

The Individual Development Account program (IDA) is one of the most powerful tools I have worked with in helping families set and achieve asset building goals. The 3 to 1 match savings is an incredible motivator for not only reaching an asset goal, but it also provides the incentive and opportunity for lower-income families to really engage in financial education. I have personally worked with families who's goal of homeownership would not have be realized without the IDA program. The vehicle asset class has allowed many of my clients to avoid high interest predatory car loans that can cripple a low-income families finances for years. This improved transportation has allowed them to maintain employment. Hard working lower-income Oregonians struggle to make ends meet and this program provides the hope of a better future. I highly encourage the legislature to look closely at the value of the IDA program and the real difference it is making in the lives of Oregonians. It is a well run and administered program that is effective in achieving its stated goal. It would truly be a shame if it is not funded. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

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