



## **United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut's Volunteer Budget Coaching Program**

### **Participant Application**

Congratulations!

You've taken the first step to understanding where your money goes. In this program, you will learn how to set your financial goals, track your spending and income to come up with an actual budget so you can start on the path to achieving your goals.

#### **About the program:**

United Way Volunteer Budget Coaching is a four-month program. You'll work one-on-one with your coach to review, understand and plan your personal finances.

Throughout the program you'll:

- Identify all sources of income
- Track monthly expenses and calculate the difference between income and expenses
- Identify all outstanding debt
- Develop a budget to gain insight into your finances
- Determine your financial goals
- Develop an action plan to reach your goals
- Review your credit score

#### **Why United Way Volunteer Budget Coaching?**

A budget is like a road map. It helps you see where you are and how you can move towards your financial goals. The great thing about a budget is that it gives you the power of choice. Once you know exactly how much income you have each month and how much you spend, you can develop a realistic budget to meet your goals, such as paying off credit card balances, saving for a house, or funding a college education.

The Volunteer Budget Coaching program is tailored to meet individual needs with the ultimate goal of creating a stable financial future and improved quality of life.

## Program Requirements

- Attend Volunteer Budget Coaching Orientation prior to being matched to a coach
- Be able to have an honest and open dialog about personal finances with your coach
- Pull credit score
- Meet with your coach for monthly in person meetings (four sessions)
- Contact and update your coach monthly (four sessions). Contact via phone is preferable, but via email is an option.
- Work on developing a budget and tracking your income and expenses
- Establish short term and long term personal finance goals
- Income Guidelines: Participants must earn a minimum of \$20,000 and a maximum of \$111,000 annual household income

**For entry into the program, please fill out the attached program application and return to CWEALF, Att. Denise Rhone, [drhone@cwealf.org](mailto:drhone@cwealf.org). Call 860.610.6049 for more information. **The deadline to submit your application is 5pm on Tuesday, March 21, 2017. This application is strictly confidential.****

### Next Steps:

- Upon receipt of your completed application, CWEALF will contact you for an initial phone or in-person assessment interview
- A second assessment will be followed up with an in-person meeting
- You will be required to attend a two-hour Orientation Workshop on April 4, 2017.
- Following the Orientation Workshop, you will be contacted for a final assessment to confirm your participation in the program
- Upon acceptance into the program, will be required to sign a Participant Agreement

***United Way Volunteer Budget Coaching is supported through individual and corporate contributions to United Way Community Investment along with:***



**Prudential**

**Citizens Bank®**

The United Way Volunteer Budget Coaching Program is a four-month program consisting of an orientation workshop and 8 meetings with a Volunteer Budget Coach. All applicants must be able to participate in all aspects of the program. Meetings will be conducted on the phone and in-person.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone Number:  Home  Cell  Work

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about the United Way Volunteer Budget Coaching Program? \_\_\_\_\_

Resident Status:  US Citizen  Non-Resident  Permanent Resident

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status:  Single  Partner  Married  Separated  Divorced  Widowed

Ethnicity:  Non-Hispanic  White Hispanic  Black Hispanic  Other Hispanic

Race:  Caucasian  Black of African American  Asian  American Indian or Alaskan Native  
 Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander  Other  I do not wish to respond

Do you consider yourself a person with a disability or receive SSDI?  Yes  No

Veteran Status:  Non-Veteran  Veteran  Service Disabled Veteran

Are you a single parent?  Yes  No

Highest level of Education  High School Graduate/GED  Vo-Tech  Some college  Associate's Degree  Bachelor's Degree  Master's Degree  Doctorate

What benefits are you currently receiving? (i.e. disability, unemployment, SNAP, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Are you the head of household?  Yes  No

How many people are currently contributing to the household income? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you current employed?  Yes  No If yes, are you employed  Full time and/or  Part time

What is your current household income? (Please include all sources of income) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

How many members are in your household? \_\_\_\_\_ Over 18 \_\_\_\_\_ Under 18

Are you in any financial crisis?  Yes  No

If yes, please indicate the type(s):

Deep credit card debt  Divorce  Bankruptcy  Foreclosure  Other

If other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

What are your current major financial concerns? Credit issues?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Will you be able to have an honest and open dialog about your current and future financial situation?

Yes  No

Do you currently have any of the following? (Check all that apply)

- Saving Account       IRA/401K       Pension       Life insurance  
 Checking Account       Credit card       IDA Account       College fund/529 Plan  
 Direct deposit       Financial advisor/accountant

Do you know your credit score?  Yes  No

If yes, what is your score? \_\_\_\_\_ Date credit score last pulled? \_\_\_\_\_

What are your goals for budget coaching? (Check all that apply)

- Keep my financial records orderly       Manage day-to-day expenses       Create a monthly budget  
 Save for children's education       Improve my credit score       Get out of debt  
 Set aside money for investments       Save money for retirement       Other

How do you feel *currently* about managing your money?

Paralyzed     Anxious     Disinterested     Relaxed     Optimistic     Other \_\_\_\_\_

How do you want to feel *in the future* about managing your money?

In control     Less Anxious     Educated     Proud     Optimistic     Other \_\_\_\_\_

What parts of managing your money do you feel most equipped with?

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Do you feel you have control of your current money situation? Please explain.

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Have you ever developed a household budget?  Yes  No

If yes, what was that experience like for you?

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If yes, what methods did you use?

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Do you have a debit card?  Yes  No

Do you typically get charged overdraft or no sufficient funds (NSF) fees on that account?  Yes  No

Do you have credit cards?  Yes  No

If yes, how many? \_\_\_\_\_ Total current balance owed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

How do you utilize your credit cards?

- For convenience    To accumulate rewards    When I don't have cash    Other

What is your typical style of payment on these credit cards?

- Nothing    As much as I can afford    Minimum payment  
 More than the minimum payment    Full balance

What other types of debt do you have? (Check all that apply)

- Car loan(s)    Student loan(s)    Rent/Mortgage  
 Friends/Family loan    Pay day lender    Other \_\_\_\_\_

Do you pay a fee to cash your checks?  Yes  No

What is your process for paying bills?

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What major purchases do you have planned over the next 12 months?

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What is your total debt? (Include all debt – student loan, medical bills, credit card debt, etc.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Do you expect any significant life changes in the next 12 months?  Yes  No

- If yes, please identify:  Marriage    Separation/Divorce    Major medical  
 Baby    Legal issues    Loss of job    Other \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have emergency savings?  Yes  No

Are you expecting a tax refund?  Yes  No

Do you have savings for retirement? (i.e. savings, pension, retirement plan)  Yes  No

Please explain why you want to participate in the United Way's Budget Coaching Program:

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What do you hope to achieve by participating in this program?

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Will you be able to meet with your coach monthly face-to-face?  Yes  No

How much time can you dedicate to achieving your goals outside of the coaching sessions?

- No time    1 hour    2 - 3 hours    4 - 5 hours    Whatever is necessary