



Financial Wellness and Economic Inclusion

NPHS' Financial Wellness and Economic Inclusion programs work together to assist underserved consumers to access, obtain and build assets that create pathways for achieving family self-sufficiency and economic mobility.

Access. Obtain. Build. **Achieve.**

Neighborhood Partnership Housing Services

Overview of Financial Wellness and Economic Inclusion Programs and Services



Financial Wellness

Financial Wellness helps consumers improve their understanding of financial concepts and services and take action to improve their financial well-being. Through the development of real-life financial skills, the program empowers individuals and families to be financially responsible as wealth builders, homeowners, investors, citizens and members of the workforce

Pathways to Homeownership

Financial Wellness assists potential homebuyers to attain a better understanding of the mortgage financing process and develop the real-life financial skills needed to become successful homeowners. The program empowers individuals and families to be financially responsible as wealth builders, investors, citizens and members of the workforce.

Somos Familia

Somos Familia is a financial inclusion program focused on educating Hispanic consumers about ways to become fully integrated into the banking system, and directly linking them to safe, affordable financial products and services.

As a Community Development Financial Institution, NPHS believes that economic inclusion – the opening of asset building opportunities for underserved social groups – is integral to the economic and housing development of our region. If underserved people are given a chance to access, obtain and build concrete and tangible assets, such as savings or a home, they are more likely to participate in the workforce, pursue education or engage in other activities that help them achieve self-sufficiency and economic mobility. For these reasons, NPHS has developed the Economic Inclusion Project, an asset-based approach consisting of programs and services focused on the long-term economic development of individuals, families and communities.

VITA - Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

VITA provides free tax preparation and e-filing services to eligible low-to-moderate income individuals and families in our community while increasing awareness of the Earned Income Tax Credit which most VITA qualified taxpayers are eligible to receive.

Matched Savings Program

The matched savings program can help participants achieve their goal of homeownership by encouraging savings and providing matched funds to overcome the lack of income and liquid wealth needed to make a down payment.

Technology Center

With a focus to support community and economic development, the Technology Center is a place where people can access computers and the Internet to gather information, create, learn and communicate with others while they develop essential skills to achieve self-sufficiency and economic mobility.

Financial Wellness



Financial Wellness helps consumers improve their understanding of financial concepts and services and take action to improve their financial well-being. Through the development of real-life financial skills, the program empowers individuals and families to be financially responsible as wealth builders, homeowners, investors, citizens and members of the workforce.



Understanding the Mortgage Financing Process



Banking on Homeownership



Saving for Down Payment



Credit Building and Management



Budgeting for the Future



Saving Energy Means Saving Green



Evading Predatory Lenders and Financial Scams



Matched Savings Program



Volunteer Income Tax Assistance



Technology to Enhance Financial Well-Being

NPBS is a HUD Approved Housing Counseling Agency. Financial Wellness courses are taught in English and Spanish in a classroom setting by experienced housing professionals who are certified by the NeighborWorks® Center for Homebuyer Education and Counseling. Participants will utilize the NPBS Technology Center which is dedicated to provide disadvantaged residents with access to information technology and the training to use it.

Somos Familia



Somos Familia is an economic inclusion program focused on educating Hispanic consumers about ways to become fully integrated into the banking system, and directly linking them to safe, affordable financial products and services. Somos Familia is specifically designed to empower unbanked Hispanic families and individuals to gain access to mainstream banking services that assist in sustainable wealth building. By providing participants with information, skills and resources necessary to improve their financial condition, Somos Familia builds on the strengths of Latino communities by cultivating the values of self-sufficiency, upward mobility and long-term security.



Risks and Fees Associated with Alternative Financial Services



Benefits of Utilizing Mainstream Banking Services



Banking with Confidence



Establishing a Traditional Checking and Savings Account with an FDIC Insured Bank



Prepaid Credit Cards



Evading Predatory Lenders and Financial Scams



Saving Energy Means Saving Green



Matched Savings Program



Volunteer Income Tax Assistance



Technology to Enhance Financial Well-Being

Somos Familia workshops are taught in English and Spanish in a classroom setting by experienced housing professionals who are certified by the NeighborWorks® Center for Homebuyer Education and Counseling. Participants will utilize the NPHS Technology Center which is dedicated to provide disadvantaged residents with access to information technology and the training to use it.

VITA

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance



NPBS hosts FREE federal and California state income tax return preparation and e-filing services to eligible low-to-moderate income individuals and families in our community through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. VITA offers free tax help to people who generally make \$53,000 or less, persons with disabilities, and the elderly and limited English speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns.

The VITA program is focused on increasing awareness of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) which most VITA qualified taxpayers are eligible to receive. This credit was developed to help assist those who are in financial need as well as reward employment. Every year, thousands of families miss out on this tax credit; money that could be used to help meet their families' needs. The additional money that taxpayers receive from the EITC has proven to help boost the local economy. VITA participants can even use their refund to open an Individual Development Account with a participating bank partner.



Free Tax Preparation for Eligible Filers.



Determine Eligibility for the Earned Income Tax Credit



Assistance with Basic Issues on Income Tax Returns



Access to Individual Development Accounts



Spanish Speaking Volunteers



IRS-Certified Volunteers

All tax returns are completed and e-filed by IRS trained and certified volunteers. Access to a trained volunteer can make sure important tax credits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit are claimed. These benefits can make a difference in supporting a family's financial needs and helping them achieve self-sufficiency.

Matched Savings Program

Individual Development Account



NPHS WISH matched savings program helps people with modest means save towards the purchase of a lifelong asset, such as a home. The program aims to expand economic opportunities by creating assets for low-income households. The WISH program helps participants achieve their goal of homeownership by encouraging savings and providing matched funds to overcome the lack of income and liquid wealth needed to make a down payment. For every dollar saved, savers receive a corresponding match which serves as both a reward and an incentive to further the saving habit. Savers agree to complete financial education classes and use their savings for an asset-building purpose, such as buying a home. In addition to earning match dollars, savers learn about budgeting, saving and receive additional training before purchasing an asset. A WISH matched savings account makes it possible for individuals to build the financial assets they need to improve their economic status.



For every Dollar Saved in a WISH Account, Savers Receive a Corresponding Match



Financial Education Workshops



Homebuyer Education Workshops



Neighborhood Energy Savers Workshops



Evading Predatory Lenders and Financial Scams



Volunteer Income Tax Assistance



Down Payment Assistance



Technology to Enhance Financial Well-Being

After signing up for the WISH matched savings program, each participant opens a savings account with the partnering bank or credit union. WISH accountholders receive regular statements detailing how much they have saved and the amount of match they have earned. All courses are taught in English and Spanish in a classroom setting by experienced housing professionals who are certified by the NeighborWorks® Center for Homebuyer Education and Counseling. Participants will utilize the NPHS Technology Center which is dedicated to provide disadvantaged residents with access to information technology and the training to use it.

Technology Center



The NPHS Technology Center is committed to ensuring underserved consumers have equal opportunity to access technology for life-long learning and personal and community empowerment. As the digital divide becomes less about access to computers and more about a culture of use and understanding, the Technology Center offers online resources that advance financial education, individual asset-building and workforce development opportunities.



Online Financial
Education Resources



Workforce Development
Online Tools



Searching for Homes Online



Energy Efficiency
Online Education



Volunteer Income
Tax Assistance



Online Communicating
Strategies



Computer Literacy
Skills for Seniors



Community Resources
Online

With a focus to support community and economic development, the Technology Center is a place where people can access computers and the Internet to gather information, create, learn and communicate with others while they develop essential skills to achieve self-sufficiency and economic mobility.

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