



Wi\$eUp e-News...

www.wiseup women.org

Financial Planning for Generation X and Y

Summer 2008

Participant's Corner

Hosted by American Express, the Wi\$eUp Conference was held in New York City, at the World Financial Center on July 9, 2008. This project was designed as part of the DOL Women's Bureau commitment to helping U.S. workers reduce debt and increase savings and investments.

Revonna Woods is a single mother of a 14-year-old son with autism, she is an economist with the U.S. Department of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics in the Consumer Price Index Program. Revonna started the Wi\$eUp program when it was first released in 2004. At that time, she and her son were living in an apartment and surviving paycheck to paycheck. Now, four years after taking the Wi\$eUp course, she is happy to report that she has a wonderful job, is a homeowner, has a savings account, and is making regular contributions to her 401(k).

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– Revonna Woods



Her major in college was economics, but she said that it did not prepare her to take care of her own finances. "While in college, I signed up for a course called Personal Finance 101, but unfortunately the course was canceled because not enough students enrolled for the class. "If I had known earlier about the important things they do not teach you in college, such as how to avoid credit card traps, or how to buy a car the smart way, I would have avoided the high interest rates and bad credit that greeted me upon graduation." For this reason, I hope that Personal Finance 101 will be mandatory in the core curriculum at all universities and colleges regardless of the student's area of study."

During the Conference Wi\$eUp heard from Deloitte LP, an employer who understands that employees perform better when they have peace of mind.



Deloitte Service LP - Boston connected with the Women's Bureau in 2007 and offered a number of **Wi\$eUp** Women programs. **Ms. Robin Matza**, *Northeast Women's Initiative Leader* spoke in the capacity of an employer providing the Wi\$eUp program to employees "sending them the message that **'we care'**."

"While attending one of the Boston [Wi\$eUp] workshops, I thought to myself, 'being there will be very supportive of our women'; I didn't really expect to walk out learning something, but quite frankly I did. It is a true testament to the program that at any age, any level, you can walk away feeling enriched with better information."

– Robin Matza
Deloitte Service LP
Boston, MA