



June 2004

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Dear Board Members, Contributors and Governmental Leaders:

Governance

The next SCCEE board meeting is Friday, September 17 at noon. The location has been changed to the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce board room at 1201 Main Street, Suite 1700, Columbia. Please mark your calendars with the date and change of location.

Programs

- The *Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina* has approved a grant that will provide four economic and personal finance workshops in *Fairfield County School District*. The intent of this grant is to focus on teachers/students taking the Palmetto Achievement Challenge Test. Economics is 20 percent of the social studies component of the PACT in grades 3 to 5, and 15 percent in grades 6 to 8.
- Nearly 50 teachers attended the two-day *Financial Fitness Institute* at the Moore School of Business on June 8 and 9, 2004. **Jeff Kane**, vice president of the *Charlotte Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank* and SCCEE director, was one of the highlights on the agenda. We appreciate the generous support from *Bank of America Foundation*, *Charlotte Federal Reserve Bank*, *Morgan Stanley* and the *National Council on Economic Education* that made this Institute possible.

We are also grateful for the words of wisdom from the following experts who shared their time and expertise at the Institute: **Frank Baker**, media literacy consultant; **Sue Berkowitz**, *SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center*; **Danny Brazell**, *SC Department of Revenue*; **Dolly Bullock**, *Bank of America*; **Martha Dial**, *York School District One*; **Lori Dickes**, *Erskine College*; **Richard Hatcell**, *Bank of America*; **Sherry King**, *SC Department of Consumer Affairs*; **Laura Levine**, *JumpStart Coalition*; **Dana Magic**, *Bank of America*; **Becky McCormack**, *Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of SC*; **Rose Anne McWaters**, *York School District One*; **Diane Merrell**, *York School District One*; **Ben Rast**, *Morgan Stanley*; **Mike Schiano**, *InCharge Education Foundation*; **Mike Switzer**, *SC Business Review*; **Mela Wyeth**, *Charleston Southern University*.

SC Stock Market Simulation

Eighth grade students **Erika Aparicio**, **Leanna Britts**, **Paige Dyer** and **Ashley Martin** won the honor to dine with **Mayor Hank Johnston** at the *Belfair Country Club* for having the best portfolio in the *Mayor's Blue Chip Investors Program* sponsored by the **Bluffton Economic Development Committee**. The girls beat more than 100 other students at *H.E. McCracken Middle School*, *Beaufort County School District*, competing in the competition last semester.

Plans are in place to conduct the *Mayor's Blue Chip Investors Program* next school year with students in grades 4-12 in *Richland School District One* sponsored by **Mayor Bob Coble** and the **Columbia City Council**.

South Carolina JumpStart Coalition

Nearly 30 representatives from corporations, government agencies and nonprofit organizations attended an exploratory meeting to weigh the costs and benefits of forming a *South Carolina JumpStart Coalition*. With overwhelming consensus of the group, a steering committee was formed and will meet on Thursday, July 22 to begin the affiliation process. Membership to the coalition is open to all stakeholders in personal financial literacy. Please contact me at (803) 777-8677 for more information. We welcome your participation.

Funding Opportunity

SCCEE is hosting a series of *Learning, Earning and Investing* teacher training workshops in 2005. This new curriculum published by the National Council on Economic Education and the **Moody's Foundation** can be used in conjunction with the stock market simulation or as a stand-alone curriculum.

The Council is in need of a co-host for these programs, an organization or company interested in helping teachers and students learn about saving, investing and money management. Please contact me at (803) 777-8677 for more information.

The Need for Economic Literacy

“When the federal government’s expenditures for a year are greater than its revenues for that year, the difference is known as (a) the national debt; (b) a budget deficit; (c) a budget surplus or (d) don’t know.”

A surprising one-third of Americans aged 18 to 24 incorrectly answered this question on a recent survey conducted by the National Council on Economic Education. More than half of those aged 17 and under answered the question incorrectly. (The correct answer is b.)

Thank you for supporting our efforts to improve economic and financial literacy in South Carolina.

Sincerely,



Helen Meyers
President

