

News Release October 13, 2020

For Immediate Release

Citizens Trust Bank continues to support financial education; students practice money management in the classroom, where mistakes won't cost real dollars.

ATLANTA --- Financial literacy guidance given to young adults arms them with essential lifelong skills enabling them to manage their finances without disastrous results impacting the rest of their lives. As part of our financial literacy effort, this FALL Citizens Trust Bank continues making a program named,



HOW TO DO YOUR BANKING, or Financial Independence Training available to area schools.

Students learn to make wise financial decisions with this program using a student workbook, role-play simulations, CD and video exercises. Practical lessons on the importance of saving, even small amounts, regularly by budgeting as a means of achieving financial goals; basic investments; how to navigate electronic banking, including ATMs, debit/check cards, chip-enabled cards, online banking, online bill paying, mobile banking, and mobile text banking correctly and safely; how to keep checking transactions in balance, including reconciling an account with a bank statement are all part of this program.

In learn-by-doing exercises, young adults also teach themselves how to obtain credit, the value of good credit, how to determine their own capacity to borrow and repay, and what they can do as young adults to build a good credit history. The crime of Identity Theft and how to avoid it is an important topic covered as well.

Citizens Trust Bank is sponsoring **HOW TO DO YOUR BANKING** as a public service because "we feel it is important that young adults have a chance to practice all aspects of money management in the classroom, where mistakes won't cost real dollars," said Cynthia N. Day, President & CEO.

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"Surveys indicate 84 percent of high school students want instruction in financial matters, only 1 in 3 teens knows how to read a bank statement, balance a checkbook or pay bills, and that financial education is among the top three subjects parents want taught to their children," Day added. Local educators concur; faculty members volunteer to teach the program within their current curriculum.

"By sponsoring **HOW TO DO YOUR BANKING** – **Financial Independence Training**, we are preparing our young people before they begin to live independently and are first in need of financial services. If we can help them learn good money habits right from the start and raise their level of financial responsibility, it will pay big dividends for them and the community alike," said Iris Goodly, Senior Vice President, Client Services and Operations Division Manager.

About Citizens Trust Bank

Since 1921, for nearly 100 years, Citizens Trust Bank remains committed to providing personalized service and financial solutions to meet the growing needs of the community. Through a legacy built on economic equality and well-being, we go beyond meeting the needs of offering banking solutions; our mission is to empower our customers and future generations for financial success.

In 2020 during unprecedented times, we continue to leverage the fundamental principles on which we were founded to be the keys to future success. Our unique culture, team and collaboration with the citizens of our communities cause us to be optimistic about the future – We continue the legacy, and our promise to future generations.

The bank takes pride in offering its financial solutions throughout metropolitan-Atlanta and Birmingham and Eutaw, Alabama. Through its parent company, Citizens Bancshares Corporation, the Bank offers its common stock over-the-counter to the public under the trading symbol CZBS and can be found at www.ctbconnect.com.

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