## **ABOUT CAMBRIDGE**

Founded in 1996, Cambridge Credit Counseling Corp. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit housing and credit counseling agency. Every year, we provide education and counseling services to thousands of individuals nationwide, and we offer financial literacy seminars to a variety of social service agencies, high schools and colleges throughout our local community. Cambridge is registered to the ISO 9001 quality standard and with the Better Business Bureau of Central New England. We are also a proud member of both the Association of Independent Consumer Credit Counseling Agencies and the Association of Credit Counseling Professionals.

#### HOUSING COUNSELING SERVICES

Cambridge is a HUD-approved housing counseling agency, offering a variety of low-cost and no-cost services, each designed to help people make more informed decisions about their housing options. Our housing counselors are certified to provide:

- Reverse mortgage counseling
- Foreclosure intervention counseling
- Pre-purchase counseling
- Post-purchase counseling
- Rental counseling

#### **CREDIT COUNSELING SERVICES**

Cambridge's nationally certified credit counselors conduct personalized and confidential one-onone counseling sessions designed to identify options appropriate to an individual's unique circumstances. We conduct free, comprehensive budget reviews and help consumers develop shortand long-term goals. After an appropriate course of action has been implemented, our counselors follow up to make sure the client stays on track throughout their enrollment.

## THE CAMBRIDGE MISSION

Cambridge is dedicated to promoting a more knowledgeable and financially responsible America by teaching sound money management practices; by assisting financially distressed individuals and families through appropriate counseling, education, and advice; and by providing people with information and resources needed to obtain, maintain and sustain housing.









YOU CAN TRUST...

1-800-527-7595 info@cambridgecredit.org www.cambridge-credit.org ...easy enough to get into

## ...but hard to get out of."

-Henry Wheeler Shaw

# What is Credit Counseling?

Not to be confused with debt settlement or credit repair, *credit counseling* is an educational service offered by agencies, typically non-profit, that specialize in helping individuals and families regain control of their debt and live more financially responsible lives. At Cambridge, our nationally certified credit counselors conduct personalized and confidential counseling sessions designed to identify options appropriate to an individual's unique circumstances. Our counselors will:

- Conduct a free, comprehensive budget review, identifying areas of concern and any factors that have contributed to your need for our services
- Help you develop short- and long-term goals
- Recommend an appropriate course of action
- Provide a wealth of FREE financial literacy educational materials, including our *Learn Now or Pay Later* financial wellness guide
- Follow up with you periodically to help ensure that you stay on track

### 1-800-CAMBRIDGE (1-800-226-2743)

#### WWW.CAMBRIDGE-CREDIT.ORG

## Benefits of a Debt Management Plan

You may have heard about our debt management plan, or "DMP." It's not an option we can offer to everyone. There are specific creditor guidelines that must be met, but if you're struggling to stay current on your unsecured debt obligations, a DMP may be able to help. It's important to note that the accounts enrolled in a DMP will be closed. In return, however, participating creditors typically agree to reduce or eliminate your current high interest rates and your late/overlimit fees.

If you opt to enroll in a DMP, you'll make one monthly payment to our agency, and we'll disburse it among each of your creditors. The initial and monthly fees associated with Cambridge's DMP are strictly regulated by the state where you reside, but can be waived along a sliding scale for clients experiencing particular hardship. Be advised, We are non profit agency. We're supported by the monthly fees paid by our clients and we also receive funding/grants from some of the creditors for the counseling and education we provide.

#### About Our Credit Counselors

- Nationally-certified through the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education or the Institute for Financial Literacy
- Average of 10 years of credit counseling experience
- All of our counselors receive regular, continuing education to maintain certifications and expertise.

## **Counseling** You Can Trust

Talking about debt is not an easy thing to do, especially these days when more people are finding themselves in financial difficulty due to factors beyond their control. At Cambridge, we understand that. We've counseled more than one million Americans, each with a unique set of circumstances that eventually caused them to seek our assistance.

The majority of our counselors have been on-staff for more than a decade and are among the most experienced and dedicated individuals in the profession.

With the knowledge, experience and integrity of our staff, Cambridge truly offers counseling you can trust.

Be sure to visit our online financial education resource center, which can be found at:

#### www.cambridge-credit.org/goodpayer

Here you'll find a wealth of free information, including budgeting tips, workbooks, calculators, tools, and hundreds of financial literacy articles and videos.