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**Financial Beginnings Receives \$15,500 Grant from the
Credit Association of the Pacific Northwest**

PORTLAND, Ore., June 23, 2011—[Financial Beginnings](#), a Portland-based nonprofit that provides free financial education to children and young adults throughout the Pacific Northwest, recently received a grant for \$15,500 from the [Credit Association of the Pacific Northwest](#). The grant allowed Financial Beginnings to provide financial education programs to 650 students at six schools in the Portland Public School district this spring and will support Mayor Sam Adams' [Summer Youth Connect Program](#).

The Association selected Financial Beginnings as a grant recipient due to their commitment to teaching students how to responsibly manage personal finances and their experience in educating the functions of the banking, credit and insurance industries. Financial Beginnings was one of three local nonprofits to receive a grant from the Credit Association of the Pacific Northwest.

"As a group comprised of credit industry professionals, the Credit Association of the Pacific Northwest recognizes the importance of providing early education on how to use credit responsibly," said Board Chairman Gina Whitlow. "Supporting educational programs for children and young adults is typically far more cost-effective than dealing with the resulting economic issues that a person or community may face as a result of bad credit and bankruptcy. Financial Beginnings' education model is effective, has a prolonged impact and we are proud to provide our support."

About Financial Beginnings

Formed in 2005 and based in Portland, OR, Financial Beginnings is a nonprofit organization that provides multi-session courses, free of charge, to students and young adults throughout the Pacific Northwest through visits to their individual schools or community groups. The courses incorporate all aspects of personal finance to provide individuals the foundation needed to make informed financial decisions. More information is available at www.financialbeginnings.org.

About the Credit Association of the Pacific Northwest

The Credit Association of the Pacific Northwest brings together local credit workers to share ideas, support the industry movement and educate the community in the proper use of credit. More information is available at www.creditnw.org.