



- **Financial Wellness**
- **Build A Better EAP**

plan



## **Local Government Federal Credit Union**

(LGFCU) offers your employees and volunteers the skills for planning and the knowledge to succeed. We provide a Financial Wellness program named *plan* that will enhance your existing benefits package and help your employees make informed decisions about their financial futures. All of our *plan* materials, from a payroll insert or a customized seminar to a phone call with a counselor, currently come free of charge to local government entities and their employees/employee-members.

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Before we begin to plan for our future, we must first know how to manage our money.



LGFCU's Financial Wellness staff is ready to help employees learn to manage their finances. All local government employees and volunteers, along with their family members, are eligible to join LGFCU and have access to these services along with many other benefits of Credit Union membership. Membership simply requires opening a Share (savings) Account with as little as \$25. Then, all the advantages and benefits of Credit Union membership become available to them.

## An Employee Benefit That Really Pays!

### **Does your current Employee Assistance Program (EAP) have a financial component?**

Employees look for benefits beyond insurance and a retirement plan. Your overall benefits package plays a key role in recruiting employees—and retaining them. Financial Wellness services can enhance your current EAP. This interest in the lives of your employees may increase morale and production as your employees see their employer demonstrating an interest in their personal financial wellness.

### **If an employee comes to you with personal financial problems, where do you send them?**

Employees show a great deal of trust when they approach an employer about personal financial concerns. They may look for guidance or a resource to provide an objective assessment of their situation. LGFCU offers financial counseling as that resource for employees, and will work with employees on their personal finance challenges. All information gathered and discussed is held in the strictest confidence.

### **How much does this service cost?**

All our Financial Wellness and *plan* materials are currently available free of charge to employees who are eligible to join LGFCU. We take our commitment to financial education very seriously and work to make it readily available and easily accessible.

## A Flexible Employee Benefit

What's the key to an effective financial wellness program for your employees? Make it readily accessible. LGFCU has several methods to reach your employees.

### **Self Help**

LGFCU's Personal Financial Overview and Personal Money Management Workbook assist individuals and families with personal finance issues. Employees are taught how to determine net worth, track current expenses,

forecast future expenses and plan for future goals. These workbooks help individuals and families get an accurate picture of their personal financial situation.

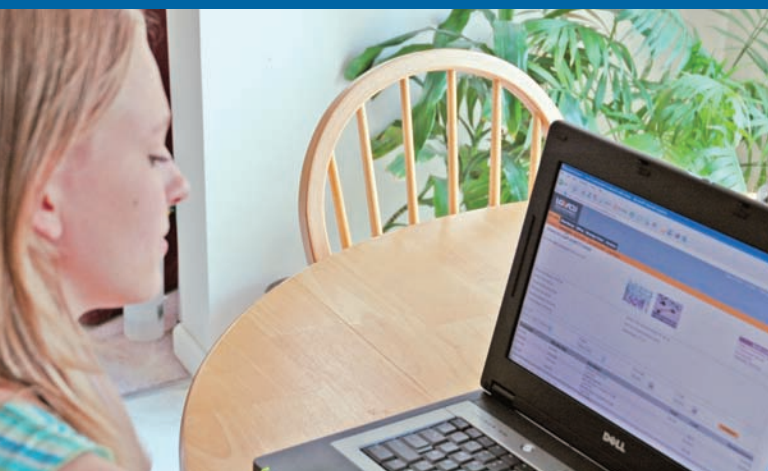
### **Presentations and Publications**

Whether they want to discuss buying a home, how to read a credit report or want information on basic budgeting, LGFCU has seminars that help employees make better sense of financial matters. See the back of this booklet for a listing of seminars currently offered. We may also specifically design a presentation for your group's needs.

LGFCU maintains a library of articles on personal finance topics. From budgeting and buying life insurance to helping kids understand money, we have articles from 250 to 1,000 words. These articles are available for publication in employee newsletters or on your intranet. You choose what you want when you want it.

### **Personalized Assistance**

For employees who want or need to talk to a financial counselor, they can call (toll free) and speak with a Certified Financial Planner or Accredited Financial Counselor for confidential, secure financial planning or counseling. Services are provided via telephone, e-mail, U.S. mail or



- *LGFCU's Web site, [www.lgfcu.org](http://www.lgfcu.org), contains information on financial services, financial products, current rates and serves as a resource for information on personal finance.*

by fax with our Raleigh office. Calls are not reported to employers and a centralized location helps maintain a sense of anonymity, as opposed to localized service.

LGFCU partners with BALANCE\*, allowing members in particular situations to participate in a program called a Debt Management Plan (DMP). This plan offers member advocacy to negotiate with creditors for lower interest rates and/or payments. BALANCE fully reviews individual situations and enrolls people in a DMP only when other alternatives will not work.

## A Comprehensive Employee Benefit

In order to best help your employees, we request information from them on their financial situation. From this information, three reports are generated to form the basis of a counseling or planning program. Financial counselors and planners are available to discuss the reports in detail with employees and are ready to answer any questions your employees may have. Here is a quick summary of the three reports:



*\* BALANCE is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Consumer Credit Counseling Service of San Francisco. BALANCE also provides financial counseling to numerous companies and credit unions nationwide. BALANCE financial fitness programs are designed to provide access to financial choices that serve our members' best interests.*

## **Financial Check-Up**

This report offers a summary of an employee's current financial condition. Included in the report is a balance sheet that determines net worth, an income statement to establish monthly cash flow and a comparison of debt and spending patterns.

## **Spending Plan**

The employee is given a worksheet to compare estimated expenses to actual expenses for a four-month period. When actual activity is laid out, an effective plan to monitor and adjust spending can be readily developed.

## **Debt Reduction Plan**

This report suggests a strategy to pay off debts with the greatest savings in both time and interest paid. Depending on the situation, an employee could save months or years, as well as hundreds or thousands of dollars, in paying off debt. The secret? The employee learns how to limit credit card use and use "Power Pay" to pay down debt. The Debt Reduction Plan is the first effective step in managing debt.

## **Financial Wellness; Part of Your EAP**

Interested in exploring how Financial Wellness can enhance your EAP? Would you like to enable employees to make the right financial decisions? Would you like to do this all at no cost to either the employer or employees?

LGFCU will proudly serve as the source for the financial needs of your employees. Please let us know if you are interested in improving the lives of your employees by utilizing these services. We will provide you with any materials you need to generate awareness, or to distribute to self-starters. From payroll inserts and self-help materials to brochures, presentations and personal

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counseling, LGFCU is prepared to provide services to your employees in the manner best suited to meet their needs. All services, including support materials, provided directly by LGFCU are currently available at no charge. Any costs associated with outside vendors are manageable and limited.

If you would like to participate in Financial Wellness and utilize *plan* to help your employees make better financial decisions, let us know by completing and sending the attached form or by simply calling our Financial Wellness department at 877.367.5428.

We look forward to helping provide your employees with a valuable benefit—guidance for their financial future.

## Eligibility

To be eligible for membership, an individual must be associated with a local government in North Carolina or be a family member of a current LGFCU member.

### **Persons eligible to join LGFCU:**

- An employee, elected official or appointed official of a North Carolina local government unit
- An immediate family member of an LGFCU member
- A volunteer for a local government unit
- A retiree from local government
- A spouse of a deceased person who was eligible for membership
- A person living in the same residence and maintaining a single economic unit with an LGFCU member
- All North Carolina firefighters; volunteer and paid
- Persons associated with certain hospital systems; please contact LGFCU for information
- Persons working with authorities such as housing, airport, and water and sewer

## Contact Us

If you would like further information on *plan* or other Credit Union services, please feel free to contact us.

323 West Jones Street, Suite 600  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603  
877.367.5428

financialplanner@lgfcu.org  
[www.plan.lgfcu.org](http://www.plan.lgfcu.org)



## Seminars Currently Available

### **Managing Your Finances**

Organize to Win

### **Basic Budgeting**

Understand Where it All Goes

### **Identity Theft**

Protect Yourself and Your Money

### **Buying a Home**

Explore Your Options

### **To Your Credit**

Remove the Mystery Behind Credit Reports

### **Preparing Financially for Your Future**

Cover the Basics

### **Nearing Retirement**

Prepare for the Golden Years

### **Long-Term Care Planning**

Get Ahead of Tomorrow's Concerns

### **College Education Planning**

Manage the Costs

### **Financial Planning and Trusts**

"Not Just for the Rich"

### **Preparing for Financial Emergencies**

Get Ready for the Unexpected

### **Weathering Financial Storms**

A Survival Guide

*/ To improve the lives of our members /*



Yes! We would like Financial Wellness as part of our EAPI! Please contact us so we can learn more.

Local Government Unit

P.O. Box

Street Address

City/State/Zip

Primary Contact

Phone

Number of Employees

E-mail

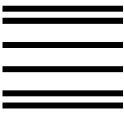
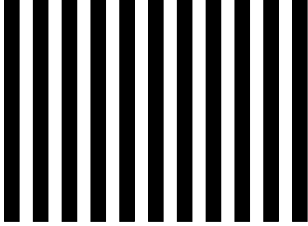
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Title

Number of Departments

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323 W JONES STREET, SUITE 600  
RALEIGH, NC 27690-6346**

