

“I could never describe how instrumental you were, not only to getting me off the street, but also giving me the confidence to get back my life I once enjoyed.”  
—A Financial Clinic Customer

**\$500,000!**

**THE CLINIC IS PROUD** to have reached a significant milestone: Our financial coaches and attorneys have helped our customers build over half a million dollars in financial security—accumulated savings and alleviated debt for our customers. This accomplishment is in addition to the \$4 million in tax refunds we’ve secured in the last two tax seasons.

While we are proud of our half-million dollar milestone, nothing can compare to the recent feedback from a customer who was homeless and unemployed when he first started working with his Clinic Financial Coach: “I could never describe how instrumental you were, not only to getting me off the street, but also giving me the confidence to get back my life I once enjoyed. I still feel like I am hanging by a thread, but the thread is much thicker than it used to be.”

## FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT CENTER

**THE CLINIC IS THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE** that in May, we launched the Financial Empowerment Center in Queens. This new initiative is part of Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and the City of New York’s partnership with the Department of Consumer Affairs’ Office of Financial Empowerment to provide free, one-on-one financial education, coaching, and workshops to low-income New York City residents. The Clinic is helping customers with credit and debt, affordable banking services, benefits screenings, and financial planning. The new Center is part of the Mayor’s Borough Economic Opportunity Plan to help New Yorkers through the current economic challenges, provide targeted relief to the City’s most vulnerable populations during these difficult economic times, and allows the Clinic to further its mission.

## SUMMER INTERNS

**THE CLINIC THANKS** six interns who joined us for the summer: **Margarita Akysonova** is an MBA student at South Carolina State University, and worked as a Financial Coach with the Financial Empowerment Center. Joining Margarita at the Center were **Hanson Chan**, who is a graduate student in accounting at the University of Utah and **Titilayo Arasi**, a student at New York University studying finance and international business. They both hope to apply their finance backgrounds to the social sector. **Jason Kaye** was the Clinic’s resident website development intern; he is currently studying economics at Brown University and is the Finances Director for the Capital Good Fund, a student-run microfinance organization. **Joseph Schiavo** and **Camille Avena** worked at the Clinic on behalf of The Federal Financial Corps as foreclosure specialists. Joseph is a student at Vassar College, where he studies economics and French. Camille is studying mathematics and economics at Fordham University.

## THE CLINIC'S NEW STAFF

**EDUARDO "EDDIE" BELTRE** joined the Clinic in June as the Office Coordinator. He will be the main point of access for all customers seeking financial coaching, and coordinate our public calendar of financial education workshops. Eddie is currently enrolled at Brooklyn College pursuing his Bachelor's degree in business management and finance.

**DORY CHARLESWORTH** joined the Clinic in April as a Financial Coach with the United Way of New York City's MoneyUP Initiative. She is located at the Clinic's partner, Nazareth Housing, where she provides financial coaching in English and Spanish. Dory's background includes community development work as well as financial counseling in an IDA program for domestic violence survivors. She is a graduate of Mount Holyoke College.

**NINI DUH** joined the Clinic in May as a Financial Coach. She is continuing the Clinic's efforts under the MoneyUP initiative to provide tax preparation and financial coaching services in Mandarin and English. She is at the Chinese-American Planning Council's Eldridge Street location near Chinatown, where she served as a volunteer during tax season 2009. Nini is a graduate of MIT and previously worked at investment banks and a consulting firm.

**KATHY KRAMER** also joined the Clinic in May as a Financial Coach in a partnership with SingleStop USA. She works with students at the Kingsborough Community College campus and with customers at NewarkNOW. Prior to joining the Clinic, Kathy worked over 30 years in commercial banking as a credit officer. She is presently pursuing a Masters in Social Work at New York University.

**JUAN MALDONADO** joined the Clinic in May as a Financial Coach Associate. He is located at the Financial Empowerment Center in Jamaica, Queens where he provides one-on-one financial coaching services and conducts workshops. A graduate of Baruch College, Juan was an analyst in the investment management division at Lehman Brothers.

**MONICA SHARMA** joined the team as Financial Coach Associate for the Clinic. She will also be working with the Financial Empowerment Center in various Brooklyn and Queens sites. Monica previously worked with a micro-finance company offering its services to low-income households. She is a graduate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, majoring in Economics and International Studies.

The  
Clinic  
Has  
Moved

Please note our new address and telephone numbers: 115 West 30th Street, Suite 702, New York, New York 10001. Our new general phone number for appointments and access to the staff directory is 646-810-4050.

Clinic staff and volunteers increased the number of customers taking advantage of tax-site financial coaching by 52 percent this year over the 2008 tax season.

## 2009 TAX SEASON

**UNITED WAY OF NEW YORK CITY'S MONEYUP MODEL** of integrating financial development services with free tax preparation is gaining ground: Clinic staff and volunteers increased the number of customers taking advantage of tax-site financial coaching by 52 percent this year over the 2008 tax season. The tax site financial coaching services included screening for public benefits, reviewing credit reports, and exploring savings strategies, like split refunds and U.S. Savings Bonds. The tax site financial coaching services are proving to be a great entry point for customers to access our year-round services to build our customers' financial security and improve their financial mobility.