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Contact: Mark Leyes 916-576-4984 Maria Luisa Cesar 213-328-9644

DFPI Awards Nearly \$2 Million in Grants for Financial Education and Empowerment Programs

SACRAMENTO – The California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (DFPI) today announced the award of nearly \$2 million in CalMoneySmart grants to nonprofit organizations throughout California to support new and existing financial education and empowerment programs for unbanked and underbanked consumers.

The DFPI announced the second round of CalMoneySmart grants in April 2021 and received 94 grant proposals from state and national nonprofits by the end of the application period. A committee reviewed, analyzed, and scored each grant proposal on eligibility and effectiveness and recommended awarding grant dollars to 22 nonprofits.

"We are grateful for the tremendous work of our community partners, whose financial coaching and financial literacy programs have helped Californians work through the economic insecurity caused by the COVID-19 pandemic," said Business, Consumer Services and Housing Secretary Lourdes Castro Ramírez. "It's their work that helps underscore the importance of the CalMoneySmart program as we work together to provide every resident with the tools they need to succeed."

CalMoneySmart grant recipients who were awarded grants during the first round of funding have utilized the funding to create financial coaching programs, financial education curriculum, and provide financial services aimed at unbanked households throughout California.

"After a tremendous response to the CalMoneySmart grant program in its first year, we are excited to continue supporting organizations financially empowering vulnerable Californians," said DFPI Acting Commissioner Christopher S. Shultz. "These organizations will work to ensure an equitable economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic for all Californians."

A conversation between Secretary Castro Ramírez, Acting Commissioner Shultz, and representatives from Proteus, Inc. and the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. SF Chapter on the impact of the grant funding and lessons learned can be found here: https://youtu.be/iFsAsvuP9IQ.

Gov. Gavin Newsom authorized the CalMoneySmart program when he signed Senate Bill 455 by Sen. Steven Bradford, D-Gardena, in October 2019. The bill established a \$4 million Financial Empowerment

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Fund from which the program will award grants up to \$100,000 and a maximum of \$1 million annually. In July 2021, The Financial Empowerment Fund received an additional \$10 million in funds in the 2021-22 state budget, increasing the annual amount available to \$2 million.

The 2021-22 CalMoneySmart grantees represent communities and financial education nonprofits throughout the state, serving unbanked households across 27 counties. A full list of recipients and grant amounts for this fiscal year (2021-22) is provided below.

Additional information about the CalMoneySmart grant program can be found at https://dfpi.ca.gov/calmoneysmart/. For questions, comments, or help, please contact CalMoneySmart@dfpi.ca.gov.

2021-22 Fiscal Year CalMoneySmart Grantees:

Organization	Geographic Areas Served	Award
Boys & Girls Club of Mid Central Coast	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara	\$10,000
Building Skills Partnership	San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, Sacramento, Solano, Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego	\$88,512
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Stockton	San Joaquin, Stanislaus	\$100,000
Center for Living & Learning	Los Angeles	\$100,000
Children's Network of Solano County	Solano	\$100,000
Community Financial Resources	Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Kern, Los Angeles, Marin, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Shasta, Sonoma, Tehama	\$75,000
Conservation Corps North Bay (CCNB)	Marin, Sonoma	\$44,900
Delhi Center	Orange	\$95,036
El Sol Neighborhood Educational Center	San Bernardino	\$100,000
Folsom Cordova Community Partnership	Sacramento	\$100,000
Haven Neighborhood Services	Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino,	\$99,995
International Rescue Committee, Inc.	San Diego, Sacramento, Alameda, Santa Clara, Stanislaus, Los Angeles	\$100,000
LIFT, Inc. Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$100,000
	San Bernardino, Los Angeles, Ventura, Riverside, Orange, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Kern, Santa	
Lutheran Social Services of Southern CA	Barbara, Imperial	\$100,000
Mission Asset Fund	San Francisco, Los Angeles, Statewide	\$100,000
MyPath	San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Santa Clara	\$100,000
National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. SF Chapter	San Francisco, Los Angeles, Alameda, Solano, Orange, Sacramento	\$97,300
Proteus, Inc.	Tulare, Fresno	\$86,954
Santa Cruz Community Ventures	Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Benito	\$100,000
The Carolyn E. Wylie Center	Riverside, San Bernardino	\$100,000

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The Unity Council	Alameda, Contra Costa	\$100,000
	Santa Clara, San Mateo, San Francisco, Alameda,	
Unity Care Group	Solano, Sacramento, Placer, El Dorado	\$100,000

The DFPI licenses and regulates financial products and services, including state-chartered banks and credit unions, student loan servicers, commodities and investment advisers, money transmitters, the offer and sale of securities, broker-dealers, nonbank installment lenders, payday lenders, mortgage lenders and servicers, escrow companies, Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program administrators, the offer and sale of franchises, debt collectors, credit repair companies, consumer credit reporting agencies, debt relief companies, and more.

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