



JOSH MANDEL

STATE TREASURER OF OHIO

PARMA ‐ Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel's office held its third Veterans Smart Money Choices financial literacy workshop on Friday at Cuyahoga Community College in Parma as part of a statewide initiative to provide financial resources to Ohio's veterans, service members and their families.

This free financial literacy workshop was offered in partnership with Cuyahoga Community College and the Cuyahoga County Veteran Service Commission and is part of Treasurer Mandel's effort to help improve awareness of programs and resources available to veterans and their families.

"As an Iraq War veteran, I know that a strong support system and the right financial knowledge can help to ease the transition into civilian life," said Treasurer Mandel. "Unfortunately, many servicemen and women face economic barriers, but there are valuable resources and programs available to help them. I want to be sure that our nation's veterans are aware of these opportunities provided to help empower them to continue serving their country and communities here at home."

"Our experience in responding to over 16,200 student veteran inquiries over the past six years has shown that two-thirds of those inquiries have dealt with the management of financial issues," said Rick DeChant, Executive Director of Veterans Initiative for Cuyahoga Community College. "The Smart Money Choices workshop offered by the State of Ohio Treasurer's Office was a valuable tool not only for those families in attendance, but for our Veterans Initiative staff as well. The workshop proved to be a valuable 'one stop' event for additional resources in the community available to veterans and their families. A highly productive day for all involved."

The Veterans Smart Money Choices Workshop is a free financial planning seminar for all of Ohio's veterans, service members and their families. Key topics in the series include local benefits and financial assistance, budgeting, credit and debt management, investments, and identity theft and fraud prevention. Additional topics covered include homeownership, retirement and estate planning, and Social Security.

The event also included presentations and attendance from the Ohio Attorney General's Office, Trinity Debt Management and various local organizations.

For more information on financial literacy resources offered by the Ohio Treasurer's office, please call 1-800-228-1102 or visit www.ohiotreasurer.gov.