

LAKOTA FUNDS HELPS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TRIPLE THEIR SAVINGS FOR COLLEGE

Kyle, South Dakota-High School students attending local high schools are encouraged to visit with Lakota Funds staff during Career Days, Lakota Funds will provide a booth with information available on services available for students . On April 13, 2011 Lakota Funds will be attending Little Wound School's Career Day; one of the many services that Lakota Funds offers is a Youth Individual Development Account (IDA). This savings program matches \$2 to the individuals \$1 in just six months, the money saved can be used towards one of the assets: home, college or business.

Participants that take advantage of this program can also utilize this service up to three times and



successfully attain all three assets in eighteen months! Students who would like to enroll must meet the eligibility requirements: must be 16-17 years of age, a junior or senior in high school, have parental consent, have income verification, and attend specific training pertaining to the asset.

Lakota Funds provides the tools to help students achieve financial success. Our monthly support meetings for example are held in each district on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and the financial literacy classes are available once a month, to teach students how to manage their money and build their assets. For more information on our Youth IDA Program, students can contact Douglas Patton Jr, Success Coach for more information at dpatton@lakotafunds.org or

605.455.2500.

Kadem Fisher, Success Coach with Lakota Funds provided a presentation to Mrs. Unassch's sophomore, junior and senior classes, and part of the presentation focused on what students have planned for their future and how Lakota Funds is willing to assist them in achieving their goals of becoming entrepreneur's on the reservation." I spoke to each of these classes telling them my story of how my career path was made, I let them know that Lakota Funds as a CDFI helps in developing our communities with new businesses, creating jobs, providing college students with IDA program to continue their education".

High School's that do not have a career day are encouraged to call Lakota Funds to set up a date in which our Success Coaches can provide a presentation on the Youth IDA at their high school. Lakota Funds will be providing a booth at the Little Wound School Career Day on April 13, 2011 in Kyle, South Dakota.

Lakota Funds serves tribal members with a business located on (or to be located on) the Pine Ridge Reservation. Loan types include: Micro-loans (under \$5000); Business Loans up to \$200,000, a Business Line of Credit, and the Credit Builder Loan up to \$2500. Lakota Funds also provides one-on-one technical assistance as well as business classes including Financial Literacy, "Build Your Own Business" (business planning course) and "Make Your Move" (homebuyer education). If you have questions or want to register for a class call 605.455.2500, or email, tbrunsch@lakotafunds.org.