

ABLE- Accessing Income Boosting Benefits and Credits

Tanya Raso

November 2, 2015

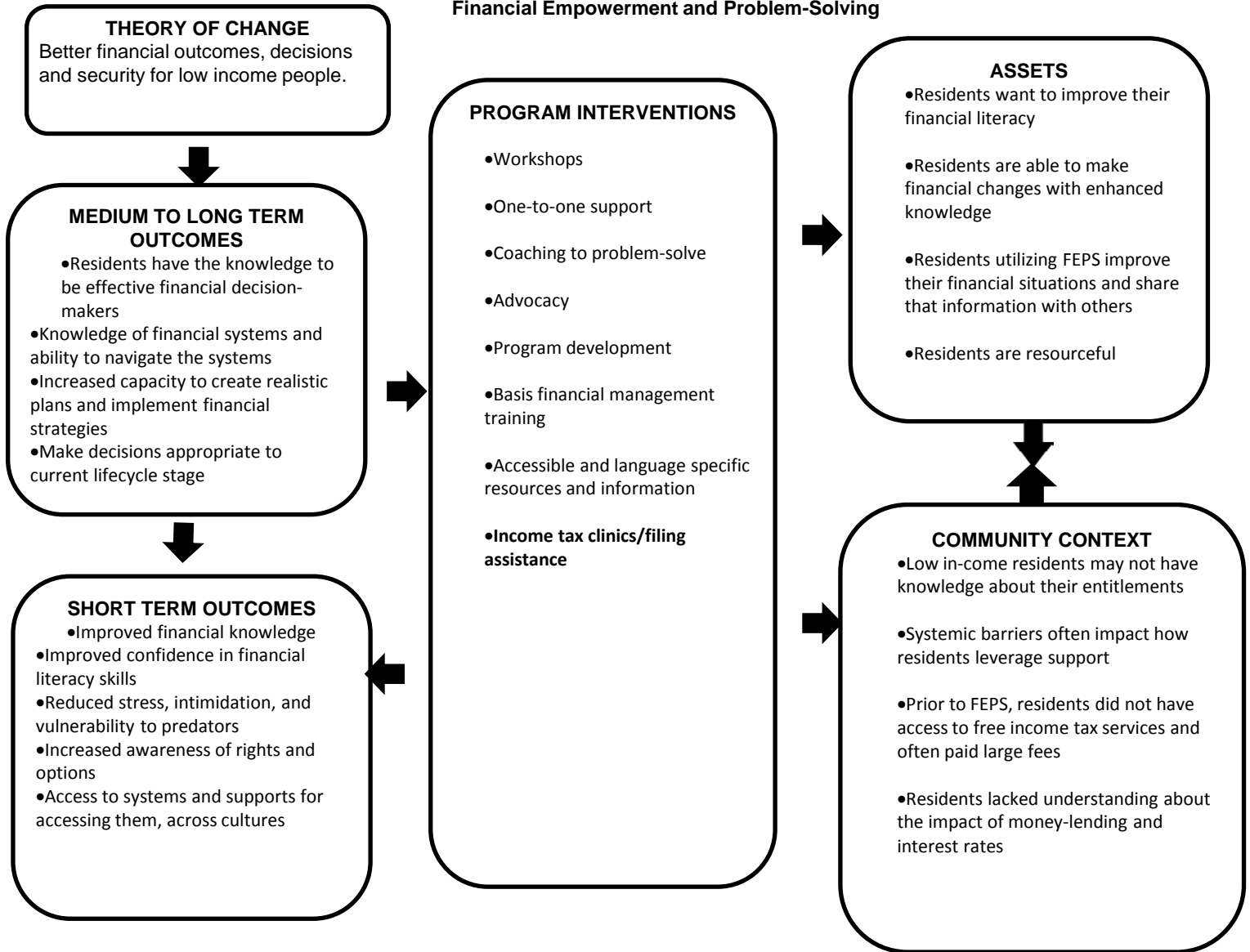
Jane Finch Community and Family Centre

Our Mission- We are a community based organization driven by passion innovation and a strong commitment to social justice, community engagement and collaboration.

Our Vision- Our vision is a healthy Jane-Finch Community -strong, inclusive, socially and politically active through diversity, opportunity and participation.

- **COMMUNITY OFFICE**
- **FEPS-FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT & PROBLEM SOLVING**
- **OEYC-ONTARIO EARLY YEARS CENTRE**
- **THE SPOT-YOUTH**
- **COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH**
- **SOCIAL JUSTICE**
- **SENIOR PROGRAMS**
- **SETTLEMENT**
- **CENTRE FOR GREEN CHANGE**
- **ANC-ACTION FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD CHANGE**

**Theory of Change –
Financial Empowerment and Problem-Solving**



KEY LEARNINGS

- **Participants and community workers have learned a great deal about Canada Revenue Agency**
 - The credits available to families
 - Maximizing their benefits/ credits.
 - Accessing retro active amounts
 - Lowering debt by applying for Tax payer relief program
 - Disability Tax Credit Certificate
- **The importance of increasing knowledge and skills around Financial Literacy in order for participants to become better advocates for themselves**
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- **Importance of partnerships**
 - CVITP, gave agency software 10 years of Income tax programs
 - Computers to increase ability to serve more participants.
 - A liason to support staff and volunteers during tax clinic
- **Volunteers**
 - Importance of training volunteers with the software
 - Shadowing staff
 - Sensitivity training to learn about the participants that we serve

Challenges

- Language barriers
- Fear of immigration Status
- Funding
- Cashing Government cheques (Predatory Lending institutions)
- Biggest challenge is participants and staff on occasion misinforming one another when they are not 100% sure of the information being shared.

Research Reports/Tools

openpolicyontario.com

The Working Poor in Toronto Region

John Stapleton

Yorku.ca

Engaging Marginalized Youth in Financial Literacy Programs

Imo Ek-Udofia and Brenda Spotton Visano

Janefinchcentre.org

Financial Literacy E-Book english/spanish

Story



Contact Information

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