



For Immediate Release:

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High School Students Welcome Financial Education

ACCC issues grant to Phoenix Charter Academy's Life Skills Program

April 3, 2007 – Newton, MA – Students from Chelsea, Lynn, and Revere are taking a break from their usual high school curriculum this spring, to make room for improving their personal money management skills. Made possible by a grant from American Consumer Credit Counseling, students and faculty at the Phoenix Charter Academy in Chelsea, MA, are making a commitment to money management, budgeting, and credit education. The check presentation for the grant took place today at the ACCC office in Newton, MA where Executive Director Beth Anderson, Life Skills Director Olivia Lahann, and five students accepted the grant on behalf of Phoenix Charter Academy.

Phoenix Charter Academy's mission is to challenge teenagers in Chelsea, Lynn and Revere with an academically rigorous and individually tailored curriculum. Talented students who have not succeeded in other schools will have the support, resources and training needed at PCA to succeed academically in high school and college, and become economically secure in their future. Together with the Phoenix Charter Academy, ACCC's Education Outreach Coordinator Jessica Slate has made financial literacy an integral part of students' educational growth. "Our Partnership for the Advancement of Financial Literacy (PAL), has encouraged financial education to be incorporated into lesson plans for organizations across Massachusetts," explained Ms. Slate. "Bringing the students from the Phoenix Charter Academy to visit the ACCC office was truly a fantastic experience since the kids could understand the workplace environment and grasp the reality of financial literacy that we see everyday."

In partnership with the Phoenix Charter Academy ACCC will help provide educational resources to low-income students including teen mothers, English language learners, and older youth who have not experienced success in other schools. In addition to the grant to provide funding for the Life Skills Program, ACCC's workshop team has also agreed to provide four in-depth workshops each semester for the students of Phoenix Charter Academy. For more information about this program, the Partnership for the Advancement of Financial Literacy, 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.