

SAFE Newsletter

StraightTalk® Association for Financial Empowerment • Improving the future of our communities

Spring 2014

Moving Past Your Financial Mistakes



Everyone has financial mistakes in their past. Maybe you ran up credit card debt or sold a valuable possession for less than its true value to get cash fast. Maybe you bought something you really did not need or want. It happens. Here are some tips to help you move forward.

Talk about it.

Tell someone else what happened and why you regret it. Talking about money isn't as taboo as it once was. Sharing your experiences with a trusted friend or family member can help you both make better financial decisions in the future.

Acknowledge your feelings.

Try to figure out what you thought, felt, or believed was true at the time that led you to make the mistake. If you're not sure, tell the story to someone you trust and ask them for their thoughts about why you might have made the mistake. Sometimes our decisions are emotion-driven or based on information that is less accurate than we think.

Think about the positive side.

What did you learn? What would you do differently? Valuable lessons learned can make even bad mistakes worthwhile experiences if they help us make better decisions in the future.

Move forward.

Once you have taken the time to reflect on and learn from your experience, pick a course of action to help you move forward. Whether it's cutting up your credit cards, working toward specific goals, or seeking the advice of a trusted financial advisor, take some specific action to make a change and move on.

Acknowledging your past money mistakes now will enable you to avoid them—and replace them with better decisions—in the future. With time, your new financial habits will become second nature.

FINANCIAL TIP

Get Smart About Money!

Learn what is *really* behind your financial decisions by taking the LifeValues Quiz from the National Endowment for Financial Education® (NEFE®).

Visit the website below to get started!

www.smartaboutmoney.org/Tools-Resources/LifeValues-Quiz

QUESTIONS?

What would you like to learn more about to help you build a healthier financial future?

Email us at contactus@financiallysafef.org and tell us what you want to know!

ACTIVITY UPDATE



Mission

The mission of SAFE is to provide all members of our community with the knowledge, skills, and tools necessary for financial success throughout all phases of life.

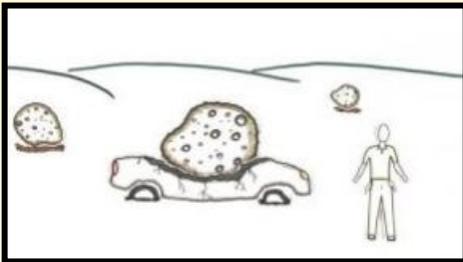
We will achieve this by:

- Supporting educational programs that build personal financial skills and provide a solid foundation for future financial prosperity.
- Acting as a trusted resource for our local community. We will provide financial tools and information that build sound financial knowledge, which will, in turn, improve the financial future of our community.
- Encouraging financial self-sufficiency and good financial judgment for those in all phases of life.

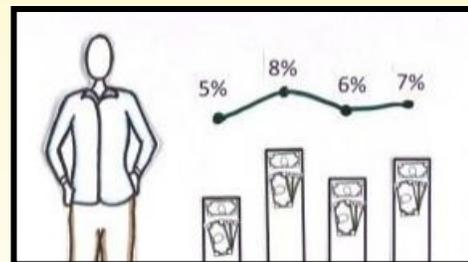
Activity Highlights

In 2013, SAFE pursued its mission through a new community partnership and with valuable content updates to its website.

- SAFE volunteers partnered with ProAction of Steuben and Yates, Inc. to present the Wealth Health Skills financial education program to GST BOCES GED students and residents of two local senior living facilities.
- In addition to in-person programming, SAFE also now offers several free financial education videos on its website. To view the videos, go to www.financiallysafe.org and click on "Instructional Videos" under the Empower Yourself menu.



Insurance Video



Borrowing Money Video

Notification of Annual Meeting



The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors and the members of SAFE will be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2014.

The meeting will be held at 12:00 pm at Corning Credit Union, corner of Ferris and Pulteney Streets, Corning, NY.

www.financiallysafe.org

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