselves against fraud and identity theft. This month is an opportunity for individuals to learn about financial matters such as developing a budget, managing and saving money, and understanding how credit scores can affect them. By becoming informed consumers, citizens can make smart financial decisions and be successful in today's marketplace.

I appreciate the National Foundation for Credit Counseling and all those involved with Financial Literacy Month. Your work strengthens our economy and helps build a brighter future for people across our Nation.”

The National Foundation for Credit Counseling (NFCC) is proud to continue its five-decade long mission of promoting financial literacy, and commends the Administration for recognizing the importance of such initiatives.

“The NFCC continues to set the standard as we strive to realize our vision of creating a national culture of financial responsibility in this country,” said NFCC president and CEO Susan C. Keating. “Financial Literacy Month offers the opportunity to focus and maintain attention on this critical issue.”

April has long been recognized as Financial Literacy month, and the NFCC and its Member Agencies seize the opportunity to create a new awareness around financial literacy with a series of events, including:

- **Announcement of National Financial Literacy Poster Contest Winners.** From more than 1,500 posters that were submitted, the national and category winners of our national financial literacy poster contest were announced. The theme of the contest was “Financial Responsibility Begins with Me.” The national winner will be honored at the Jump\$Start Dinner on April 9, 2008, will receive a \$500 savings bond, and will tour Washington, DC, meeting with various dignitaries. (*Contact the NFCC for images of the winning posters.*)
- **Presentation of National Survey Results on Consumer Financial Literacy.** A national survey, conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates International, and jointly sponsored by the

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NFCC and MSN Money, focused on how closely Americans monitor and keep track of their own finances, who they turn to for advice and help, how receptive they are to professional financial advice and education and their overall financial health. The results of this survey will be released on Capitol Hill on April 29 during a Congressional Briefing.

- **Direct Consumer Assistance Through Special MSN Message Board Event.** On April 22, NFCC-certified counselors will be on-hand from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern Time on the MSN Money “Ask a Counselor” message board to discuss a topic on consumer’s minds: Recession-Proofing Your Finances.
- **NFCC Member Agencies** nationwide will be hosting events specific to their communities during Financial Literacy Month.

“The wide variety of events that we have planned for Financial Literacy Month is a real indication of how important it is to raise the level of financial know-how in this country,” continued Keating. “Whether it is school children or the aging, it is vitally important that every American takes responsibility for their own financial future.”

To find the NFCC Member Agency closest to you, or to learn about Financial Literacy Month events in your area, call 1-800-388-2227 or en Español, dial 1-800-682-9832. To locate an agency online go to www.DebtAdvice.org.

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The National Foundation for Credit Counseling (NFCC), founded in 1951, is the nation’s largest and longest serving national nonprofit credit counseling organization. The NFCC’s mission is to promote the national agenda for financially responsible behavior and build capacity for its members to deliver the highest quality financial education and counseling services. NFCC members annually help more than two million consumers through close to 900 community-based offices nationwide. For free and affordable confidential advice through a reputable NFCC member, call 1-800-388-2227, (en Español 1-800-682-9832) or visit www.nfcc.org.