

## How Veterans Benefit by Teaming with GreenPath Financial Wellness

When it comes to managing financial well-being, many veterans need guidance.

of service members said they could benefit from solid advice

A recent study by the <u>National Foundation for Credit Counseling (NFCC)</u> showed nearly 70-percent of both retired and active service members say they could benefit from solid advice and clear answers to common financial questions.

Shared here are three success stories achieved by military veterans who teamed with the trusted national nonprofit GreenPath Financial Wellness. Read on to see how these veterans were able to manage debt, stabilize housing costs and improve financial health and wellness.



# FINARGIAL

### **SUCCESS STORIES**

# Overcoming Financial Challenges

A recent GreenPath client, a 39-year-old Navy veteran, faced financial challenges trying to pay down more than \$14,000 in past due credit card debt. She reached out to GreenPath to let a caring counselor know she was experiencing stress with her household budget, and that the stress also impacted her overall mental well-being and peace of mind. She looked to GreenPath to help manage her budget after unexpected changes with her monthly income, and to understand her options when it came to paying down the debt.

#### **Services Provided**

A GreenPath counselor looked at her entire financial picture to develop an actionable budget so she could realistically manage debt payments.

GreenPath's Debt Management Plan made it possible to lower the Navy veteran's monthly credit card payments and interest, which gave her the needed funds to balance her budget and build up an emergency savings balance - even with the income loss.

# \$1/4 CREDIT CARD DEBT

#### **Outcomes**

With the debt management plan, the Navy veteran had a clear and realistic path to clear out the past due debt.

Structure was key. A personalized payment schedule was based on her pay frequencies and bill due dates.

Getting her finances in gear helped reduce overall stress. After teaming with Green-Path, the Navy veteran feels more confident about her overall financial picture.





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## **SUCCESS STORIES**

# Stabilizing Housing Finances

A disabled veteran reached out to Green-Path's housing counselors for guidance with managing the cost of needed home repairs. As a first-time homeowner, the veteran was experiencing anxiety managing costly repairs along with the mortgage payment and other household expenses. An added stressor was the veteran had previously been homeless and was anxious about falling behind on mortgage payments.

#### **Services Provided**

A certified GreenPath housing counselor worked with the veteran to understand his total budget, his VA benefits related to his disability, and helped review his credit report to assess his full debt picture.

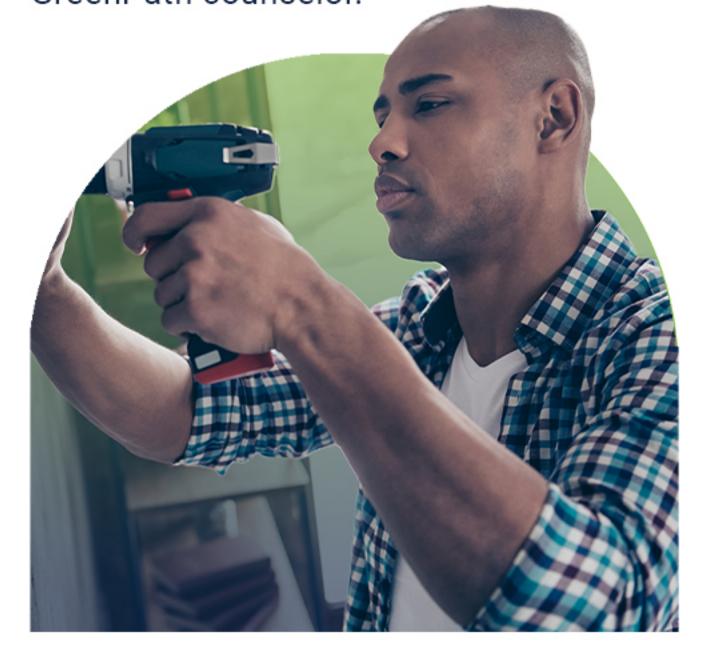
Together they put the priority on stabilizing housing finances, helping the client meet his goal of prioritizing the mortgage payment, building savings for the home repairs, and providing options to decrease expenses and have more income in the overall monthly budget.

# AND ELLANGE REPAIRS & MORTGAGE

#### **Outcomes**

All told, the veteran obtained clear next steps to address his housing situation.

The client reported he was reassured, appreciated the constructive guidance to stabilize his housing finances and appreciated the positive experience with the GreenPath counselor.





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### **SUCCESS STORIES**

### **Getting Back on Track**

After a negative experience with a for-profit debt settlement company, a 73-year-old veteran reached out to Green-Path to help manage more than \$43,000 in unsecured credit card debt. He reported issues with family relationships, and even with his ability to get a good night's sleep, after being charged hefty fees by the debt settlement company only to still have the stress of managing past due credit card debt.

#### **Services Provided**

A GreenPath counselor worked with the veteran to assess his entire financial situation.

A customized GreenPath Debt Management Plan consolidated his credit card debt into a single payment. GreenPath helped negotiate lower interest rates and monthly payments with creditors, so the veteran was able pay off debt faster and save money.

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# \$413

### **CREDIT CARD DEBT**

#### Outcomes

A debt management plan helped the senior veteran reduce debt and establish consistent on-time payments. In addition, the counselor provided options for the veteran to learn new spending habits and build a healthy financial life.

Following a personalized spending plan allowed him to reduce use of credit cards which also worked to help build up his credit score.

Knowing the national nonprofit GreenPath has been in business for more than 60 years, is highly rated, and recognized for working on behalf of clients allowed the veteran to reduce his worry. He reported that he was sleeping better at night knowing there was a plan in place.



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FINANCIAL WELLINES

#### It Starts with a Call

You don't have to go it alone. Contact GreenPath Financial Wellness to receive a free, no-pressure, and 100% confidential financial counseling session.

As a trusted national nonprofit established in 1961, GreenPath Financial Wellness provides financial counseling, education and debt management plans that empower people to lead financially healthy lives.

### FREE. NO PRESSURE. 800-550-1961

GreenPath counselors will listen respectfully and support you in reviewing your situation. You will:

Receive advice on managing debt, housing, budgeting and planning.

Be introduced to services and options that support your goals.

Connect with information or specialized counselors to support your individual needs.



