Financial Tools: How Beyond Benefits Can Help You

Your Beyond Benefits program provides information and education on a wide variety of topics. Questions are answered individually and tailored to your particular circumstances. We do not offer canned recommendations, suggestions or information. While two people may have fundamentally the same question, the answers to those questions may be quite different depending on the facts of the individual cases. Here are some examples of how we've helped:

Saving for Retirement

A 29-year-old client emailed "Ask the Expert" for information on the differences between traditional and Roth IRAs. Our financial expert provided information on the tax benefits and consequences of each.

Facing Foreclosure

A client was four months behind on mortgage payments and received an initial foreclosure notice from the bank. Our financial specialist discussed the importance of open communication with the lender and explored potential ways that the client could catch up on payments, such as 401(k) loans/withdrawals or personal loans from family and friends. Our specialist also explained the foreclosure process and the pros and cons of other options, such as selling the property at a loss.

Credit Card Debt

A client had $40,000 in credit card debt and wanted information about consolidating the debt. Our financial specialist explained the importance of having a good credit score in order to be considered for debt consolidation, offered information on how to obtain a free credit report and discussed contacting a credit union or local bank as a first step. Our specialist also provided information on balance transfer offers and budgeting to live within the client's means.

Tax Issues

A client discovered that he owed the IRS several thousand dollars and was worried about his ability to pay and fearful of IRS collection procedures. Our financial specialist went over the client's rights, IRS payment plan information and discussed ways the client could raise the money to pay. Our specialist directed the client to forms and resources within the IRS to set up a payment plan.

Other Requests for Financial Assistance

- Recent widow needed information on how to manage life insurance proceeds she received following the death of a spouse
- Information on buying a home and determining affordability
- Information on tax filing status when going through a divorce
- Sources for financial aid and loans to pay for college
- Options for handling inheritance of a parent's IRA
- Help with major purchase decisions
- Budgeting
- Estate planning
- Locating financial assistance
- Investment options
- Medicare/Medicaid and Social Security

Beyond Benefits: Here when you need us.

Call: 855-327-4722
TTY: 800-697-0353
Online: guidanceresources.com
App: GuidanceNow℠
Web ID: OSUBEYOND

Oregon State University

Contact us anytime for confidential assistance.