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Monroe County Money Smart Week Kicks Off October 14

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For Immediate Release

Bloomington, Ind.?The Financial Stability of Alliance of South Central Indiana, Monroe County Public Library, United Way of Monroe County, and the City of Bloomington have joined together to sponsor **Monroe County Money Smart Week, Friday, October 14?Sunday, October 23**, an initiative to raise awareness of financial literacy and stability efforts in Monroe County. The week of free events and programs kicks off 4:00?5:30 p.m., Friday, October 14, with a public reception and resource fair at Monroe County Public Library, featuring comments by Bloomington Mayor Mark Kruzan, Barry Lessow, executive director of United Way of Monroe County, and Sara Laughlin, director of Monroe County Public Library.

At the Money Smart Week resource fair, the public can find out about the wide array of financial literacy and stability services available to them in Monroe County?from Bank On Bloomington to the Circles Initiative and WorkOne job workshops. **The reception also launches ?It?s Your Money,? a new financial literacy project of Monroe County Public Library** focused on providing 15?29 year olds with free and unbiased financial tools and information.

?The goal of **It?s Your Money**,? said project librarian Jason Groth, ?is to situate the library as a trusted resource for financial information.? The library is bringing together new print and DVD resources, developing a Financial Literacy Web portal *(money.mcpl.info)*, and offering free workshops and programs?all with a focus on budgeting, saving, spending, credit and debt, and investing.

Money Smart Week programs will help individuals learn more about money and how to manage it, with programs on budgeting, how to get on the path to financial success, the road to financial freedom (a discussion about money for those with little), a Money Fun Day, a job skills workshop, and more. There also will be a program for service providers on sharing and connecting to increase the financial stability of their clients in South Central Indiana. The full list of programs is available at *money.mcpl.info.*

Monroe County Money Smart Week is a partnership between the Financial Stability Alliance of South Central Indiana, Monroe County Public Library?s ?It?s Your Money? program, United Way, and the City of Bloomington. Programming also involves Indiana WorkOne and

the Circles Initiative.

It?s Your Money is made possible by a grant from the FINRA Investor Education Foundation through Smart investing@your library®, a partnership with the American Library Association.

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- [1]
- [2]
- [3]

Links:
[1] http://mcpl.info/print/printpdf/newspage/monroe-county-money-smart-week-kicks-october-14
[2] http://mcpl.info/printmail/printpdf/newspage/monroe-county-money-smart-week-kicks-october-14
[3] http://mcpl.info/printpdf/printpdf/newspage/monroe-county-money-smart-week-kicks-october-14