

## Recognizing Financial Literacy Month in April 2017

April is Financial Literacy Month across the United States. Originating from a U.S. Senate resolution, Financial Literacy Month was first recognized “to raise public awareness about the importance of financial education in the United States and the serious consequences that may be associated with a lack of understanding about personal finances.” S. Res. 316, 108th Cong., 2d Sess. (2004). Thirteen years later, these principles continue to support the need for financial literacy education in our country.

There are many opportunities for attorneys practicing in the Eastern District of Kentucky to make a positive impact as part of Financial Literacy Month 2017. Kentucky’s statewide CARE (Credit Abuse Resistance Education) Program allows volunteer attorneys to provide financial literacy training to high school seniors. All of the materials needed to start a CARE Program at a high school and to prepare an attorney to give a 50-minute CARE presentation are available online at [www.careinky.org](http://www.careinky.org). The Kentucky Bar Foundation coordinates the CARE Program statewide, and it is sponsoring a training session for attorney presenters in the Fayette County Circuit Courthouse Multipurpose Room on April 13, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided to attendees. To RSVP for the training or volunteer to present, contact KBF Executive Director Guion Johnstone at [gjohnstone@kybar.org](mailto:gjohnstone@kybar.org).

Another way to volunteer this April is to equip a different audience with financial literacy skills – senior citizens. Sponsored by the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the ElderCare Program is designed to educate senior citizens about protecting the financial stability they have worked for throughout their lives. Attorneys volunteer to give one-hour presentations covering any of four topical modules: Your Money; Your Home and Estate; Your Credit; and Lifestyle Skills and Budgeting Basics. All materials are available on the Court’s [website](#), including guides for both presenters and participants.

Many, many other opportunities exist for attorneys to make a meaningful contribution recognizing Financial Literacy Month. The U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky encourages all attorneys to seek ways to improve someone’s financial literacy in April 2017 and thereafter.