



# ChangeMakers Newsletter

CONSUMER CREDIT COUNSELING SERVICE OF GREATER DALLAS, INC.

December 2011

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The CCCS mission is to promote sound financial management among individuals and families. We do this by providing:

- ◆ Credit & Budget Counseling
- ◆ Financial Education
- ◆ Housing Counseling
- ◆ Debt Management
- ◆ Bankruptcy Counseling

Support the mission by making a gift online [www.cccs.net](http://www.cccs.net)

Corporate Headquarters:  
**CCCS of Greater Dallas**  
8737 King George Drive  
Dallas, TX 75235

## HOPE NOW Alliance Reports Five Million Loan Modifications



Steve Bartlett, former Dallas Mayor and CEO of the Financial Services Roundtable

Former Dallas mayor, Steve Bartlett, with the Financial Services Round Table, recently visited CCCS of Greater Dallas. Bartlett's visit celebrated five million home loan modifications that have been completed since 2007 through HOPE NOW. HOPE NOW is an alliance between counseling agencies, lenders, other market participants seeking to strengthen outreach efforts and help families at risk of foreclosure. Bartlett expressed his gratitude and thanks to CCCS and others that did their part to keep families from losing their homes to foreclosure. CCCS joined HOPE NOW in February 2009. Though foreclosure trends have been positive in recent months many families are still at risk. Help CCCS prevent foreclosure by promoting affordable housing in our community. To learn more visit our website at

[www.cccs.net](http://www.cccs.net).

## Welcome New CCCS Board Members!

Join CCCS in welcoming three new members to the Board of Directors. Joyce Campbell (Capital One Bank), Cynthia Easley (Plains Capital Bank) and Karen Riley (Citibank) have each volunteered to serve and advance the mission of CCCS of Greater Dallas. Board members provide important leadership and are critical to fulfilling the mission of CCCS. Their skills compliment those of the professional staff by enhancing the overall strength and capacity of the organization. The new members join the ranks of outstanding professional and community leaders that make up our current Board of Directors. Thank you to our Board Members for your dedication and commitment to our important work in the community! For more information about the CCCS Board of Directors please visit [www.cccs.net](http://www.cccs.net).



2012  
CCCS Board Member  
Karen Riley (Citibank)

## October Event Trio A Great Success!

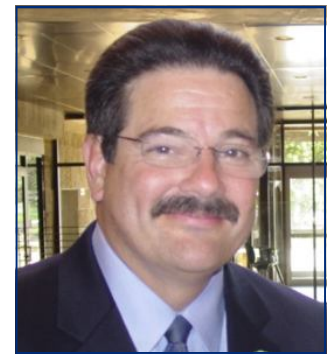
CCCS is proud to announce the Fall Financial Literacy Event Trio a great success. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Purses With a Purpose event benefitting low income women in Dallas County raised more than \$63,000 with over 200 guests attending. Gloria Campos, WFAA news anchor, returned as the emcee and honorary chair and Ilyce Glink, CBS News *Money Watch* and financial author of 13 books, was the keynote speaker. A special thanks to Bank of Texas, Chapman, Hext & Co. P.C., Comerica Bank and Haynes & Boone, LLP who graciously sponsored this year's event at the Platinum Level.

The October 18<sup>th</sup> evening fundraiser event was followed by an invitation only Leadership Breakfast that was co-hosted by the Federal Reserve Bank. This conversation style interview of the U.S. Treasurer, Rosie Rios and other prominent financial industry professionals was well attended by many CCCS corporate and community partners.

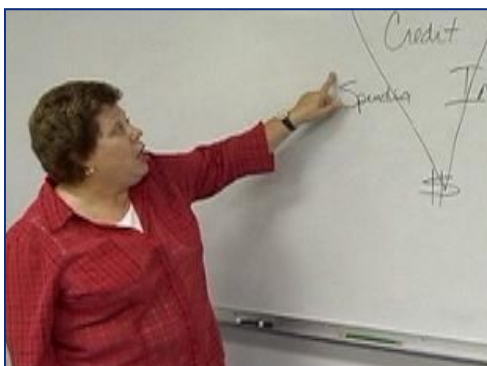
The trio concluded with a Town Hall Meeting at the Belo Mansion. Pamela Yip, personal finance writer with The Dallas Morning News; Eloy Villafranca, regional community affairs officer with FDIC; Judge Eric Moyé and Alfreda Norman, community affairs officer for the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas joined Rios and Glink on a panel moderated by Todd Mark with CCCS. For more information about these events and details for 2012 special events please visit our website [www.cccs.net](http://www.cccs.net).



U.S. Treasurer Rosie Rios



Eloy Villafranca, FDIC



Jenny Stewart, Director of Education teaches a class on managing credit.

## CCCS Partners With Urban League

Urban League of Greater Dallas has made a strong commitment to provide community members access to the critical life-skills and tools needed to attain financial security by partnering with CCCS of Greater Dallas. These essential tools are what allow individuals and families to move out of poverty and live financially sustainable lives. The mission of Urban League is to provide opportunities that enable African Americans and others to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power and civil rights. This partnership with Urban League of Greater Dallas, provides weekly on-site educational classes to encourage and teach community members how to better manage their finances. All clients at the Urban League Community Service Centers are individuals and families who are at or below 125% of the poverty level. The goal and commitment is to move these families out of poverty and towards self-reliance. Continued community support allows CCCS to build and maintain over 100 community partnerships with other nonprofits, school districts, colleges and many more. A complete list is available on our website [www.cccs.net](http://www.cccs.net).

To learn more about  
community partnerships  
visit [www.cccs.net](http://www.cccs.net)

## Client Corner: A House In a Down Market

Like many couples, CCCS clients David and Stephanie saw the down housing market following the 2008 recession as a great opportunity to buy a new home at a seemingly low price, that the couple otherwise could not afford. They now share their story to say that even those too good to be true deals have the potential to cause unimaginable financial struggle. The couple was able to keep up with their mortgage payments at first, but it soon put a strain on their ability to pay other bills. The couple found themselves relying on their credit cards in order to support their family of five and their balances grew to more than \$60,000 in debt. Overwhelmed with financial crisis, they turned to CCCS for help. During a free counseling session, a trained counselor helped the couple create financial goals, an action plan and reduce interest and monthly payments to a manageable level. Experts agree that affordable housing should represent no more than 30% of a household budget. The couple is now successfully paying down their debt and has committed themselves to maintaining a budget within their means so that they are able to remain financially stable. For more information on how you can help visit our website at [www.cccs.net](http://www.cccs.net).



David & Stephanie S. serve as 2011 Client Ambassadors and have volunteered their family's story to be featured in the agency video.

If you or someone you know needs budget counseling please call (800) 249-2227



2011 Client Ambassadors David & Stephanie pose with their children during a photo shoot for the CCCS agency video.

87% of every dollar donated directly benefits a family in need.

## Keep A Family 'Home for the Holidays'

At CCCS we are working hard to keep families like David and Stephanie in their homes and out of the grips of foreclosure. The effects of foreclosure are not only felt by the families but also by the surrounding communities. A single foreclosed home represents as much as \$220,000 in reduced home equity for nearby homes and more than \$34,000 in direct costs for local governments. One hour of housing counseling costs the agency \$125 to provide and is provided at no cost to clients. Each session helps clients like David and Stephanie create a financial action plan, a budget, and set financial goals that will put them on the track to financial recovery. So many hardworking families are not prepared to bear the hard knocks of life. Your gift of \$125 can make a big difference by helping a family obtain the education and tools they need to be financially secure and self-reliant. Visit [www.cccs.net](http://www.cccs.net) now to make a contribution towards keeping families home for the holidays.