CROWN KINGDOM CULTURAL CENTER

MCMILLAN FAMILY FOUNDATION

Presents

FINANCIAL *Empowerment* SUMMIT

May 30-31, 2025

FRIDAY 7:00 PM - EMPOWERMENT MASTERCLASS

E. DONNEL SMITH
FINANCIAL COACH

DR. LACHISH MCMILLAN
LIFE COACH

SATURDAY 9 AM - BREAKFAST + WORKSHOPS + LUNCH

MARC COLEY
BUSINESS COACH

PAUL GARDNER
ATTORNEY & CONSULTANT

JASMINE YOUNG
ACCOUNTANT

DR. CED MCMILLAN
BUSINESS COACH

Impact Report

Overview

The McMillan Family Foundation proudly hosted its first Empowerment Financial Summit on May 30–31, 2025, at the Crown Kingdom Cultural Center in North Augusta, Georgia.

This two-day hybrid event, offered both in-person and online, provided students over the age of 10 and adults with an opportunity to learn about finances in a practical, relevant, and accessible way.

This was not a lecture series, but a hands-on, interactive experience where attendees learned to manage, grow, and protect their money. Many shared that they had never been exposed to such content before and were deeply grateful that the Foundation provided this opportunity.

Sessions were led by seasoned attorneys, accountants, entrepreneurs, and financial coaches with decades of combined real-world experience. The content was engaging, jargon-free, and immediately applicable to everyday financial situations.

Why This Work Matters

78%

U,S. ADULTS LIVE PAYCHECK TO PAYCHECK

50%

OF TEENAGERS FEEL UNPREPARED TO MANAGE THEIR MONEY

60%

OF AMERICANS HAVE LESS THAN $1,000 IN SAVINGS

Financial literacy is one of the most critical, yet underserved, skill sets in America. According to the National Financial Educators Council, the average American lost $1,819 in 2023 due to a lack of personal finance knowledge.

Additionally, studies show that 78% of U.S. adults live paycheck to paycheck and over 50% of teenagers feel unprepared to manage their own money.

The Foundation believes that by teaching young people and adults practical financial skills early and often, we can help close generational wealth gaps, reduce cycles of debt, and foster long-term economic stability. This event directly addressed those needs by offering actionable strategies that attendees could begin using immediately.

Highlights

Diverse Audience:

- Participants ranged from middle school students to retirees, with 25% under the age of 25.

Hands-On Learning:

- Attendees participated in real-world case studies, budgeting challenges, and Q&A sessions covering topics such as credit management, investing, debt reduction, entrepreneurship, and wealth-building strategies.

First-Time Exposure:

- For many, this was their first time receiving professional financial guidance — and the experience was described as “life-changing.”

Hybrid Access:

- The online component allowed participants from across the region to benefit from the same expert-led training as those in the room.

Impact

"I’ve never been to anything like this before. It opened my eyes to possibilities I didn’t know existed." – Teen Participant

"This was the real-world financial education I wish I’d had years ago. Thank you for making it possible." – Adult Attendee

01 **Attendance:**

Attendance: Over 120 people participated across both days, combining in-person and online attendance.

02 **Practical Skills:**

Attendees left with personalized action plans for saving, investing, and increasing income.

03 **Confidence Growth:**

Post-event surveys showed a 72% increase in self-reported confidence about managing personal finances.

04 **Community Building:**

Attendees connected with peers and financial professionals, creating accountability partnerships to sustain progress.

Looking Ahead

The overwhelming positive feedback has confirmed the need for this type of work. Moving forward, the McMillan Family Foundation will host the Empowerment Financial Summit twice a year to ensure more individuals and families have access to the knowledge and resources that can transform their financial futures.

McMILLAN FAMILY FOUNDATION

www.themcmillanfamilyfoundation.org