

NEWS RELEASE

Oakland County Michigan Works! Offers Local Consumers Money Smart Week Seminars

WATERFORD, Mich. – March 13, 2019 – Oakland County Michigan Works! is again partnering with the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago to bring Money Smart Week – a series of 22 free seminars from March 30-April 5 – designed to help consumers in southeast Michigan make smart decisions with their money.

The free sessions will be held at Michigan Works! service centers in Highland, Novi, Oak Park, Pontiac, Southfield, Troy and Waterford. Seminar leaders include experts from local banks, credit unions, investment firms, realty offices and Oakland County. Seminar topics include home buying, recovering from a financial crisis, launching a career, understanding credit scores, avoiding mortgage and property tax foreclosure, woman's financial independence, dos and don'ts of renting, achieving financial goals, identity theft prevention, stock investing, teens and money, insurance during the golden years, and retirement planning.

"The Oakland County Michigan Works! team has compiled an impressive schedule of seminars and speakers who are anxious to share their expertise with community members," Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson said. "These free and informative seminars can help consumers better manage their money. Space is limited, so I encourage you to sign up now."

People can review the entire Money Smart Week schedule, seminar locations and register at www.MoneySmartWeek.org/Events. Across Michigan, there will be 600 free seminars in 50 counties. Last year, 34,695 people attended Money Smart Week seminars in the state, which led the nation, according to the Michigan Council on Economic Education.

"This is our sixth year of involvement with Money Smart Week and it has grown quite popular in Oakland County," said Jennifer Llewellyn, manager of Oakland County Michigan Works! "There's something for everyone, and we expect another year of strong attendance. Anyone interested should register now, rather than wait to the last minute."

Money Smart Week is the most comprehensive financial education campaign in the country. Launched in Chicago in 2002 with just 40 events, it has expanded significantly to become the only national financial educational program for people at all stages of life, according to the campaign organizers. Over the past several years Oakland County Michigan Works! has become one of the state's leading host partners and is a model for other counties, according to state organizers.

Oakland County Michigan Works! helps more than 45,000 job seekers prepare for careers and conduct job searches each year. The agency provides services to businesses including talent recruitment, talent retention and training support, and labor market information.