

state and local educational organizations for activities that include distribution of curricular materials, replication of best practices and teacher training.

EEE is a targeted, demand-driven, grass-roots program. Three quarters of the funding goes directly to ongoing state and local economic education and financial literacy initiatives with proven track records. The program also requires a thorough review and assessment of the use and effectiveness of the sub-grants. Finally, federal resources are leveraged through the requirement that sub-grant recipients match EEE funds dollar-for-dollar.

Since that time: 48 states and the District of Columbia have been served by Excellence in Economic Education (EEE) sub-grants in project years 2004–08; 495 sub-grants were awarded in that time-frame; \$5,418,539 has been awarded to grass-roots organizations nationwide; over 1,500 copies the 2007 Survey of the States were distributed to individuals and agencies interested in improving economic and financial literacy.

During Financial Literacy Month 2009, the JumpStart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy, Junior Achievement, and the Council for Economic Education hosted the Financial Literacy Day Fair on Capitol Hill in collaboration with myself and Congresswoman BIGGERT in our roles as co-chairs of the Caucus. Over 800 people attended this year's Financial Literacy Day Fair on April 30, 2009 in the Cannon Caucus Room, 345 Cannon, and more than 50 vendors participated presented their financial literacy pamphlets, brochures, DVDs, and more at the Fair. The youngest participant was an 11 week old baby girl named Juliana and a man in his late 80s/early 90s who has worked on Capitol Hill for quite some time.

Also during Financial Literacy Month 2009, bankers across the United States taught savings skills to young people on April 21, 2009, during Teach Children to Save Day. This Day was started by the American Bankers Association Education Foundation in April of 1997 and has now helped more than 72,000 bankers teach savings skills to nearly 3,200,000 young people.

Staff from America's credit unions made presentations to young people at local schools on financial topics such as student loans, balancing a checkbook, and auto loans during National Credit Union Youth Week, April 19–25, 2009;

More than 100 Federal agencies have collaborated on a website, www.consumer.gov, which helps consumers shop for a mortgage or auto loan, understand and reconcile credit card statements and utility bills, choose savings and retirement plans, compare health insurance policies, and understand their credit report and how it affects their ability to get credit and on what terms.

In my district, I've held four different financial literacy events at four different schools. I was able to host financial literacy programs at four different schools in the Beeville as well as the Edinburg area of my district. We provided financial literacy workshops to well over 400 high school students in three days. I hope to add even more events in my district during Financial Literacy Month 2010.

Mr. Speaker, there are hundreds of other financial literacy programs out there for us to tap and integrate into resolutions, legislation, authorizations and appropriations.

It is important that we support the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month, including

raising public awareness about financial education; recognize the importance of managing personal finances, increasing personal savings, and reducing personal debt in the United States; and, that the President, the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, non-profit organizations, businesses, and the people of the United States observe the month with appropriate programs and activities with the goal of increasing financial literacy rates for individuals of all ages and walks of life.

I am pleased to insert at the end of my remarks a Presidential Statement I received April 30, 2009 from President Barack Obama. In it, he states that he is "pleased to join all who are observing Financial Literacy Month." He goes on to state that "It is more important than ever to understand how to balance a checkbook, budget wisely, plan for retirement and avoid accumulating debts that could harm your financial future. A strong American economy depends on everyone . . . We must pass along such fundamental knowledge to our family and friends, because financial literacy empowers all of us."

I am personally thrilled that President Obama has issued this Financial Literacy Month Statement, and I look forward to working with him, his staff at the White House, staff at Treasury, and other federal agencies on financial literacy issues now and well into the future.

I am also inserting at the end of my remarks a list of the Members of Congress who are part of the Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus and have given permission that their names be listed publicly as members of the Caucus.

Together we can improve our economy. Together, we can re-establish our prominence in the global marketplace, and together we can work to ensure that the United States remains at the top of the global economy by teaching our youth as early as possible how to manage their finances.

We need to act soon. We need to act fast, and we need to act prudently and decisively. Si, Se Puede!

CURRENT LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC LITERACY CAUCUS WHO HAVE AGREED TO MAKE THEIR NAMES PUBLIC

Joe Baca, Melissa Bean, Judy Biggert, Brian Bilbray, Dennis Cardoza, William "Lacy" Clay, Emanuel Cleaver, Tom Cole, Jim Costa, and Joseph Crowley.

Elijah Cummings, Geoff Davis, Eliot Engel, Scott Garrett, Al Green, Jim Himes, Rubén Hinojosa, Eddie Bernice Johnson, Patrick Kennedy, Sheila Jackson-Lee, Carolyn McCarthy, Earl Pomeroy, and Loretta Sanchez.

—
THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, April 2009.

Sound financial planning and responsibility are essential to our families and our economy, and I am pleased to join all who are observing Financial Literacy Month.

It is more important than ever to understand how to balance a checkbook, budget wisely, plan for retirement, and avoid accumulating debts that could harm your financial future. A strong American economy depends on everyone—from individuals and homeowners, to investors and entrepreneurs—practicing financial responsibility. We must pass along such fundamental knowledge to our family and friends, because financial literacy empowers all of us.

The emphasis on financial literacy awareness and education must extend beyond

April. I hope the insights you have gained this month will continue to improve the quality of life for you, your family and community, and I wish you all the best.

BARACK OBAMA.

CONGRATULATING THE KEYSTONE ADVENTURE SCHOOL AND FARM FOR WINNING THE PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH AWARD

HON. MARY FALLIN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Ms. FALLIN. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate and commend the Keystone Adventure School and Farm in Edmond, Oklahoma, which is in my congressional district. Through a dedicated school-wide effort the Keystone Adventure School and Farm has been awarded the President's Environmental Youth Award.

These hardworking and committed students have created an environmentally sustainable project called the Kid's Café. This Café is run entirely by the students and involves growing their own fruits and vegetables, maintaining bees to pollinate plants and create honey, and numerous other environmentally friendly enterprises. Much of the money brought in from these endeavors is used to help less fortunate children in Thailand create their own green gardens to supplement their diet.

This student run Café enhances their educational experience at the Keystone Adventure School and Farm by exposing them to some of life's most important lessons and offering them a chance to help their community and the world.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the achievements of Keystone Adventure School and Farm. I believe that they have set an outstanding example for all of Oklahoma and the nation to follow.

RECOGNIZING THE 2009 RECIPIENTS OF THE MCGOWAN COURAGE AWARD

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, seven high school students in my congressional district will be recognized on May 12 for their efforts to overcome physical, economic, and social adversities. I am pleased to join the Rotary Club of Mansfield in honoring the achievements of these McGowan Courage Award recipients:

Kelby Lunsford, Crestview High School—Kelby has worked through numerous autism-related difficulties stemming from his premature birth. His work ethic, determination, and passion for reading and historical studies are an inspiration to his parents, teachers, and fellow students.

Nathan Volz, Lexington High School—Faced at age 10 with the divorce of his parents, Nathan has long been tasked with helping to raise his younger brothers and assisting with

the family's finances. After attending a church youth retreat, he worked to overcome some of his own poor personal choices and become a model of integrity for others.

Josh Teetsel, Lucas High School—Placed in a foster home after the death of his mother, Josh struggled to make the right choices in the face of pressure from friends. He has since turned his life around, earning the respect of his teachers and volunteering at the local fire department. Josh will soon enroll at Ohio's Hocking College.

Joseph (Joey) Bennett, Madison Comprehensive High School—Coping with hearing and vision impairments and enduring several open-heart surgeries before age 2, Joey is an inspiration to everyone at his school, where he is an eager volunteer at sporting and other extracurricular activities. He recently completed Madison's auto tech training program.

Ian Kent, Mansfield Christian High School—Various sleep disorders and other medical problems have slowed Ian's academic work, but he continues to persevere in his home studies. He enjoys volunteering at his church and at Mansfield's Kingwood Center, and looks forward to attending North Central State College.

Leona Smith, Mansfield Senior High School—In just the last year, Leona has suffered from three collapsed lungs requiring surgery. Despite these setbacks, she has maintained a 3.6 grade point average in college prep courses and is on course to graduate a year early—all while working two jobs to support herself financially.

Brandon O'Brian, Ontario High School—Brandon's positive attitude in working to overcome a cognitive disability is a model for his fellow students. In addition to his studies at Pioneer Career and Technology Center, he is an active member of the Mansfield Police Department's Explorer Post and works part-time at Ontario's Skyway Restaurant.

HONORING TRAVIS HOGLE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Travis Hogle a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 66, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Travis has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Travis has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Travis Hogle for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING CRAY HENRY AS A 2009 SERVICE TO AMERICA MEDAL FINALIST

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous contributions of Cray Henry, of Annandale, Va., to our nation and specifically to improving the safety of our deployed military personnel. Mr. Henry, as director of the High Performance Computing Modernization Program, led the effort to provide supercomputer support allowing the Department of Defense to improve body and vehicle armor for troops in the field. The work of his team also helped enhance overall military performance and saved billions of taxpayer dollars. In recognition of those achievements, Mr. Henry and his team have been named finalists for the 2009 Service to America Medal for National Security and International Affairs.

As my colleagues know, the Service to America Medals, or Sammys as they are more commonly known, are presented annually by the nonprofit, nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service to celebrate our dedicated federal workforce, highlighting their commitment and innovation, as well as the impact of their work on addressing the needs of the nation.

The state-of-the-art supercomputing environment created by the High Performance Computing Modernization Program team, led by Mr. Henry, enabled DoD scientists and engineers to design and test innovative materials and weapons systems.

For example, the team helped speed the development and rapid deployment of the Hellfire missile that has been used to neutralize terrorists in buildings, bunkers and caves.

The team also was tapped to help the soldiers in Iraq, providing resources for complex modeling and simulations to develop new armor kits for Humvees to better adapt and protect against improvised explosive devices (IEDs) that were killing and wounding American soldiers.

In addition to its field applications, the supercomputing team has brought advances in weather forecasting to allow the U.S. Navy and Air Force to provide more accurate, up-to-the-minute and long-range information to ground forces anywhere in the world, which is a great asset in helping commanders plan military operations. Applying this capability to aircraft flight planning, the DoD anticipates saving \$1 billion in fuel costs over 10 years.

The DoD's hurricane prediction models are so accurate that the National Hurricane Center is now using them together with other models to predict hurricane paths. The team's modeling also has been a tremendous resource in rebuilding the levees in New Orleans in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Henry and his team for their tremendous contribution to protecting our troops and improving our national preparedness. His 27 years of public service and his drive for innovation serve as an example to us all, and his recognition as finalists for the 2009 Service to America Medal for Homeland Security is well deserved.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the more than 40,000 teachers from Broward and Miami-Dade Counties during National Teacher Appreciation Week, taking place this year from May 3 through May 9, 2009.

This week all across America, our Nation's schoolchildren, their parents, PTAs and others are gathering to show their appreciation for the professional educators who work every day to make their futures brighter. Teacher Appreciation Week is a great opportunity to stop and pay tribute to the profession that shapes the world of tomorrow. Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the lasting contributions that these men and women make to the lives of thousands of students in South Florida.

Today, I am pleased to commend the efforts of two special teachers in my district: Tony Dutra, a reading teacher from the Hallandale Community Center in Hallandale, Florida, teaches Extraordinary Student Education. When he was a student Mr. Dutra was learning disabled so he understands the challenges his student go through on a daily basis. Mr. Dutra was named Broward County's public school teacher of the year.

Patricia Fairclough, a second grade teacher from Airbase Elementary School in Homestead, Florida, was Miami-Dade County's public school teacher of the year. As a first-grader, Patricia struggled in class, but she was inspired by a caring teacher and now she is helping other children who need a little extra tough love.

I hope that you will all join me in thanking Mr. Dutra and Ms. Fairclough and all of our nation's teachers for everything they do each and every day to encourage, instruct and guide our students. All of America's teachers deserve more than a week of recognition for their investment in our country's most precious resource, our children.

Too often teachers are overworked and underpaid. They spend long hours in the classroom, many hours after the school day coaching our kids and leading their extracurricular groups, and then go home to spend more time grading papers.

Teachers invest their own lives in the lives of our children, and every day they empower young people with the knowledge and tools needed to be successful and confident. America's future is in the hands of our children and we owe our teachers a universe of thanks for their hard work.

ELIZABETH PORRAS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Elizabeth Porras who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Elizabeth Porras is a senior at Jefferson High