

## Client Services Agreement and Authorization

## **Funding and Service Fee Information**

Clarifi is a non-profit agency, and our funding comes from various sources. Those sources include state housing finance agencies (such as Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, New Jersey Housing Mortgage Finance Agency, and Delaware State Housing Authority), the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF), grants and foundations.

A comprehensive list of our services can be found in our Statement of Counseling Services (attached). Most of our counseling sessions are provided at no charge to you. If we do charge a counseling fee, we will disclose it to you in advance of the session. More information can be found at our website, www.clarifi.org.

#### Credit Authorization

Clarifi is a HUD approved agency. You authorize Clarifi to check your credit history, employment history, and other personal information, to discuss said information with and to release said information to representatives of private companies, non-profit organizations, government agencies and mortgage companies solely for the purpose of finding a solution to your housing and housing related problems. Some of our programs may further limit the sharing of this information as provided in our Privacy Policy. You authorize the appropriate repositories of this information to provide it to Clarifi.

You request, authorize and instruct Experian, Equifax, Trans Union and any other credit reporting agency or similar entity to whom this document is presented (each, and "agency") to furnish, from time to time upon specific request, a complete copy of any credit history in your name relating to you (your "credit report") maintained in the agency's file to Clarifi in the manner and at the address that Clarifi shall instruct.

Clarifi does not assume responsibility for the completeness or accuracy of any of this information and does not promise (and will not attempt) to affect or change your credit history or credit report in any manner. In the course of measuring the effectiveness of its programs, Clarifi may order and review additional credit reports as authorized above from time to time or historical data for up to 24 months before contact with Clarifi. These "future" or "past" credit reports will be ordered so as not to affect your credit score, and Clarifi will not share your personal information or identity in any way.

## **Your Privacy**

Collecting personal information from you is essential to our ability to offer you our services. When you obtain service from our agency, we need to determine the best possible solution for your individual circumstances. As part of that process, we collect nonpublic personal information about you, including but not limited to information about your debts and financial transactions, information we receive from consumer reporting agencies, your credit reports, and other information that you provide to us.

By signing this Client Services Agreement and Authorization, you affirm that you have received a copy of Clarifi's privacy policy and understand all calls may be recorded. A copy of our privacy policy is also available at our website, <a href="www.clarifi.org">www.clarifi.org</a> We reserve the right to update or modify these Terms of Use and Privacy Policy at any time, without prior notice, by posting the revised version of these Terms of Use and Privacy Policy behind the link marked "Terms of Use" or "Privacy Policy" at the bottom of each page of our Site. When we change the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy, we will update the Effective Date at the bottom of this page. Your continued use of our Service after we have posted the revised Terms of Use and Privacy Policy constitutes your agreement to be bound by the revised Terms of Use or our privacy practices.

## **Client Bill of Rights**

We pledge that our clients have the right, without fear of retaliation, to the following:

- Prompt counseling services for managing their money based on their financial situation.
- Treatment with dignity and respect in confidential professional counseling sessions.
- Comprehensive assessment of their financial situations.
- Express dissatisfaction through a complaint resolution process.
- Discontinue their relationship with our agency at anytime.

Revised 01/20/2023 Page 1 of 2 Initials



## **Client and Counselor Agreement**

Your Clarifi counselor will use their best efforts to provide the following services to you as applicable and requested:

- Analysis of your spending habits and outstanding debts/liabilities to develop an effective and livable budget based on your financial
  situation and educate you on how best to reduce and pay off outstanding debt, including providing suggestions to modify habits which
  may be negatively impacting your ability to live within a fixed budget.
- As appropriate, analysis of hardship or barriers to achieving financial goals, including the amount and cause of default.
- Development of a customized Action Plan outlining suggested steps to help you achieve financial stability and/or resolve your particular financial situation.
- Referrals to available resources both internally and externally.
- Return phone messages within 24 hours whenever possible.
- Confidentiality, honesty, respect, and professionalism.

You (as a client of Clarifi counseling), agree to the following terms of service:

- Provide honest and complete information to our Counselor, whether verbally or in writing, in a respectful manner.
- Come prepared with any required documentation as stated in the appointment confirmation letter at the time of your appointment and understand that if you are late for an appointment, the appointment may be canceled.
- Provide all required documentation and follow-up information within the timeframe requested.
- Contact your counselor about any changes in your financial situation as quickly as possible.
- Contact your counselor with any updated information you may receive from your creditors and/or mortgage servicer.
- Give Clarifi permission to contact you using the information on file to follow up with me/us about any applications, notify of important changes, offer additional services, or to remind about hearings or program re-enrollments.
- Continue to work with Clarifi to achieve your goals by attending workshops, education sessions and additional counseling sessions that could provide tools and services to help improve your financial situation.

Clarifi Counselors may answer questions and provide information, but not give legal advice. If legal advice is required, you may be referred for appropriate assistance. Clarifi is not authorized to and will not recommend or offer for sale investment-specific products or services.

## **Complaint Resolution Process**

We are committed to providing you with high quality professional services. If you are not satisfied with the services provided, please contact Kim Rogers, Director, Empowerment Programs. Phone: 215-563-5665 – Email: <a href="mailto:krogers@clarifi.org">krogers@clarifi.org</a>

### **Non-discrimination Policy**

Clarifi serves all members of the community without regard to socioeconomic status, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, national origin, ethnic, racial, or religious affiliations. Clarifi does not deny access to services based on employment status, amount of debt, type of debt, or credit rating. Clarifi does not directly serve minors in any of its financial education or counseling services.

### **Termination of Services Policy**

Clarifi is committed to providing clients with high quality professional service, Clarifi reserves the right to terminate our services for non-responsiveness, repeated missed appointments, showing disrespect to other clients or Clarifi staff through verbal insults or other physical or non-physical actions.

Client Signature	Print Name	Date
Co-Client Signature	Print Name	Date
Counselor Signature	Print Name	Date

## Statement of Counseling Services

The services listed below are voluntary, you are not obligated to receive, purchase, or utilize any services offered by Clarifi, its partners, or organization to which you are referred. An updated list of our services can also be found on our website, <a href="www.clarifi.org">www.clarifi.org</a>. Clarifi is committed to ensuring that no consumer shall be denied services due to special needs and is committed to maintaining facilities to accommodate those with special needs. Clarifi offers remote counseling options and arranges translators or interpreters for languages not spoken by Clarifi staff members.

#### **Financial Health and Empowerment**

Each client receives a budget analysis that evaluates their income, expenses, and debt obligations. We provide suggestions and recommendations for adjustments based on your overall financial picture presented at the time of the session. Additionally, your counselor may advise you of steps you can take to achieve your financial goals and increase savings, reduce debt, and improve your credit. Additionally, guidance will be provided on the following topics:

- Debt payment arrangements or settlements
- Dispute inaccurate credit report items
- Credit Fraud Alerts and Freezes
- Review safe banking products
- Credit building cards/loans

- Savings and Spending Plans
- Tax Refund planning (VITA)
- Stimulus payment coaching
- Individual Development Accts (IDA) Student loan repayment options

#### **Rental**

To help you as a renter, the counselor begins by reviewing your budget, credit, and current housing situation. If you are behind on your rent, your counselor will help you develop a budget to get back on track. If you are looking to rent, your counselor will assess affordability to you and provide tips on what to look for in a rental. If you are facing eviction or have a dispute with your landlord, you may be directed to seek legal advice. Clarifi does not provide legal advice.

#### Preparing for Homeownership

To prepare you for homeownership, the counselor begins with a review of your goals and objectives. You go through a budget and credit analysis to determine whether you have the resources and ability to borrow for a home, and the counselor helps you understand the advantages and disadvantages of homeownership. The counselor reviews the costs for down payment and closing, debt-to-income ratios, avoiding predatory lending, and may cover other issues such as home inspection. The counselor provides information about different types of mortgages, including mortgage assistance programs if applicable. The counseling is exclusively for educational purposes, and the agency does not provide funds to assist with closing or settlement fees or offer loan products.

#### Restore Repair Renew- Home Repair Loan Program

A home repair program for Philadelphia homeowners. The Restore, Repair, Renew program is an initiative of the City of Philadelphia and Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority (PRA) to help Philadelphia homeowners access a low-interest home equity loan to invest in their properties. Once a homeowner is deemed eligible for the program Clarifi staff will support the homeowner through the stages of the RRR program. A homeowner will be required to have a home assessment completed to assess the property to be repaired, attend the Construction 101 workshop to learn how to manage the contractors they will hire and attend a Home Equity Counseling appointment with a Clarifi counselor.

#### **Foreclosure Prevention**

If you are behind on your mortgage, the counselor explains collection efforts and the housing foreclosure process and reviews loss mitigation options to help you become current, avoid foreclosure, or relinquish the home gracefully. The counselor helps you work with the mortgage servicer to obtain a loan modification, forbearance, repayment plan or other workout solution, including short sale or deed in lieu of foreclosure. Under certain specific circumstances, the counselor will assist you in applying for available federal and/or state assistance loan programs to help you cure the default.

### **Credit Counseling, Not Credit Repair**

Clarifi is a tax-exempt, charitable organization offering credit counseling services, but is <u>not a credit repair organization</u>. Clarifi's services are not performed for the purpose of advising clients on or improving their credit record, credit score, credit history, or credit rating. Clarifi does not consider itself a Credit Repair Organization as that term is defined in (i) the Credit Repair Organization Act of 1996 as amended or (ii) elsewhere.

# **FACTS**

# WHAT DOES CLARIFI DO WITH YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION?



## Why?

Financial companies choose how they share your personal information. Federal law gives consumers the right to limit some but not all sharing. Federal law also requires us to tell you how we collect, share, and protect your personal information. Please read this notice carefully to understand what we do.

## What?

The types of personal information we collect, and share depend on the product or service you have with us. This information can include:

- Social Security number
- employment information
- credit card or other debt

notice.

- mortgage rates and payments
- income and assets income
- medical related debts
- credit history and credit scores

How?

All financial companies need to share customers' personal information to run their everyday

business. In the section below, we list the reasons financial companies can share their customers' personal information; the reasons Clarifi chooses to share; and whether you can limit this sharing.

When you are no longer our client, we continue to share your information as described in this

Reasons we can share your personal information	Does Clarifi share?	Can you limit this sharing?
For our everyday business purposes— such as to process your transactions, maintain your account(s), respond to court orders and legal investigations, or report to credit bureaus	Yes	No
For our marketing purposes— to offer our products and services to you	Yes	No
For joint marketing with other financial companies	No	No
For our affiliates' everyday business purposes—information about your transactions and experiences	Yes	No
For our affiliates' everyday business purposes—information about your creditworthiness	Yes	Yes
For nonaffiliates to market to you	No	We don't share

**Questions?** 

Call toll-free 1-800-989-2227 or visit www.clarifi.org

Who we are		
Who is providing this notice?	This privacy notice is being provided by Clarifi, as a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD")-approved housing counseling agency, and as a member of the Homeownership Preservation Foundation network of housing counseling providers.	
What we do		
How does Clarifi protect my personal information?	To protect your personal information from unauthorized access and use, we use security measures that comply with federal law. These measures include computer safeguards and secured files and buildings.  Also, Clarifi allows employees, authorized service providers and other parties as required or permitted by law to access your information.	
How does Clarifi collect my personal	We collect your personal information, for example, when you	
information?	<ul> <li>seek housing counseling services or contact us for information about the government's Making Home Affordable Program</li> <li>give us your employment and financial information, including information about your income and debts.</li> <li>provide us your mortgage information request assistance with a lender's loan modification process</li> <li>We also may collect your personal information from others, such as credit bureaus, other housing counseling agencies, mortgage servicers, and other companies.</li> </ul>	
Why can't I limit all sharing?	Federal law gives you the right to limit only	
	<ul> <li>sharing for affiliates' everyday business purposes—information about your creditworthiness</li> <li>affiliates from using your information to market to you</li> <li>sharing for nonaffiliates to market to you</li> <li>State laws and individual companies may give you additional rights to limit sharing.</li> </ul>	
Definitions		
Affiliates	Companies related by common ownership or control. They can be financial and nonfinancial companies.  Clarifi is affiliated with GreenPath, Inc.	
Nonaffiliates	Companies not related by common ownership or control. They can be financial and nonfinancial companies.  Clarifi does not share information with nonaffiliates so they can market to you.	
Joint marketing	A formal agreement between nonaffiliated financial companies that together market financial products or services to you.  Clarifi does not have joint marketing partners	

# CLARIFI ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES





This privacy notice only pertains to housing counseling services provided to you by us.

Clarifi provides foreclosure mitigation counseling and prepurchase counseling which includes a written action plan consisting of recommendations for handling a homeowner's finances and possibly includes referrals to other organizations as appropriate.

Clarifi receives funds through various non-profit organizations, state and city housing finance agencies, grants and congressional funds, as well as the Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF). If your counseling session is funded through one of these programs, Clarifi is required to share some of your personal information with program administrators or their agents for purposes of program monitoring, compliance and evaluation.

The administrators of these programs and/or their agents may follow-up with you within the next three years for the purposes of program evaluation.

You may be referred to other housing services of the organization or another agency or agencies as appropriate that may be able to assist with particular concerns that have been identified. You are not obligated to use any of the services offered.

A counselor may answer questions and provide information, but not give legal or tax advice. If you would like legal advice, a referral for appropriate assistance can be provided. Please see a qualified attorney or accountant for your particular situation.

Clarifi provides information and education on numerous loan products and housing programs. The housing counseling received from Clarifi in no way obligates you to choose any of these particular loan products or housing programs.

Clarifi calls may be monitored or recorded.