



For Immediate Release
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MANA applauds the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) for its recently filed complaint against Vemma Nutrition Company

September 14, 2015--As an organization dedicated to youth and education through a nationally recognized youth mentoring program, we were disheartened to learn that multi-level marketing (MLM) company Vemma was targeting unassuming young people with outrageous claims of unlimited income for selling energy drinks and nutrition products. College-age students were led to believe they could attend school without relying on student loans and, in some cases, encouraged to drop out of school altogether to sell Vemma products. MANA applauds the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) for taking this issue seriously and protecting students in their most vulnerable years, when money is scarce and the wrong decisions could impact their credit and long term financial health.

MANA has been calling on the FTC to take swift action on the investigation against Herbalife, another MLM, which is also under investigation by federal and state authorities for intentionally targeting and exploiting consumers, especially low-income Hispanics and immigrant communities. Unfortunately, Vemma and Herbalife share many clear resemblances, most strikingly that a majority of their sales people make no money at all, despite giving countless unpaid work hours to the company.

We owe it to the hard-working people who have been taken advantage of by companies like Vemma and Herbalife to continue encouraging the FTC to end this exploitation of vulnerable consumers – whether they are college students, minorities and/or immigrant communities. We are pleased to learn of the FTC's recent action against Vemma and the upcoming hearing on September 15 – and we look forward to the prompt conclusion of the FTC investigation of Herbalife so that the company can no longer target and take advantage of minority and immigrant consumers by luring them with false promises of financial wellbeing.

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