



For Immediate Release:

Media Contact: Tom Palange
Phone: 800-769-3571 Ext. 708
Email: tpalange@consumercredit.com

Tax Season Brings Boston Non-Profits Closer

ACCC and the EITC Coalition join forces to provide free credit education

January 25, 2007 – Newton, MA – Low to moderate-income families in the city of Boston can rest easy this tax season, thanks to the new partnership between American Consumer Credit Counseling, a Newton based non-profit organization and the EITC Coalition. ACCC recently provided a grant to support the Earned Income Tax Credit Coalition (EITC.) In addition, ACCC will be providing volunteer services throughout this year's tax season.

In cooperation with the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, the City of Boston, and organizations like ACCC, the EITC Coalition is hosting credit report review sessions for consumers at two EITC sites around the city. At the Roxbury Service Center and the Codman Square Tech Center, ACCC volunteers will serve as some of the thirty volunteers asked to assist consumers with preparing their financial situations for the 2007 tax season.

This week, ACCC announces a \$2,500 grant to the EITC Coalition to help supplement its educational component to the program. The grant serves as part of ACCC's ongoing Partnership for the Advancement of financial Literacy (PAL), which has contributed over \$50,000 to community organizations that promote financial literacy. "ACCC's PAL grant to the EITC Coalition will ensure that the volunteers have access to the credit reports and other financial resources they need to appropriately serve consumers," said Katie Ross, Manager of Education & Development at ACCC. EITC Campaign Director Mimi Turchinetz also had this to say about the partnership: "Our relationship with American Consumer Credit Counseling is important because it exposes consumers to the fundamentals of credit education. By taking the proper steps towards improving their credit, consumers can reach the stepping stones that lead them towards earning wealth and moving up the financial ladder."

Credit education is only one portion of the larger EITC program designed to maximize the government-issued Earned Income Tax Credit, but ACCC's commitment has already begun to pay off. ACCC has already begun training EITC volunteers on how to present credit education, and the first counseling sessions begin this week. By tax season's end, an estimated 10,000 people will have been assisted with credit education and tax preparation. For more information about this program or about other partnership opportunities, contact Jessica Slate at 1-800-769-3571 ext. 207.

ABOUT ACCC: American Consumer Credit Counseling (ACCC) is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization dedicated to empowering consumers to regain control of their lives through education, counseling and debt management. ACCC provides individuals with practical solutions for solving financial problems and recognizes that consumers' financial difficulties are often not the result of poor spending habits, but more frequently from extenuating circumstances beyond their control. As one of the nation's leading providers of financial education and credit counseling services, ACCC works with consumers to help them with the best plan of action to reduce their debt and regain financial stability. For more information or to access free financial education resources log on to www.consumercredit.com.