

MEDIA RELEASE

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**Source: Community Action Partnership
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Community Action Partnership sponsors consumer workshops on budgeting and avoiding identity theft (May 12, 2008)

(May 12, 2008–Cameron, Mo.) In response to trying economic times, Community Action Partnership of Greater St. Joseph is joining with the University of Missouri Extension to provide workshops to help consumers make informed decisions. With one of the fastest growing crimes being identity theft, and the other being illegal activities related to a person’s personal finances, upcoming workshops on May 22 and May 29 will show you how to avoid being a victim -- and what to do if you become one.

“It is becoming more and more important that each family have a budget, and learn which items are ‘wants’ and which ones are ‘needs,’ and how to tell the difference,” says Julie Greer, Community Action Partnership Community Outreach Specialist. “The money management skills presented in these workshops are tools every consumer can benefit from.”

In addition to the skills to plan a budget, participants to the workshop will receive essential budgeting materials and learn how to check and fix a credit report.

“With the steady rise in prices of essentials, many people are struggling to just make ends meet,” says Greer. “These workshops, given by Dr Rebecca Travnichek from University Extension, will give attendees skills to set a budget and hints to stay within it, and help them avoid consumer fraud and scams that are ‘too good to be true.’”

The workshops are open to the public and free of charge. For more information, or to register, please contact Julie Greer at the Cameron Community Action Partnership office at (816) 632-7345; or by email at jgreer@endpov.com.

<p>Workshop: Money Management & Budgeting Date: May 22, 2008 Time: 9:00 to 11:00 am Location: C.A.P Cameron office 1304 N Walnut (Upstairs in the Bank Midwest Building)</p>	<p>Workshop: Consumer Fraud Date: May 29, 2008 Time: 9:00 to 11:00 am Location: C.A.P. Cameron office 1304 N. Walnut (Upstairs in the Bank Midwest Building)</p>
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Community Action Partnership of Greater St. Joseph is one of 19 Community Action Agencies in Missouri and one of 900 Community Action Agencies in the U.S. working to fight poverty at the local level. Services offered by Community Action Partnership of Greater St. Joseph to low-income individuals in Buchanan, Clinton, Andrew and DeKalb counties include Head Start, offering comprehensive educational, nutritional and emotional support for children ages birth to five; housing and rent assistance; energy crisis

and utility assistance; leadership and life skills training; assistance with college entrance; and employment and workforce training programs through the Missouri Career Center.