

TCAI and Consumer Jungle, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping young adults become responsible, informed consumers, have agreed to merge.

As of press time for *Take Charge Now* newsletter, plans were underway to combine Consumer Jungle's Web technologies with TCAI's Family Economics & Financial Education program as a mutually beneficial way of extending both organizations' reach and to better serve target audiences.

FEFE provides more than 100 free lesson plans in personal financial management for students in grades 7 through 12. Since its inception, FEFE has developed outreach programs across the nation, and has a network of more than 16,000 educators. To date, they have helped FEFE reach more than 500,000 students in school districts across the nation that have incorporated FEFE's interactive and activity-based curriculum into their classrooms.

"As successful as we have been, both Take Charge America Institute and FEFE are aware of the low levels of financial literacy among our nation's youths," said Michael Staten, TCAI director. "So we are pleased to have this opportunity to work with Consumer Jungle and achieve even greater results than either of us could independently."

One of the combined organization's first goals will be to develop new ways to use the power of the Internet to meet growing demand for consumer financial education, he added. "Over the next several months, we are confident that Consumer Jungle's online expertise will lead to the development of innovative tools and features on FEFE's Web site, that will both captivate the attention of the Millennial generation and meet their needs for self-paced education and visually exciting online experiences."

Look for more details on this development online at: <http://fefe.arizona.edu/>

- By Nicole Chinadle-Wanago