



Media Release

Corporate Communications

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MoneyMinded financial literacy training now delivered online

Australia's most comprehensive adult financial education program will be easier to access after ANZ today launched a website extension of the MoneyMinded program.

ANZ initiated and led the development of the MoneyMinded program in 2004 as a resource for community educators and financial counsellors to deliver workshops to assist people to build their financial knowledge and make informed decisions about their money.

ANZ Group Managing Director Personal, Mr Brian Hartzler, said the new online extension of MoneyMinded www.moneyminded.com.au would help to make financial literacy education more accessible to the general public.

"Through our financial literacy research, we know there are a large number of Australians, particularly those on low incomes, who struggle with basic financial skills. MoneyMinded is about providing people with the tools, knowledge and confidence they need to make informed decisions about the use and management of their money," Mr Hartzler said.

He added, "Through financial counsellors and community educators we are aiming to facilitate the delivery of MoneyMinded to 15,000 Australians this year. With the latest addition of the MoneyMinded website, we will be able to further expand the reach of the program and help several thousand additional consumers with online financial literacy training."

The MoneyMinded website features:

- a financial education program comprising five topics – the first topic 'Planning and Saving' is available now and further courses will be released progressively during 2006
- regular features such as '10 tips for a healthy credit card', 'How to prepare a budget' and 'Getting choosy about your super'
- a tool kit with resources including a budget and savings template, a 'spending leaks' calculator, a checklist for comparing superannuation funds, and a glossary for people to learn the language of finance
- information and contacts for the MoneyMinded workshops delivered by community organisations across Australia.
- contacts for a range of organisations and agencies that provide useful information about consumer rights and can help protect and support consumers.

The Smith Family's National Financial Literacy Project Manager, Mr Gregory Mowle, said, "We are very conscious of the need for relevant, current and vibrant resources to be available for consumers who are attempting to take charge of their money and learn the skills necessary for the daily and long-term management of their finances. The new MoneyMinded website fulfils that criteria and offers consumers a simple and straightforward approach to learning basic financial management skills."

ANZ commissioned Australia's first study into the financial literacy of Australians in 2003 and found a strong link between socio-economic status and adult financial capability levels. As a result, ANZ developed MoneyMinded as part of its commitment to use its resources and expertise to build the financial knowledge, skills and confidence of all Australians, particularly those on low incomes.

The MoneyMinded program was written by the Centre for Learning Innovation (NSW Department of Education and Training), with input from an advisory committee including representatives from the Australian Financial Counselling and Credit Reform Association, the Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW, the Australian Securities and Investments Commission and ANZ.

MoneyMinded provides unbiased consumer education and is free from any ANZ branding or promotion of any financial institutions' products or services.

Visit the MoneyMinded website at www.moneyminded.com.au

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