



Stay Financially Fit in 2014!



Here are a few products and services that OOCU offers to help members organize and track their finances...

Easy Budget Checking

Take budgeting to the next level using this account. No checks or debit cards issued with this account. Only use it for paying bills/debts via online bill pay.

Online Banking

Keep an eye on your balance, cleared checks, withdrawals, deposits and more!

Bill Pay

Pay your bills in just minutes! Saves time and the cost of an envelope and stamp



Check out our series on ways you and your family can Stay Financially Fit in 2014. Watch for monthly emails that include tips that will help you improve your financial well-being in 2014.

Tip #6- You Don't Have To Live Paycheck To Paycheck Anymore!

A recent report by Time said that nearly half of Americans are living paycheck to paycheck. According to the report, 44% of Americans are living with less than \$5,887 in savings for a family of four.



Are you awaiting your next paycheck in order to pay this month's bills? If you answered 'yes' then you're probably part of the population that is living paycheck to paycheck.

The good news is, you can get out of the living paycheck to paycheck cycle by following some budget friendly-strategies and cost-conscious tips. You will be on the right track to financial wellness in no time!

3 Tips to Regain Control of Your Finances

1. Take serious stock of your spending

Look at your bills, and then at your monthly statements to reveal your range of spending and areas of overspending. You may find that, initially, the large credit card bill can wait, while eliminating smaller costs like your daily latte, expensive gym membership, or weekend entertainment can make an immediate, and noticeable, difference in freeing up some cash.

2. Set realistic goals and a budget

You can start to break the spending cycle by setting some small, short-term saving goals - cut back on entertainment or groceries by \$75 a month, save \$50 a month for the next few months, pay off a set amount of credit card debt by a specified date. These smaller goals will get you moving in the right direction in terms of paying down debt and prepare you to take on larger goals. Setting realistic goals is essential to a

successful budget.

3. Stick to your budget by tracking spending

You can easily spend less and save more if you start taking close inventory of your expenses and being more accountable for exactly how you're spending money. You might find that you've been making a lot of small purchases which are adding up as well as spending money on things you don't really need.

Source: How To Stop Living Paycheck To Paycheck
By Cyndi Cohen,
www.creditunionsonline.com

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