# Focus on Native Communities

A complementary resource to Your Money, Your Goals

Asset Building Conference Niagara Falls, NY Sept. 17, 2019





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#### Training purpose

#### To provide you with:

- Information and tools to meaningfully connect Your Money, Your Goals to the community members you serve and help them manage or address their financial challenges
- An orientation to Your Money, Your Goals and Focus on Native Communities
- The knowledge and confidence to use the information and tools in your community



#### Introductions

- Share the following:
  - Your name
  - Your organization or affiliation
  - Your interest in financial empowerment



# Focus on Native Communities



#### Focus on Native Communities



YOUR MONEY, YOUR GOALS

# Focus on Native Communities

A companion guide to assist tribal staff and organizations in their work with community members.



May 2019

#### What's inside?

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Native Communities and financial empowerment
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Using Your Money, Your Goals in Native Communities
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#### Your Money, Your Goals resources

- Your Money, Your Goals Toolkit
- Focus on Reentry
- Focus on Persons with Disabilities
- Focus on Native Communities





#### Your Money, Your Goals resources

- Behind on Bills?
  - English and Spanish
- Debt getting in your way?
- Want credit to work for you?
- Building your savings?
- Implementation guide
- Training slides with notes are available for each publication











#### Your Money, Your Goals

Consumer Tools

Practitioner Resources

Data & Research

Policy & Compliance

About Us

#### Your Money, Your Goals

Your Money, Your Goals is a set of financial empowerment materials for organizations that help people meet their financial goals by increasing their knowledge, skills, and resources.

Whether you're helping people get a job, find a place to live, or deal with a legal problem, money always comes up. You can use these tools to start the conversation.

#### Featured tool

# Your Money, Your Goals in Action

A recently released report describes effective practices in training frontline staff and integrating Your Money, Your Goals into existing service models.

Read the report 🗓



#### About us

We're the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), a U.S. government agency that makes sure banks, lenders, and other financial companies treat you fairly.

Learn how the CFPB can help you

#### RELATED READING

#### **₽** Blog

Budgeting: How to create a budget and stick with it

JUN 05, 2019

Cómo hacer un presupuesto y mantenerse en él

JUN 05, 2019

Fight zombies and time travel - this is not how your parents learned about money

MAY 23, 2019

#### Benefits of Your Money, Your Goals

#### Community members are able to:

- Take care of their financial needs and obligations and contribute to the community.
- Make informed decisions about protecting and growing community assets.
- Community members are better able to protect elders from financial abuse and exploitation.
- Make informed decisions about balancing today's needs while planning for the next generation.



#### Toolkit organization

Introduction

Tool: Financial empowerment selfassessment

Tool: My money picture Module 1: Setting Goals

Tool: Setting SMART goals

Tool: Putting goals into action

Tool: Planning for life events and large purchases

Handout: Revising goals Module 2: Saving

Tool: Savings plan

Tool: Saving and asset limits

Tool: Finding a place for savings

Handout: Saving at tax time Module 3: Tracking Income and Benefits

> Tool: Income and benefits tracker

Tool: Choosing how to get paid

Tool: Increasing income and benefits Module 4: Paying Bills

> Tool: Spending tracker

> > Tool: Bill calendar

Tool: Choosing how to pay bills

Tool: Cutting expenses

Tool: Prioritizing bills Module 5: Getting through the Month

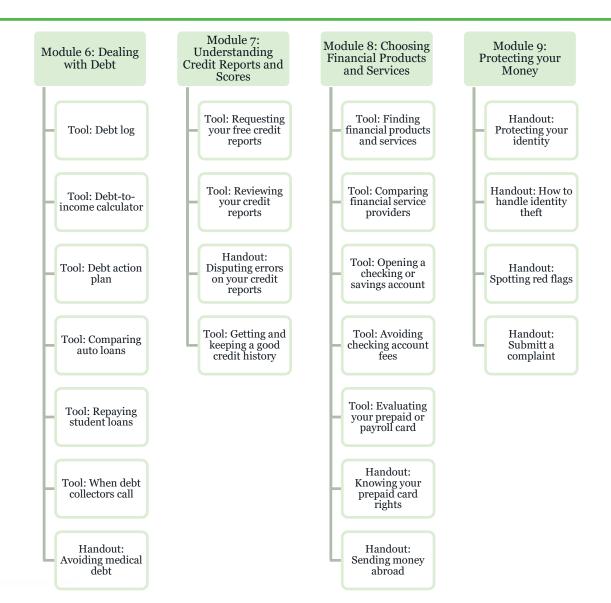
> Tool: Creating a cash flow budget

> > Tool: Improving cash flow

Tool: Adjusting your cash flow



## Toolkit organization



# Using *Your Money, Your Goals* and Focus on Native Communities—One-on-one

- A tribal social service staff member providing case management to individuals in the community.
- An elder mentoring a young adult in the community.
- A Native Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) staff member providing additional financial information and skill building to a prospective small business owner.
- A financial coach helping a community member reach her goals.



# Your Money, Your Goals

Implementing *Your Money, Your Goals* and Focus on Native Communities



## Module 1: Setting Goals

- Specific
- Measurable
- Able to be reached
- Relevant
- Time-framed

Goals can be the foundation for building greater selfdetermination. They provide direction for how to use resources including money.



## Native Communities Tool: Using values to set goals

#### **GETTING STARTED**

# Using values to set goals

Values provide a foundation for your goals. Understanding the values that are most important to you can help you steward your resources in ways that uphold them.

Values are the things that people consider most important in their lives. They can be individual principles or shared beliefs within a community or culture. Depending on the individual you are working with, values may be an appropriate place to begin the financial empowerment discussion. A reflection on traditional values may make the information and tools on goal-setting and related topics in Module 1 feel more relevant.

#### Using values to set goals

- Values are the things that people consider most important in their lives.
- A reflection on traditional values may make the information and tools on goal-setting and related topics in Module 1 feel more relevant.



# Make sure your goals reflect your priorities by **Using values to set goals**

- 1. Think about your community's values and how they influence your goals.
- Consider your personal values and how they relate to your goals and influence the ways you use your resources.

What are some traditional values shared by the members of your community?

How do these traditional values influence you?

How do these traditional values influence your goals?



#### Native Communities Tool: Using values to set goals

Use the following tool to identify the top five values most important to you. Rank them in order of most important, from 1 to 5. Put a "1" by the value that is most important to you, a "2" by the value that is the next most important, and so on.

 Comfortable life		Inner harmony
 Courage	_	Leisure time
 Culture and traditions	_	Living in harmony with nature
 Family and clan		Professional achievement
 Financial security		Respect for and from others
 Freedom		Self-determination
 Happiness		Self-respect
 Health	_	Social recognition or status
 Independence		

#### Native Communities Tool: Using values to set goals

- What were your top five values? Did these surprise you? What do these values say about you?
- Do your goals reflect these values?
- How do you think these values affect the way you manage your financial resources?
- What is the value of an activity like this?
- How can we use these insights in providing financial empowerment services to clients?



## Module 2: Saving

- What is savings?
  - Savings is money you set aside today for use in the future
- What are examples of unexpected expenses or emergencies?

Saving is about setting aside resources today so they can be used in the future. It's about balancing your resources to take care of your family and community.



# Native Communities Tool: Savings and asset limits in Native communities



# Learn how Saving and asset limits in Native communities can affect your benefits

- 1. Select the programs that you're enrolled in or plan to apply for in the future.
- Add the name of the contacts for your tribe's programs. If you don't have this information, use
  the websites in the "Additional resources" section to find out.
- 3. Using the websites in the "Additional resources" section, review the asset limit for each program.

#### Benefits and asset limits list for your community

Benefit	Contacts for tribal benefit programs	Information about asset limits specific to your tribe or community
Food programs		
TANF - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families		
Public housing		
LIHEAP - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program		
Indian health services		

#### Module 3: Tracking Income and Benefits

#### Income

- Regular income
- Irregular income
- Seasonal
- One-time occurrence

#### **Benefits**

You have to know what's coming in before you can plan for what's being spent. Tracking the money and benefits you receive is the first step in creating a budget that works for you.



#### Native Communities Tool: Making the most of the IIM



# Plan for your future by **Making the most of the IIM**

- 1. Answer the questions about your IIM or 18-money.
- 2. Evaluate the pros and cons of spending or saving the money you're receiving.
- 3. List your goals and consider how your plan for your money will help you reach them.

How much do you think you are getting from your IIM or 18-money account?



#### Native Communities Tool: Making the most of the IIM

#### Spending your IIM

List below the pros and cons you see of spending all the money you receive. Consider these questions when making your list.

- What if you spent all of the IIM money you are about to receive right away?
- What would you buy with it?
- How would that affect your future?
- How would that affect members of your family?

PROS	CONS



#### Native Communities Tool: Making the most of the IIM

#### Saving your IIM

List below the pros and cons you see of saving some or all the money you receive. Consider these questions when making your list.

- What if you saved some or all of the IIM money you are about to receive?
- How would that affect your future?
- How would that affect members of your family?

PROS	CONS



## Module 4: Paying Bills

#### **Spending**

 Money you use to pay for a wide range of basic needs, your financial obligations, and other things you may want.

How you use your money is often a reflection of values. But, there are individual consequences for not paying your bills on time or repaying debts. This happens regardless of the contributions you have made to your family or community.



#### Module 4: Paying Bills

- Use the "Spending tracker" to get a clear picture of where you're using your financial resources.
- Use the "Bill calendar" to visually organize all of your bills in a monthly calendar.
- Use "Choosing how to pay bills" to learn about all of the payment options you have for paying your bills.
- Use "Cutting expenses" to brainstorm ideas for cutting expenses from your.
- Use "**Prioritizing bills and spending**" to make decisions about which bills to pay when you can't make ends meet.



#### Module 5: Getting through the Month

- What is a cash flow budget?
- How is it different from a regular budget?
- What do you think may be the benefit of this approach for your clients?

Native Communities have planned for the use and conservation of natural resources for thousands of years. Cash flow budgeting applies those principles to financial resources and income.



#### Module 5: Getting through the Month

- Complete "Creating a cash flow budget" to see how your income and expenses line up.
- Use "Improving cash flow" to learn about strategies and habits you can change to help your cash flow.
- Use "Adjusting your cash flow" to find expenses that you can move or reduce to make sure your weekly cash flow is positive.
- Use the "Annual planner" as a supplement to help people plan if their sources and uses of income and other financial resources are annual, twice a year, or sporadic.



# Tool: Creating a cash flow budget

		WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5
BEGINNING WEEKLY BALANCE	0	Starting balance \$250	<b>\$</b> 400	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>(1)</b>	I	+ 300				
ADD MONEY YOU RECEIVE	2	+ 100				
EACH WEEK		+				
	Total income	= 650	=	=	=	=
		- 200				
SUBTRACT YOUR WEEKLY	4	- 35				
EXPENSES		<b>– 1</b> 5				
ENDING WEEKLY BALANCE		= 400	=	=	=	=



#### Annual planner

Using the cash flow budget can be difficult for people who have sporadic or seasonal income and periodic expenses.



# Track seasonal income and expenses with the **Annual planner**

- 1. Fill in the chart with the amount and timing of income and lump-sum payments you receive during the year.
- 2. Fill in the second page with the amount and timing of expenses that occur once, twice, or several
- 3. Use your information about income and expenses to project monthly totals for a year.

Sources of income	Amount expected	Date and how often it's received
Do you get per capita or other tribal payments?		
Do you generally receive a large tax refund, including the Earned Income Tax Credit or other tax credits?		
Do you get any tribal or public benefits that are received one- time or a few times per year?		
Do you earn income from seasonal work?		
Do you earn income sporadically by working on contract or through some other kind of work?		
Are there any other sources of income or benefits that you receive one-time or a few times per year?		
Other:		

## Annual planning tool

 Identifying the timing and the approximate amount of these expenses can help someone plan to have the money on hand or save for the expense.

Sources of spending	Typical cost	Anticipated date
Do you have children attending school and expenses related to school like back- to-school shopping after summer break?		
Do you generally attend reunions, powwows, or other gatherings?		
Do you anticipate making any investments in regalia or other items needed for reunions, powwows, traditional celebrations, or gatherings including giveaways?		
Do you regularly provide support for family or community members?		
Do you generally celebrate or observe any religious or cultural holidays?		
Do you owe and make quarterly self- employment or other income tax payments?		
Do you pay for insurance on a quarterly, semi-annual, or annual basis?		
Do you pay property, vehicle, or other taxes on a quarterly, semi-annual, or annual basis?		
Do you travel to see family (besides reunions, powwows, or gathering) or go on vacations?		
Do you anticipate making any major purchases like gardening supplies, home repairs, or appliances?		
Other:		



# Annual planning tool

Month	Estimated sources of income	Estimated spending
January		
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		

# Your Money, Your Goals

Financial Empowerment and Elders



## What is elder financial exploitation?

- Elder financial exploitation is the illegal or improper use of an older person's:
  - □ funds,
  - property, or
  - assets.
- This can occur through fraud or scams, or when caregivers, family members, or others improperly use an elder's financial resources.



#### Financial Empowerment and Elders

The traditional value of respect for elders is not a guarantee against elder financial exploitation. But that value can be used to encourage community members to learn about all types of elder abuse and empower everyone to take action to prevent and report financial exploitation.



## Identifying elder financial exploitation

- Use this checklist to educate community members about elder financial exploitation.
- It can be used one-on-one if someone expresses concern about an elder and his or her living conditions, care, or financial situation.
- Responses to the questions included in the checklist can help you or the individual you are working with get assistance.



# Recognize warning signs by Identifying elder financial exploitation

- 1. Use this checklist to identify warning signs that someone is financially exploiting an elder.
- Check the box to note if the situation is suspected, if you've observed it taking place, or if it has been reported to tribal authorities.

#### Check the box if suspected, observed, or reported.

Situation	Suspected	Observed	Reported
The elder's living conditions are below expectations in light of her financial resources.			
Family members are living with the elder, but not assuming financial or maintenance/upkeep responsibilities of the home and/or property.			
A live-in caregiver refuses to leave or to leave the elder alone with visitors.			
Caregivers or family members caring for the elder seem to isolate him from other family members, friends, and community events or gatherings.			
A caregiver refuses to spend the elder's money on necessities for basic care, including expenditures for personal grooming, household upkeep, and appropriate medical care.			
A caregiver receives an unusual level of expensive or frequent gifts paid for with financial resources of the elder.			
The elder transfers title of home or other assets to someone else for no apparent reason.			



## Getting help for elder financial exploitation

This is a list of resources that may help if you suspect that an elder has been the victim of financial abuse or exploitation.



#### Getting help for elder financial exploitation

- Elder financial exploitation often goes unreported.
- Many people don't know what to do if they suspect elder financial exploitation. These resources can help.
- · Remember, you do not need to prove that abuse is occurring to report it. It is up to the professionals to take action if you suspect abuse.

#### AGING SERVICE PROVIDERS

- Find out if your community has a Tribal Elder Protection Team or similar entity in place. This may be the first place to report suspected financial abuse or exploitation. You may also want to contact your tribal social services office. Ask for adult protective services.
- . If you are unsure of the tribal entity that manages eldercare in your community, call the Eldercare Locator at 1-800-677-1116. Trained information specialists are available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET. You can also search for a local adult protective services agency at eldercare.gov.
- Contacting your local Area Agency on Aging. To locate your local agency, call the Eldercare Locator at 1-800-677-1116 or search at eldercare.gov.
- . If you live outside an area covered by a tribal government, contact your community's Adult

#### Protective Services and/or local police.

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT

 You may want to contact your tribal police force. To locate your tribal police, contact the

- special agent in charge in your district: bia. gov/bia/ojs/contact-us.
- · You can also report financial fraud to your tribal government and/or your state's attorney general office. Use this locator to find the office in your state: naag.org/naag/ attorneys-general/whos-my-ag.php.

#### LEGAL ASSISTANCE

- You may feel you need legal assistance to help you, for example, with getting back money or property that was taken or to protect the elder from additional exploitation. If you need legal advice or representation, contact a federally-funded legal assistance program for people 60 and older, known as Title IIIB legal services programs. Title IIIB legal services programs can provide legal assistance on issues such as income security, health care, long-term care, nutrition, housing, utilities, protective services, defense of quardianship, abuse, neglect, and age discrimination, as well as financial exploitation.
- · Legal assistance in these programs is targeted towards older individuals in social and economic need. Each program has its own priorities and eligibility guidelines regarding case acceptance and areas of representation.



#### Preventing elder financial exploitation

- Preventing elder financial exploitation takes a coordinated community response.
- Use this tool to start engaging community members in protecting elders.
- The tool contains both strategies for communities to use and actions for elders and their trusted family members to take.



# Identify steps for **Preventing elder financial exploitation**

- 1. If you are an elder, identify steps you can take to protect yourself from financial exploitation.
- If you are a family caregiver or a community member, identify actions you can take to help protect an elder or elders in your community.
- 3. Check the action when it has been completed.

#### Actions for elders and their trusted family members

There are many steps elders can take to protect themselves if they act early. The list below includes recommended actions for individual elders, family caregivers and community members who can look out for or care for them. Not every step will apply to every elder or community, but this checklist will get you started in protecting elders from financial abuse and exploitation.

#### Check when completed

- Encourage advance planning for diminished capacity. Provide elders with resources to help them determine how they want to manage their money and property in the event they become unable to do so for themselves. Advance planning may include making a power of attorney or trust.
- □ Help people understand powers of attorney and tailor them to the elder's needs. A power of attorney is a legal document authorizing someone to make decisions about money and property on someone else's behalf. If abused, this power can be used to steal a person's financial assets. Communities and legal professionals can help elders understand that they need be sure to name someone they trust as their agent. It is important to communicate that powers of attorney can include built-in protections. Legal professionals can help people tailor the document to individual needs. For example, in the document, the elder can require the agent to provide an annual accounting of income and expenses to an outside party, such as an attorney or other trusted third party.
- □ Use automatic bill paying. Routine bills can be set up on automatic bill pay from the elder's checking or savings account. Alternatives include paying by check or credit card. All of these methods have the advantage of creating a "paper trail," unlike cash. That way, if there is a problem later, the elder or family or community member who is helping them can see where the money went.
- Involve several people. Major financial decisions for elders should be made only after consulting several trusted people, such as relatives, attorneys and financial professionals.



# Closing



## Closing

- Visit <a href="http://www.consumerfinance.gov/practitioner-resources/your-money-your-goals">http://www.consumerfinance.gov/practitioner-resources/your-money-your-goals</a> to
  - Download Focus on Native Communities
  - Order and download the Your Money, Your Goals toolkit and other materials
  - Sign up to receive Your Money, Your Goals email updates
- Let us know what you think!
  - Let us know how you use Focus on Native Communities with the people that you serve
  - News of your successes and constructive feedback helps the
     CFPB to develop new resources and enhance existing resources
  - Email <u>YourMoneyYourGoals@cfpb.gov</u>



## Closing

• How do you think you will use this information your community?

OR

• What is the most important thing you are taking away from this training?



# Thank you!

Contact us:

YourMoneyYourGoals@cfpb.gov

