

People Who Have Not Learned to Budget Can Struggle to Pay the Bills

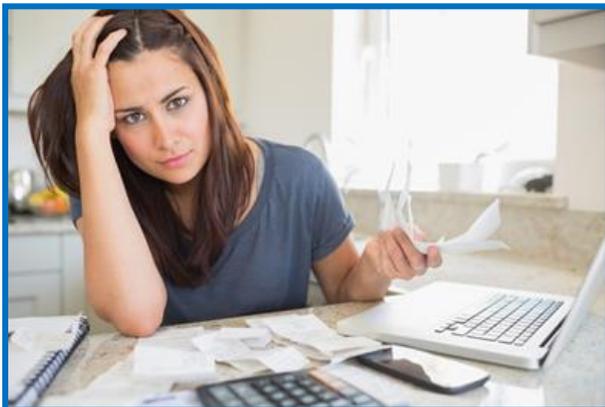


United Way
Central and Northern
Vancouver Island

A Program Funded by Your Donations Teaches Adults with Low Incomes How to Budget – and Matches Their In-Program Savings Dollar-for-Dollar

Josie never really thought much about money. In the past, she had been in debt but had chosen to ignore her money problems because she did not know what to do about them. When she became a parent, Josie began to think about her children’s future; she decided to get a better handle on her money.

A mom on a low income, Josie would spend the money she had at hand on necessities but would sometimes run out of money to buy milk for her young daughter before her next paycheque. She wanted to learn how to budget her limited dollars to ensure they always had enough.



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Josie joined a United Way-funded money management program designed to help people with low incomes to understand saving, debt, budgeting, consumerism and credit. The program also provided one-on-one money coaching.

The program taught Josie to consider how she spends her money and how much time she has to work to pay off debt. “At first it wasn’t easy but, once I started looking at where my money was going, I found lots of ways to save.” Since joining the program, Josie has been saving \$45 per month.

When Josie graduated from the United-Way funded program, she was proud to have saved \$225.

When Josie graduated from the program, she was proud to have saved \$225 – an amount matched by the program for a total of \$450. “It feels so good. I’ve decided to save that

money for a rainy day,” says Josie, who made an appointment to open a tax-free savings account.

The money management program has provided Josie with the skills she needs to manage her money – skills she plans on sharing with her children so that they do not find themselves in debt like she once did.

To donate to United Way and for more information about programs in our community, go to www.uwcnvi.ca