



Center for Social Development

GEORGE WARREN BROWN
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

 Washington University in St. Louis



Financial Capability & Asset Building for All: A Grand and Achievable Challenge for Social Work

Margaret S. Sherraden, PhD, University of Missouri-St Louis & Washington University
in St. Louis

Jin Huang, PhD, Saint Louis University

Julie Birkenmaier, PhD, Saint Louis University

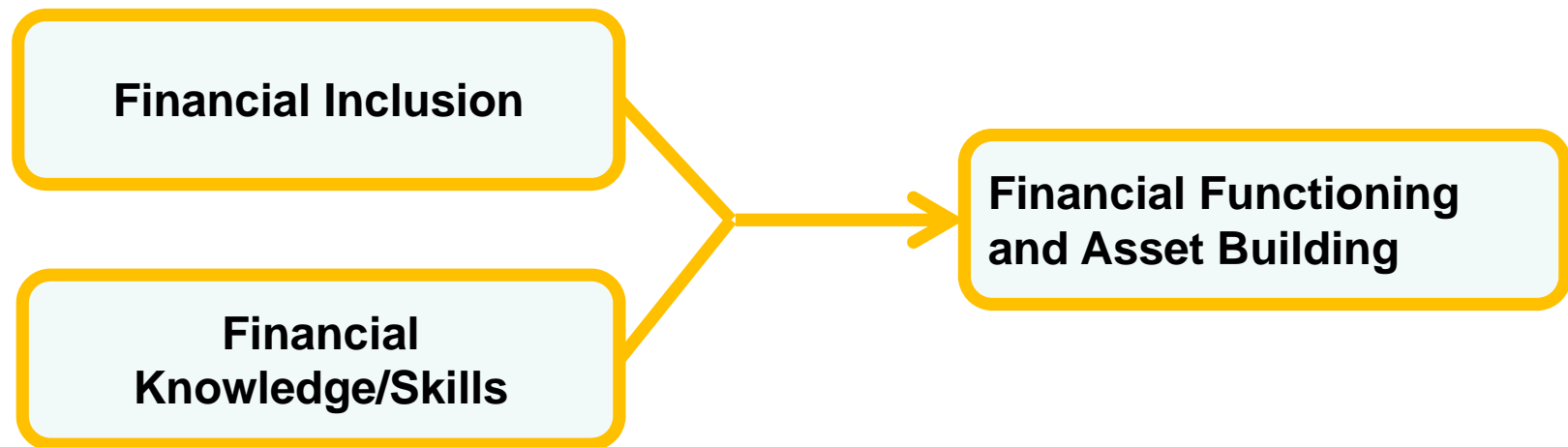
Margaret Clancy, MSW, Center for Social Development, Washington University in St.
Louis



Financial Capability & Asset Building: Background



- Rising income & asset inequality
- Increasingly financialized lives
- Inadequate financial services & consumer protection
- Social work can restore its historical focus on HH finances





Policy 1: Child Development Accounts



- **CDAs** are investment or savings accounts opened as early as birth to encourage asset accumulation for children's **lifelong development**.
 - *Universal*: Includes everyone
 - *Progressive*: Additional deposits for vulnerable populations
- Research shows that CDAs build economic resources for long-term development and affect child well-being.
- Examples: SEED for Oklahoma Kids experiment; Maine, Nevada, Connecticut, Rhode Island.



Policy 2: Financial Capability Gateway



An online financial platform:

- *Financial management*: Synthesize financial records
- *Financial access*: Streamline access to all personal financial accounts and public benefits
- *Financial education, guidance, & empowerment*: Improve financial knowledge, access to support, participation, and claims
- (*Think “MINT” on steroids*)



Welcome to your

Financial Social Worker Login

Individual Consumer Login

Financial Capability Gateway

Search

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To achieve lifetime financial security, people must be financially capable and able to accumulate assets.

CREDIT REPORT

- Credit Score
- Free Credit Report
- Fraud Alert/Freeze
- Improve Credit Score

CREDIT CARD & LOAN

- Car Loan
- Education Loan
- Home Mortgage
- Credit Cards

ACCOUNTS

- Automatic Account Opening
- Bank Accounts
- Retirement Savings
- Health Savings
- College Savings
- Child Development Savings

SOCIAL PROGRAMS

- Eligibility Assessment
- Social Security & Disability
- Unemployment
- Health
- Housing
- Nutrition
- Utility

TAXES

- Federal Taxes
- Earned Income Tax Credit
- State Taxes
- Property Taxes

INSURANCE

- Car
- House
- Health
- Life
- Long-term Care

IDENTITY PROTECTION

- Credit Monitoring
- Address Monitoring
- Court Record Monitoring
- Social Security No. Traces

FINANCIAL EDUCATION & EMPWERMEN

- Online Courses
- Financial Advising
- Financial Coaching
- Financial Counseling
- Other Resources

FINANCIAL TOOLS

- Financial Planning through the Life Course
- Calculators: College, Mortgage & Retirement
- Spending Tracking and Analysis

NEWS AND UPDATES



Kids and college: 529 savings plans explained

Child Development Accounts (CDAs) are savings or investment accounts for long-term developmental goals, including postsecondary education. Available as early as birth, CDAs aim to encourage lifelong asset accumulation. [Read more.](#)



Avoid abusive lenders, save a fortune in predators' fees

The typical car title loan is refinanced eight times, drains more than \$4.3 billion in fees a year and strips away twice as much in fees as in credit provided, according to the Center for Responsible Lending. [Read more.](#)



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Slide 5

- 1 Empowerment in the bottom row, right column is misspelled
Julie Birkenmaier, 12/28/2015



FCAB Stakeholders



- **Federal, State and Local Officials and Policymakers** (eg: CFPB, FDIC, consumer affairs, governors, state legislatures, city government, federal/state treasury)
- **Financial Professionals Organizations** (eg: social work, family and consumer science, and financial planning professionals)
- **Consumer Protection Organizations** (eg: non-profit and public organizations, advocates for regulation and consumer protection)
- **Academic and Research Institutions** (eg: K-12, colleges and universities, think tanks that investigate, test, and publish on FCAB)
- **Financial Services Organizations** (eg: banks, credit unions, other financial services organizations)
- **Philanthropic, Corporate, and Government Funders** (ex: Asset Funders Network, financial institutions, federal and state agencies)



Next Steps: Reaching FCAB Goals



- In 3 years, the FCAB Policy Work Group will develop:
 - A large and diverse working group membership and partnerships with key stakeholders
 - Concept papers and strategic directions for each policy recommendation
 - A research agenda and evidence for each policy recommendation
 - Expand CDA policy development in the states
 - Create a model for a Financial Capability Gateway: Using existing programs
- In 10 years, the FCAB Policy Work Group will achieve:
 - Universal and progressive CDA policy
 - A Financial Capability Gateway for all