



DCU BULLETIN

Division of Credit Unions

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Conference on Reaching the Underserved

Since the early 1990s, a growing asset building movement has been making the case that assets are critical to enabling families to move into the economic mainstream and up the economic ladder. Advocates argue that without savings or assets, families are especially vulnerable to economic crises that could result from a fluctuating job market, an illness, or a divorce in the family. On June 4-5, 2008 the Washington Asset Building Coalition is presenting a conference titled "Building Assets, Strengthening Communities" in the Yakima Convention Center. This conference will explore ways to help individuals and families improve their financial management skills, increase their savings, and build wealth. Conference topics include:

- The latest research, strategies and best practices on asset building and how you can use it in your work;
- How the private, public and non-profit sectors can work together to promote savings, smart borrowing, financial education and asset purchases among low- and moderate-income residents;
- Resources available to help you create and expand asset building in your community; and
- Partnerships and networks among program partners, state policy makers and funders.

Room blocks are available at the Red Lion Hotel Yakima Center (509-248-5900) and Hilton Garden Inn Yakima (509-454-1111). When booking, mention the **Washington Asset Building Conference**. Conference fee: \$95 by May 16 or \$125 after May 16.

Contact for questions: Paul Knox, Washington State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (360) 725-4140.