



2009 POLICY BRIEFING: SUPPORTING RESEARCH REPORTS & PAPERS

Borrowed Time: Use of Refund Anticipation Loans among EITC Filers in Native Communities (2009) was produced by First Nations Development Institute and the Center for Responsible Lending to examine the use of Refund Anticipation Loans (RALs) in Native communities. RALs can be extremely costly to the applicant where the average expense of the one- to two-week loan can be 50 to 500 percent APR, depending on the total fee and loan term.

Indian Country FY 2010 Budget Request (2009) is a document produced annually by the National Congress of American Indians as a companion to the State of Indian Nations address. The document outlines key data related to the socioeconomic status of Native people and recommends particular federal policy strategies to revitalize Native economies, including federal investment in Native Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs).

Deepening Our Understanding of the Financial Education of Native Youth: An In-Depth Look at Native Students in Montana, New Mexico and South Dakota (2008) is the result of a research study conducted by Oweesta Corporation and supported by a grant from the National Council on Economic Education. This study analyzes the personal financial knowledge of Native youth in three states with high Native populations - Montana, New Mexico, and South Dakota. It examines the largest sample of Native high school students ever surveyed regarding financial literacy skills.

Borrowing Trouble: Predatory Lending in Native American Communities (2008) is the result of a research study conducted by First Nations Development Institute and funded by the Anne E. Casey Foundation. The report details the practices of lenders targeting Native American communities with loan products that are often designed to exploit vulnerable borrowers who generally cannot afford to repay the loans.

The Financial Literacy of Native American Youth (2007) report was produced by Oweesta Corporation to gain an understanding of what Native students know and do not know about personal finances. It analyzes the results of the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy bi-annual survey which assesses the financial literacy of young adults in their senior year of high school with troubling results. Low scores of Native students raise even more concern.

Native American Economic Policy Report (2007) is a report produced by the National Congress of American Indians and the Department of Interior, Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development, detailing the recommendations of the 2007 National Native American Economic Policy Summit. Recommendations specifically address the development of financial management skills and other issues identified by the NFEC.

Capital and Finance Issues: On-Reservation Private Sector Growth (2007) was produced by Oweesta Corporation and First Nations Development Institute for the National Native American Economic Policy Summit to describe the range of policies that can support private sector economic growth in Indian Country. These include Native CDFIs, Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) and a range of other strategies.

Financial Education in Native Communities: A Briefing Paper (2003) was published by First Nations Development Institute, CFED and National Congress of American Indians and serves as a resource for tribes, policymakers, researchers, advocates, and community practitioners promoting financial education in Native communities.

Sovereign Individuals, Sovereign Nations: Promising Practices for IDA Programs in Indian Country (2003) was produced by First Nations Development Institute and presents a conceptual framework for understanding the opportunities and challenges facing Native IDA programs. IDAs are matched savings programs which help low-income individuals save and accumulate assets, with benefits that include increased economic stability, increased educational attainment, increased financial skills, and decreased rates of intergenerational poverty.

The Native American Lending Study (2001) was undertaken by the U.S. Department of Treasury's Community Development Financial Institutions Fund for the purposes of examining the access to capital and financial services on Indian Lands and Hawaiian Home Lands, identifying the barriers to access, and providing options to address these barriers.

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