



## 2006 Evaluation<sup>1</sup> and 2007 Credit Score Impact Study<sup>2</sup>

### SELECTED OUTCOMES

#### **Income**

- Nearly three out of four program participants reported higher net monthly income (take-home pay) in the months and years after receiving their car loan.
- Borrowers averaged a 41% increase in income (take-home pay).
- More than four out of five borrowers continue to sustain themselves without public cash assistance, despite having received it before entering the program.

#### **Employment**

- Most borrowers (90%) cite the car loan as instrumental in helping them maintain or improve their employment circumstances.
- About half of all borrowers attribute their ability to obtain or complete education or training programs to their ownership of a car via a *Ways to Work* loan.
- Nearly two-thirds of all borrowers cited a reduction in lateness or fewer days missed at work or training programs.

#### **Credit Score Improvement**

- Successful WtW clients show credit score improvement during and after their participation in the program.
- Over time, credit scores for WtW borrowers not in default continued to increase.

#### **Access to Mainstream Financial Services**

- Two-thirds of all borrowers have obtained some type of conventional financial services since receiving their loan (i.e. checking, savings, bank loan, credit card, etc.).
- Individuals who received their loan at least 36 months ago were about twice as likely to have a checking or savings account as those in the program for less than a year.
- About half of those who had completed their *Ways to Work* loan had successfully secured another loan on their own, typically from a bank or credit union.

#### **Quality of Life**

- About 90% of all borrowers reported that their car loan had significant impact on their quality of life.
- More than half of all borrowers found that the car allowed them to participate in volunteer work.

#### **Care of Children**

- Nearly all borrowers found that the car enhanced their ability to make sure their children get to school on time and take them to medical appointments and extracurricular activities.
- Almost four of five parents of young children were able to put them into more satisfactory daycare situations as a result of their car ownership.

<sup>1</sup>2006 Ways to Work Evaluation, OMG Center for Collaborative Learning

<sup>2</sup>2007 Ways to Work Credit Score Impact Study, OMG Center for Collaborative Learning

The full text versions of both studies are available on the Ways to Work website or in print upon request.