




# **SAVANNAH/CHATHAM COUNTY FINANCIAL EDUCATION NETWORK**

**A DIRECTORY OF SERVICES  
PROVIDED BY NETWORK  
MEMBERS - 2012**



The Savannah Financial Education Network works collaboratively to increase opportunities for Savannah/Chatham County residents to become informed consumers.



## Financial Education Directory

This directory is compiled by Step Up Savannah as a listing of services provided by members of the Savannah/Chatham County Financial Education Network, especially those services targeting low and moderate-income Savannahians.

### Bank On Savannah

**Bank On Savannah is an initiative of Step Up Savannah and the City of Savannah to assist those who have never had a bank account or those who have had trouble with banking in the past to access a safe, no- or low-cost account as a first step to save money and reach financial goals.**

**Contact:** Robyn Wainner, Step Up Savannah, 428 Bull Street, Suite 208, Savannah, GA 31401

**Phone:** 912.232.6747 **Email:** [rwainner@stepupsavannah.org](mailto:rwainner@stepupsavannah.org)

**Website:** <http://stepupsavannah.org/bankonsavannah>

#### Participating banks:

BB&T Bank

Capitol City Bank and Trust

Carver State Bank

The Coastal Bank

First Chatham Bank

The Savannah Bank

Sea Island Bank

SunTrust Bank

United Community Bank

Wells Fargo Bank



**City of Savannah – Department of Economic  
Development & Housing Authority of Savannah**

**Address:** 2 E. Bay Street, Savannah, GA 31401

**Website:** [www.savannahga.gov](http://www.savannahga.gov)

**Mission:** To facilitate economic development activities by fostering and supporting a vibrant community and better quality of life through individual and family asset development and the creation and sustainability of a healthy, inclusive business environment.

**Contacts:** Natalie Moultrie, Program Coordinator - Economic Development Department  
912.651.3653, [Natalie\\_Moultrie@SavannahGa.Gov](mailto:Natalie_Moultrie@SavannahGa.Gov)

Monifa Johnson, Neighborhood Services Coordinator  
912.235.5800, [mjohnson@savannahpha.com](mailto:mjohnson@savannahpha.com)

**Services**      *Basic Financial Education*

Topics include: credit information, budgeting, banking, financial and estate planning, buying your first home, financial education for youth. Classes are held at various venues throughout community

**Eligibility:** all are welcome; contact the Housing Authority of Savannah for workshop schedules and locations.

**Fee:** none





**Consumer Credit Counseling Service of the  
Savannah Area, Inc.**

**Address:** 7505 Waters Ave, Suite C-11, Savannah, GA 31406

**Website:** [www.cccsavannah.org](http://www.cccsavannah.org)

**Mission:** To provide the best non-profit community service, dedicated to delivering professional, confidential counseling, debt management, housing counseling and consumer financial education to all segments of the community regardless of their ability to pay.

**Contact:** Richard Reeve, Education Coordinator  
912.691.2227, [richard@cccsav.com](mailto:richard@cccsav.com)

**Services:**

**Community financial education classes:** workshops are held on a regular basis at the Bull Street and Carnegie Public Libraries, and occur throughout the community at other locations as well. Topics include: Banking Basics and Household Budgeting, Credit Reports and Scores, Savings, Basics of Credit, Home Buyer Education and more.

**Eligibility:** all are welcome; public workshops are free of charge but require pre-registration.

**Fee:** None.

CCCS also provides one-on-one budgeting, credit counseling and pre-homeownership counseling at no cost. Debt management plans are offered at low fees. Spanish-speaking staff available.



## Economic Opportunity Authority

**Address:** 618 W. Anderson St., Savannah GA 31415

**Website:** <http://www.eoasga.org/>

**About:** The Community Action Program (CAP) provides a variety of programs and services to assist low to moderate income residents of Savannah and Chatham County.

**Contact:** Terry Tolbert, Deputy Director  
912.238.2960, [terryt@eoasga.org](mailto:terryt@eoasga.org)

### **Services:**

**Homebuyer education program:** a partnership between EOA, the City of Savannah, and many local housing industry representatives to help participants understand the steps required to becoming homeowners.

**Eligibility:** Income eligibility standards apply. Contact EOA for more information.

**Fee:** None





## Law Offices of Mark A. Bandy, P.C.

**Address:** 102 Brandywine Rd., Savannah, GA 31405

**Website:** [www.savannahbankruptcy.com](http://www.savannahbankruptcy.com)

**Mission:** The Law Offices of Mark A. Bandy, P.C. helps its consumer bankruptcy clients take control of their financial lives by exploring with them the various legal options available.

**Contact:** Mark Bandy  
912.507.9873, [markbandyattorney@gmail.com](mailto:markbandyattorney@gmail.com)

### **Services**

**Financial workshops:** Topics include: debt collection process, Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, foreclosures, bankruptcy (Often presented in conjunction with Sam Crossley of Mass Mutual, who speaks on issues of budgeting, saving, and investing)

**Eligibility:** All are welcome. Contact Mark to request a workshop.

**Fee:** None



## Neighborhood Improvement Association

**Address:** 1816 Abercorn Street, Savannah, GA 31401

**Website:** [www.niacdc.org](http://www.niacdc.org)

**Mission:** To promote positive change in individuals, families and community circumstances by improving social, physical, and economic conditions in Chatham County.

**Contact:** Teinique Gadson, Executive Director  
912.447.5577 x201, [tgadson@niacdc.org](mailto:tgadson@niacdc.org)

***Services:***

**Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA)-** Free tax preparation for individuals and families at over 15 area locations.

***Eligibility:*** Approximately \$52,000 in yearly family income

**Homebuyer Education Classes:** Information includes using credit, predatory lending, shopping for a mortgage, shopping for a home, home inspection, homeowners insurance and closing procedures. Day-long workshops are held bi-monthly. Certificates for attending workshops are issued at conclusion.

***Eligibility:*** All are welcome      ***Fee:*** none

**IDA Program:** Participants attend monthly financial education while saving towards pre-determined goals. Savings are matched by NIA at a 1:1 ratio.

***Eligibility:*** Meet income and other program guidelines.  
Contact NIA for more information.



## Social Apostolate of Savannah

*Address:* 502 E. Liberty Street, Savannah, GA 31401

*Contact:* Latacia Avila, Assistant Director  
912.233.1877, offoffice1@aol.com

*Services:*

**Job Readiness Program:** Job skills program offered to the homeless or individuals in housing transition which includes basic money management (budgeting and credit) education. Classes meet on Wednesday mornings at Social Apostolate.

*Eligibility:* Open to clients of the Job Readiness Program. Pre-registration is required. Contact Latacia for more details.

*Fee:* none







## The Savannah Entrepreneurial Center

**Address:** 801 E. Gwinnett Street, Savannah, GA 31401

**Website:** [www.my-sec.org](http://www.my-sec.org)

**Mission:** To provide the greater Savannah community with opportunities to start and grow small businesses. Through comprehensive training, mentoring, technical assistance, facilities and access to financial resources, the Center contributes to the economic empowerment of individuals and the community.

**Contact:**

Program Director  
912.652.3582

**Services:**

**Business planning process classes:** Topics include: budgeting, personal financial statements, net worth, credit, money management, small business start-up and expansion. Classes are held at the center and at other venues throughout the community.

**Eligibility:** All interested in starting a business are welcome.

**Fee:** None



## University of Georgia Cooperative Extension

**Address:** Chatham County Extension Office, 124 Bull Street,  
Suite 120, Savannah, GA 31401

**Website:** <http://extension.uga.edu/>

**About:** UGA Cooperative Extension was founded in 1914 to take research-based agricultural information to the people of Georgia. County agents and specialists throughout the state share information on issues like water quality, profitability in agribusiness, family wellness and life skills.

**Contact:** Jackie Ogden, CEC / FACS Agent  
912.652.7981, [jogden@uga.edu](mailto:jogden@uga.edu)

**Services:** UGA Cooperative Extension offers classes on budgeting, saving, credit, financial planning, and consumer issues for both adults and youth. “Train-the Trainer” workshops are also offered.

**Eligibility:**

**Fee:** Most programs are free; some are fee-based.



## Ways To Get Involved:

### **Jump\$tart**

*Volunteers teach money management classes in schools for grade levels K-12.*

**Contact(s):** Jonathan Barrett  
912.790.7822, jbarrett@georgia.ja.org

### **Learning For Life - Coastal Empire Council Boy Scouts of America**

*Volunteers teach money management classes in schools for grade levels K-12.*

**Contact:** Barbara Foley, Program Manager  
912.308.7892, barbara.foley@rocketmail.com

### **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)**

*Volunteers provide free income tax assistance to low- and moderate-income taxpayers, and help them claim important tax credits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit.*

**Contact:** Teinique Gadson, Executive Director,  
Neighborhood Improvement Association  
912.447.5577 x201, tgadson@niacdc.org





This is publication of the Savannah  
Financial Education Network.

To get more information or to  
report errors or omissions or to join  
the network, please contact Robyn  
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and financial empowerment,  
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912.232.6747

