

Opportunity@Work

October 16, 2009



Tax Season is Approaching

What is happening with EITC and
VITA Sites?

Follow-Up from Retreat



Strengths, Challenges and Suggestions

Areas of Interest and Priority

Steering Committee

Strengths



- Comprehensive Understanding of Key Issues
- Diverse Resources, Partners and Expertise Available
 - Strength in Numbers
- Subcommittees and Efforts
 - Funding

Challenges



- Engage More Partners (business community, faith-based groups)
 - Statewide Reach
- Increase Collaboration, Info Sharing and Interaction
 - Funding
 - Public Awareness of O@W and Issues
 - Transfer of Knowledge

Suggestions



- Adjust Mission Statement
- Create Regional Coalitions with Connection to O@W
 - Create Standards of Membership
 - Speakers Bureau*
 - Steering Committee*
 - Build More Partnerships
 - Add Staff to O@W
 - Fund Development Effort
- Provide One-Page with Goals*

Priorities: Then



- Pay Day Lending
- Financial Education
- Predatory Lending
- Cliff Effect
- Living Wage
- Health Care Expansion
- IDAs
- Child Care Subsidies
- Asset Limits
- Housing
- EITC
- Job Benefits
- Microenterprise
- Tax Issues
- Rural Issues
- Job Security and Retention
- TANF
- Urban Issues

Priorities: Now



- IDAs + Funding
- Small Loan Fund
- Alternative to Payday Lending
- Asset Limits
- Cliff Effect
- Affordable Housing
- Job Creation and Retention
- Crime Reduction and Neighborhood Building
- ARRA Accountability
- Expand Financial Education
- Gain Knowledge on Impact of Financial Education and Efforts
- Microenterprise
- Create Toolkits*
- EITC

Draft: Pathways to Achieve Success

See: Handout A

Steering Committee: Proposal

- At least one partner from each working group (Research, Advocacy, Public Outreach)
 - 1-2 other partners from the coalition
 - O@W Coordinator
- Role to “build a stronger, more succinct relationship between the coalition: its mission, partners and efforts.”



The Opportunity Center

Update from Margo Hartman with
Community Action Partnership of
Western Nebraska



The Employee Resource Toolkit and Speakers Bureau PowerPoint

Update from Molly McGrath with the
Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City -
Omaha Branch

Update:
State Fiscal Analysis
Initiative in Nebraska

Education Exchange:
Strategic Policy and Issue
Area Discussion

November 17, 2009

Coming Up Next ...

Save-the-Date

- October 27, 2009: Public Outreach Working Group, 11:00 a.m. (CT)
- October 30, 2009: Advocacy Working Group Planning Meeting - 2:00 p.m. (CT)
- November 17, 2009: Education Exchange on Policy Agendas and Areas of Interest
- December 18, 2009: Opportunity@Work Coalition Meeting - 9:30 a.m. (CT) - Census Training