

# **CARE Program**

## **Consequences of Credit Abuse**

- **Divorce or relationship problems**
- **Depression or suicide**
- **Bad credit rating**
- **Reduced performance at school or work**
- **Being turned down for a loan for a house, car or job**
- **Having to drop out of school**
- **Not having money to retire or help your children**
- **Creditors calling your home or work**
- **Being sued and having judgments against you – wages garnished**
- **Bankruptcy**

## **Simple Rules to Remember**

- **Have a budget and live within it**
- **Don't have more than one credit card**
- **Shop around and get the best deal**
- **If you can eat it, drink it, or it costs less than \$10, don't charge it**
- **Use a debit card, check or cash whenever possible**
- **Pay off the balance every month**
- **Never make just a minimum payment**
- **Understand the difference between needs and wants**
- **If you are borrowing to pay a credit card debt – STOP – you are in trouble**