



For Immediate Release

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**American Consumer Credit Counseling (ACCC) Will Provide
Funding for Education of First Time Homebuyers**
Waltham Residents Will Benefit as Part of W.A.T.C.H. Program

Newton, MA—April 20, 2004---American Consumer Credit Counseling (ACCC) today announced a donation as part of its P.A.L. (Partnership for the Advancement of Literacy) Program which will help potential homebuyers make the financial decisions they need to qualify for special loans.

The \$1,000 donation to the Waltham Alliance to Create Housing (W.A.T.C.H.) will be used to purchase the educational materials needed to teach the First Time Homebuyers program to interested parties.

“ACCC knows that by giving first time homebuyers the opportunity to really look at their financial situations—and plan for the future---We can create a climate where the American dream of home ownership becomes a reality,” said Steve Trumble, President and CEO of ACCC.

W.A.T.C.H. is a non-profit community development program that seeks to preserve, promote, and develop affordable housing partly through the first time homebuyer's program. This program is designed to prepare the consumer for home ownership by attending several workshops including a class on budget skills and understanding credit. Once the consumer has attended these workshops he/she is eligible to receive low interest loans and down payment assistance from state and federal programs

“With consumer debt on the rise—and the cost of living in the Boston area skyrocketing--the importance of establishing a good financial foundation is even more important,” said Jackeline Jaguande, Support Advocate for W.A.T.C.H. “With help from the experts at ACCC, our homebuyers will come out ahead,” Jaguande continued.

American Consumer Credit Counseling (ACCC) is a national non-profit (501)(c3) organization specializing in professional education and credit counseling services. 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. ACCC strives to empower consumers to regain control of the quality of their lives through education and money management. ACCC's experience has lead to success in serving thousands of consumers who are debt-free or on the road to financial independence. Educational services include a comprehensive SmartMoneySchool program which includes information on how to make informed financial decisions, budgeting and spending plan programs, identity theft and student debt. For more information please visit www.consumercredit.com.

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