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The Greater Memphis Financial Empowerment Center Launches Free Legacy Planning Program to Help Increase Asset Protection and Intergenerational Wealth

The Greater Memphis Financial Empowerment Center to offer one-on-one to legacy planning support to help residents retain wealth by protecting and preserving assets, with support from Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund

10/28/25 – Today, the Shelby County Trustee, in partnership with the national nonprofit [Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund](#) (CFE Fund) announced that free legacy planning services are now available through the Greater Memphis Financial Empowerment Center (GMFEC). This one-on-one financial counseling program offers residents access to help with legacy planning and taking steps to protect their assets at no cost. Call (901) 390-4200 or visit <https://fecpublic.org/appointment-greatermemphis> to schedule an appointment.

Research shows that the vast majority of Americans own at least one asset – a bank account, a 401K, or a home – that is valuable today and likely to appreciate, but few have taken the steps necessary to secure those assets. Nearly 70 percent of Americans do not have a will or a broader legacy or estate plan. By increasing access to information about topics like adding beneficiaries to accounts and creating essential documents such as wills and powers of attorney, this program will help people in America protect their assets for the future.

“Every family in Shelby County deserves the peace of mind that comes with planning for the future,” said **Regina Morrison Newman, Shelby County Trustee**. “By offering free legacy planning services at the GMFEC, we are breaking down barriers that too often prevent residents from protecting what they’ve built and ensuring their loved ones are cared for. This is about equity, dignity, and helping our community thrive across generations.”



“GMFEC counselors work hard to help clients build assets. With the addition of legacy planning services, counselors also can help Shelby Countians protect and preserve those assets for future generations”, said **Jonathan Mintz, President and CEO of the Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund**. “We are thrilled to partner with Shelby County and Trustee Newman to provide these crucial services and ensure that legacy planning is available for everyone.”

The GMFEC is one of dozens of cities and counties nationwide offering free financial counseling services through the FEC initiative. At FECs, professionally trained counselors provide one-on-one guidance to help individuals and families with low and moderate incomes manage their finances, pay down debt, increase savings, establish and build credit, access safe and affordable mainstream banking products – and now, protect and preserve their assets.

FECs have served more than 200,000 clients nationwide. Collectively, they have helped residents reduce over \$344 million in debt and grow their families’ savings by nearly \$70 million. Since opening in 2019, the Greater Memphis FEC has supported more than 2200 clients, helping them reduce \$7,000,000 in debt and build \$552,000 in savings.

About the Greater Memphis Financial Empowerment Center

The GMFEC offers free, one-on-one professional financial counseling to all Shelby County residents. Certified financial counselors are available for personalized and confidential guidance and can help you deal with a wide range of personal financial issues including budgeting, debt reduction, credit improvement and increasing savings. Services are always free and available to all Shelby County residents regardless of income. For more information, please visit www.gmfec.org or find us on Facebook (Greater Memphis Financial Empowerment Center.) The GMFEC is essentially grant and donation funded, with initial funds from the CFE Fund, and is sponsored by the Shelby County Trustee.

About the Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund (CFE Fund)

The CFE Fund supports municipal efforts to improve the financial stability of households by leveraging opportunities unique to local government. By translating cutting edge experience with large scale programs, research, and policy in cities of all sizes, the CFE Fund assists mayors and other local leaders to identify, develop, fund, implement, and research pilots and programs that help families build assets and make the most of their financial resources. The CFE Fund is currently working in over 145 cities and counties, and has disbursed over \$70 million to local governments and their partners to support these efforts. For more information, please visit www.cfefund.org or follow us on Bluesky



at [@cfefund.bsky.social](https://www.instagram.com/cfefund); learn more about the FEC Public initiative at www.fecpublic.org.

About the Shelby County Trustee's Office

The Shelby County Trustee collects County property taxes and handles delinquent property tax collections for all municipalities in Shelby County. By law, the Trustee is the banker for Shelby County Government. In addition, the Trustee coordinates banking services for approximately fifteen different county offices, including various elected officials and the Shelby County Board of Education. The Shelby County Trustee's duties include maximizing interest earnings and streamlining banking costs. The Trustee offers a number of community outreach programs including Tax Freeze, Tax Relief, Quarterly Tax Payments, Wheel Tax Rebates, Project HOME, Bank On Memphis, On My Own Financial Simulation for young people, Adulting 101 Showcase, and the Greater Memphis Financial Empowerment Center. For more information, please visit www.shelbycountytrustee.com.

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