

Including Older Americans in Asset Building Efforts: Hard Truths and Promising Ideas

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EARN Snapshot

Impact

\$8.2M	Total investments by successful EARN Savers since 2002	
5,100	Total Accounts opened	
90%	Reported a positive change on how they spend money post-EARN	
82%	Continue to save after completing the program	
91%	Have a strategy for managing financial emergencies—compared to 42% who had no strategy before EARN	
80%	Experienced an improvement in self-esteem	



2012 Program Activity

Demographics

1,400	Current active accounts	\$17,672	Average household income at enrollment
\$114	Average deposit per Saver per month	53%	Parents
8%	Percent of monthly income saved	69%	Women
28%	Attrition, compared to 60% national average of comparable programs	88%	Self-identified as a person of color

Scaling Impact

Recent Innovation: 2012 Product Launches



Helping you save for your child's education

TripleBoost Children's Education Savings Account

- Qualified expenses: academic enrichment for primary & postsecondary students, postsecondary education expenses
- 3:1 Match
- Pilot: 2011-2012
- California –wide rollout: September 2012



EARN & SaveUp Partnership

- Collaboration with tech start-up that uses gaming mechanics to foster savings
- Online game platform that rewards individuals with prizes for saving (making deposits) ,paying down debt, and taking financial literacy challenges
- Beta: Aug-Sep 2012
- National launch: Fall 2012

Key Growth Strategies for 2013 and Beyond

1

Online Platform

Invest substantially in technology in order to improve our core program model and expand our capacity to serve.

2

Product Innovation

Design, develop, and test products that create savings behavior.

Apply gamification and behavioral economic tools to accelerate success.

3

Systemic Change

Create policies that promote the growth & quality of goal-based savings programs. Increase private and public investment nationwide.



Prosperity

Economic:

Savings Assets HH Net Worth

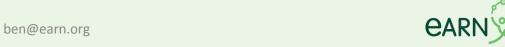


Pscho-Social:

Self Efficacy Optimism Knowledge



Prosperity



Insight from Actual, Real People!

- Low-income people identify emergencies/retirement as their primary savings goal
 - Majority are confident about retirement security, in all income categories – despite 58% believing social security is risky.
- Key features will drive savings:
 - 1. Liquidity
 - 2. Safety
 - Americans want it all! (including high returns w/o risk)
- Incentives are powerful the bigger the better
 - 72% very likely or almost certain to save \$1,000 if they received a \$500 match in the Savers Tax Credit
 - Lower incomes need the higher incentives to save
- Daunting information barrier about tax credits

5

Frame for Moving Forward

- Let the demand-side drive program and implementation
 - Go to where people are (tax preparers/Walmart)
 - Listen to consumers not ideologues
 - Be paternalistic about risk
- Solve the knowledge problem in <u>revolutionary</u> ways not incrementally
- View and design holistically
 - Focus on psycho-social elements of prosperity when designing
 - Consider the context/quagmire of healthcare costs

Three Keys to Successfully Include Older Savers

Drive initiatives with clarity on:

- Objective: Ideological redistribution of financial resources, or ideologically-agnostic, evidence-based solution to foster prosperity? Both?
- Product: Highly granular, seemingly "small" product features can determine success/failure of attempts to include older savers in asset building work.
- Implementation: Details, management excellence and strategy on implementation = deal breakers for success.