



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Top New Year's Resolutions For Parents in 2012 Include Family Organization and Financial Education

DoughMain™ offers tips and tricks to help families stay on course through the New Year

PRINCETON, NJ — January 12, 2012 — As we start another year, for many, it is time to make New Year's resolutions. According to annual surveys posted on USA.gov, year after year, in addition to weight and exercise, the most popular resolutions include: saving money, getting organized and making wiser financial decisions. As families work to find ways to survive the difficult economy and manage their lives in a busy world, these goals are also topping the 2012 list.

Ken Damato, founder and chief executive officer of [DoughMain](http://DoughMain.com), a free family organization and financial education website, provides tips on how families can accomplish these most popular resolutions and stay organized and financially smart throughout the entire year and beyond.

"The resolutions we're seeing for 2012 should come as no surprise, since most families today are often over scheduled and feeling disorganized," said Damato. "Additionally, with the roller coaster economy, parents are feeling compelled to teach their children about finances now, to prevent mistakes in the future. As a parent myself, I've made these resolutions many times, which was the impetus for the creation of DoughMain. Parents can save time by using our online calendar, assigning chores via our Chore Tracker and teaching kids about money through our educational games — creating an atmosphere where everyone is participating in the family's success as they begin the New Year, and allowing more free time to be spent with one another all year long," said Damato.

DoughMain offers the following tips to help families achieve these popular New Year's resolutions:

Go digital: Use an online calendar to get everyone organized: Between Blackberry, Google, Outlook, school and all the extracurricular activity calendars, it is almost impossible to stay on top of everything. And for those who try, it is a job in itself to cross check all of the calendars.

Families also have unique scheduling needs such as tracking chores and allowance — which are often not integrated into general purpose calendars such as Google or Yahoo. To help ease some of the calendar confusion, and gain unique family features, try setting up a master [online family calendar](#). Tracking everything in one master online calendar that is easily accessible by the entire family — and via mobile devices — will not only help manage time but also make it easier to find and share schedules within the family.

Teach kids about money by making it fun: Kids today love technology, so why not embrace it. There has been a great push toward game-based learning — using what children love, games, to teach them what they need to know for their future. Take advantage of free online educational games like [Sand Dollar City \(www.SandDollarCity.com\)](#) or The Fun Vault ([www.TheFunVault.com](#)), that teach your kids about money in a fun and interactive way they will enjoy and will help set them down a path of saving and money management for the New Year.

Encourage children to save by offering a matching program: To kids, saving often seems like an obstacle. To encourage smart saving habits, create a matched family savings plan similar to a 401K offered at many jobs, except the parents act as the company and match their child's savings. This program will foster good habits throughout the year and teach children how a savings plans works for when they, too, enter the working world.

Get kids involved with a Chore Tracker: Heading into the New Year is a great time to sit down with your children and discuss what is working and what is not in terms of their household responsibilities and contributions. Work with your children to determine their responsibilities around the house for the upcoming year. Be sure you are clear in setting expectations of what is to get done. Consider using an online [Chore Tracker](#) to easily assign chores to your kids in a cool, digital format that is customizable for your family's needs. If you decide to reward your children for their chores, now is the ideal time to get that system in place.

Create a “Family Purge Day”: Get everyone involved in the family taking a fresh start in the New Year by setting up a “Family Purge Day” where you work together to organize your home, closets and drawers. Everyone is responsible for their own goods — mom, dad and even the kids. Gather all of the clothes and toys and make a list of which items to donate to charity.

[DoughMain's](#) family organization tools and innovative gaming websites help to better organize families while also encouraging learning about finances through interactive play, making the process fun and engaging for both parents and children. For more ideas and tools, visit [DoughMain.com](#).

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About DoughMain

DoughMain is the first and only service to combine family coordination and financial education into one simple and convenient platform. Helping families manage their lives while empowering them to become better educated about money, DoughMain offers a suite of on- and off-line services, including an integrated family calendar, chore tracker, allowance/rewards tool and three age-relevant gaming websites: TheFunVault.com (ages 5 and up), SandDollarCity.com (ages 8-12) and IRuleMoney.com (ages 13-18). To learn more about DoughMain, please visit DoughMain.com or follow the company on Twitter [@DoughMainBuzz](https://twitter.com/DoughMainBuzz) and Facebook at facebook.com/DoughMainBuzz.

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