Community Loan Centers: College Station Experience

John Nichols

College Station Mayor Pro Tem

David Brower

College Station Community Services Department

2016 TML Conference

Austin, Texas



Ordinance Adopted

Credit Access Bureau Ordinance

- Adopted in 2014
- Followed TML language
- Regulates deferred presentment loans
- Register with the City
- Keep Records



Ordinance Requirements

- Limited to percent of income (20% of gross monthly for payday loans)
- No more than 4 installments
- Single payment lump sum cannot be refinanced more than three times
- Informed borrower must be given information sheet



College Station Results

- City staff has monitored and engaged CABs
- Less stores from 6 to 3 now
- More costly installment loan products
- Loans are becoming more expensive
- In 2013 in BCS Metro \$4 million in fees to borrow \$6 million by 7000 borrowers
- In 2015 \$4.3 million in fees to borrow 3.5 million by 4100 borrowers



CLC - Beyond Regulation

- College Station as an employer (900+)
- Joined the Community Lending Center in 2015
- Employee benefit promoted by HR Department in recruiting/enrollment
- Outreach to current employees though City Manager and Department Heads
- Newsletters/staff and crew meetings



Benefits

- Low cost alternative for employees needing short term loans
- Easy and no-cost expansion of employers benefits package
- Employee satisfaction/reduced stress
- Community benefit through reducing cycle of debt
- Reducing poverty in the community



First Year Results – CS and CLC-BV

Number of Loans (Open)		Amount
City of College Station	112 (77)	\$104,548
CLC - BV	658 (478)	\$598,751

Delinquency Rate		Default Rate
City of College Station	1.3%	0%
CLC - BV	4.3%	1.8%



Estimated Savings for Employees

Savings Compared to *payday installment loans* (37% of CAB loans for MSA)

- Average Loan (\$933)
- Savings of \$1,378 per average loan
- \$154,336 for all 80 employees (112 loans)



Estimated Savings for Employees

Savings compared to *auto-title installment loans* (27% of CAB loans for MSA)

- Average Loan (\$933)
- Savings of \$793 per loan
- \$88,866 for all 80 employees (112 Loans)



Estimated Savings for Employees

- Payments of \$40 per pay check with CLC (year term) for average amount borrowed
- Compared to payments of \$202 with installment payday loan (22 week term average)
- Or, compared to payments of \$156 with autotitle installment loans (23 week term average)



Conclusion

- Positive experience for City of College Station
- Useful benefit for employees
- Low cost addition to benefits package
- Little employer staff time required

Questions?

Contact: John Nicholsjnichols@cstx.govDavid Browerdbrower@cstx.gov

