MoneyMinded is a comprehensive adult financial education program developed to help community educators and financial counsellors assist people, in particular those on low incomes, to build their financial knowledge and make informed decisions about their money.

MoneyMinded reaches more than 15,000 people in 2006

In the second year since MoneyMinded was launched, 15,279 people participated in workshops or one-to-one counselling meetings. This is no small achievement, especially as only 3,500 people were involved in 2005, and demonstrates the value and usefulness of MoneyMinded for community educators and financial counsellors across Australia.

The evaluation by RMIT University also found:
• a total of 532 facilitators across all States and Territories were trained to deliver MoneyMinded
• 93 per cent of participants in focus groups reported a positive change in the way they managed their finances after MoneyMinded training
• the most popular topics are ‘Planning and budgeting’ and ‘Dealing with debt’
• facilitators report the program to be highly adaptable and user-friendly

ANZ, together with RMIT University, extends thanks to everyone who contributed to the evaluation. See overleaf for a description of the 2007 MoneyMinded evaluation plans.

Download the full evaluation report from ANZ’s website: www.anz.com/moneyminded/evaluation

Seeking funds for MoneyMinded?
Consider the ANZ Staff Foundation

Are you interested in accessing a small grant to help cover costs associated with delivering MoneyMinded to groups? The ANZ Staff Foundation is calling for applications for early 2007 and is open to considering requests for the delivery of MoneyMinded, which could include catering, venue hire, staff time or even baby-sitting costs for a group of participants.

The ANZ Staff Foundation makes grants up to $5,000 to charitable organisations for projects starting after April 2007. The closing date for applications is 15 January 2007, so be quick!

If you are interested in finding out more please visit www.anz.com/aus/fin/Trustees. Please also contact Hilary Fastier, Manager Community Relations, ANZ to discuss your application to ensure it has the greatest chance of succeeding.

MoneyMinded financial skills for the future

ANZ Staff Foundation guidelines
The ANZ Staff Foundation will give preference to organisations and projects that:
• Create opportunities for ANZ staff to participate as volunteers
• Are already supported by ANZ staff
• Are initiated by ANZ staff in association with community organisations in which they are already actively involved

The ANZ Staff Foundation aims to fund small projects (preferred amount of $5,000) in the following areas:
• Skills and independence: give people the skills to manage their lives and provide them with independence
• Environment: assist communities to conserve resources and protect the environment
• Local initiatives: innovative projects from local community organisations
• Capacity building: to assist organisations to build their capacity (especially in rural areas)

Linda’s MoneyMinded experience: a case study

Linda Stacey is a community worker in Queensland’s Sunshine Coast and has delivered hours of MoneyMinded workshops, often on behalf of The Smith Family. Here she relates first-hand some of her MoneyMinded experiences and how beneficial the program can be.

“As a former small business owner and bookkeeper, I love the simplicity of MoneyMinded. I think financial literacy along with numeracy and literacy are the underpinning skills needed for quality of life and the more people we reach with MoneyMinded the better!”

“I recently worked with my most challenging mixture of participants so far – people with all sorts of disabilities and health issues. I really learnt my wage that day! However driving home and reflecting, I realised in a nutshell exactly what inspires me about MoneyMinded – the ability that this program has to transcend all social and economic barriers and deliver at least one ‘lightbulb’ moment to each participant. And the most challenging day then becomes the most rewarding!”

“I’m always so inspired by my groups and love sharing their enthusiasm for their newfound knowledge and confidence. They feel empowered, in-control, informed, enlightened and motivated (so much so that one of my group members went home and found the courage to disagree with her husband’s recent financial decision! And the most challenging day then becomes the most rewarding!”

“I feel so fortunate to be able to deliver a program that I know makes a real difference to people’s lives.”

2007 MoneyMinded evaluation plans

ANZ has again commissioned RMIT University to evaluate the reach and impact of MoneyMinded in 2007. The 2007 plans will involve:
• Bi-annual surveys of MoneyMinded facilitators in March and September to determine the number of people to have participated in MoneyMinded in the preceding six months.
• Pre and post-education surveys of participants to assess participants needs prior to undertaking MoneyMinded and any subsequent positive money management behaviour changes.

Participation in the evaluation will be voluntary. More information, including surveys that can be given to participants, will be made available early in the new year.

Got any questions or comments?
To provide feedback, ask any questions or to unsubscribe to this newsletter, please email community@anz.com
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REMINDER:
You can order free calculators and satchels for people participating in MoneyMinded workshops as well as a promotional brochure by emailing:
community@anz.com