

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CONSUMER CREDIT COUNSELING SERVICE OF
NORTHWEST INDIANA
BECOMES REACCREDITED**

Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Northwest Indiana has just received notification that it has been reaccredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA), according to an announcement made to **Pamela Stalling, Executive director** of the organization, which is located at **3637 Grant Street, P.O. Box 1740, Gary, IN.**

COA accreditation attests that an organization meets the highest national standards and is delivering the best quality services to the community it serves. **Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Northwest Indiana** is proud to join COA's Community of Excellence that includes more than 1,000 private and public organizations that serve over 6,000,000 children, individuals, and families in the United States and Canada.

COA is an international, independent, not-for-profit accrediting body that was incorporated as a separate legal entity in August 1977, as an accrediting body of social and behavioral healthcare services. COA's mission "promotes best-practice standards; champions quality services for children, youth, and families; and advocates for the value of accreditation".

The COA accreditation process involves an in-depth examination of the organization's compliance with best practice standards. The process includes a review of organizational standards including human resources, financial and risk management and continuous quality improvement as well as thirty-nine service standards. The service standards address a full array of child, family and behavioral healthcare services including financial and debt management, employee assistance program, mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment, foster care, health service areas and a host of other service areas.

COA is endorsed by leading consumer and professional groups and by many regulatory bodies and managed care organizations. COA is sponsored by the Alliance of Children and Families, Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies, Catholic Charities USA, Child Welfare League of America, Foster Family-based Treatment Association,

Lutheran Services in America, National Council For Adoption, National Foundation for Credit Counseling, National Network for Youth, and Prevent Child Abuse America.

COA's supporting endorsers include the following organizations: American Association of Children's Residential Centers, American Network of Community Options and Resources, Child Welfare League of Canada, EAGLE program of the United Methodist Association, Joint Council on International Children's Services, Mental Health Corporations of America, Inc., National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, National Association of Family-Based Services, National Association of Psychiatric Treatment Centers for Children, National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors, Inc., National Association of Therapeutic Wilderness Camps, National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare, and Volunteers of America.

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