

Appleseed This Week

eNewsletter - April 30, 2009



A non-profit network of 16 public interest justice centers in the U.S. and Mexico, Appleseed is dedicated to building a society where opportunities are genuine, access to the law is universal and equal, and government advances the public interest.

QUICK LINKS

[Appleseed Website](#)
[Subscribe to ATW](#)
[Archive](#)
[Donate](#)
[More About Us](#)
[Publications](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

June 11, 2009

Join Appleseed for

Serve America Act Promotes Volunteerism

In the [previous issue of ATW](#), Appleseed announced the availability of 15 pro bono fellowships in various program areas and geographic regions. Our call to service echoes a larger appeal last week from President Barack Obama, who signed the Serve America Act and urged Americans to volunteer time to improve their communities. The act will create a new "citizen army" to tackle problems relating to education, poverty, and public health - many of the same issues addressed by Appleseed Centers across the country.

Appleseed is, at heart, a volunteer network with its own army of dedicated volunteers. Our centers and national programs promote justice and opportunity for all members of society by encouraging private citizens to apply their energy and expertise to fix a wide array of social problems. Appleseed salutes our supporters and applauds the passage of the Serve America Act, looking forward to redoubled volunteer efforts to help the country's disadvantaged.

Please follow these links for further information on [pro bono fellowships](#) and [volunteer opportunities](#) at Appleseed. One donor just pledged to supplement his annual giving with \$5,000 to include a fellow in our health insurance plan. Your donations, too, can provide staff support to mentor an Appleseed fellow. We are grateful for all contributions!

NYC Center: Financial Literacy Event

New York Appleseed Director Jennifer Ching recently joined a number of distinguished community leaders and financial industry advocates at "Dollars and Diaspora," a day-long financial literacy dialogue for the Haitian community. The event was broadcast via videoconference from Long Island University

its annual event in
New York City!

[Engaging a Network for Change](#)

Click on the link above for
details about time, location,
and program!

For further information
and/or to RSVP, email
[Nakia Kelly](mailto:Nakia.Kelly@appleseed.org) or
call 202.347.7960.

FINANCIAL ACCESS LINKS

[Conference Program](#)
[Event Photos](#)
[NY Appleseed Homepage](#)
[Financial Access Reports](#)

in Brooklyn to participants in Miami, Boston, and Port-au-Prince.

Working with several prominent organizations, including [Fonkoze](#), Haiti's alternative bank for the organized poor, Appleseed co-sponsored the April 18 event in order to engage the community on economic empowerment - an objective of considerable importance given the current economic climate.

Ching delivered the morning's opening remarks on civic rights and responsibilities relating to financial access for immigrants, and moderated a roundtable discussion in which Appleseed and Fonkoze financial education tools were used to generate dialogue about best practices and strategies for improving Haitian community advocacy with financial education principles and programs.

The first event of its kind, the conference drew hometown association organizers, religious leaders, financial literacy advocates, and business leaders from the private sector. Participants discussed the need for the Haitian diaspora to embrace financial literacy training strategies in order to empower Haitian consumers to better leverage their marketplace power. With pro bono partner Clifford Chance, LLP, New York Appleseed and Fonkoze have an ongoing project partnership exploring alternative remittance programs and development funds, as one-third of Haiti's economy is supported by remittances. One of the goals of the conference was to broaden the base for this project.

Follow the links in the sidebar for further information on both the event and Appleseed's financial access program.