



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Dear Faith-Based Organization:

Hundreds of renters and homeowners in Montgomery County have lost their homes because of the foreclosure crisis. This nationwide problem is hitting us hard. Notice of foreclosure sales in the County increased from 68 during the first quarter of 2007 to 918 during the first of 2008, an increase of 1,250 percent.

To address this crisis, the Office of Consumer Protection (OCP) and the Department of Housing and Community Affairs (DHCA) are collaborating with the State and with nonprofit housing counseling organizations. We cordially invite your faith-based organization to join this vital partnership to help those in need.

Enclosed is information about the State Hotline 1-877-462-7555 for those whose homes have been foreclosed or who are facing the threat of foreclosure. Please encourage those in need of assistance or information to call this number.

You will also find information about the 8th Annual Housing Fair and Financial Fitness Day on Saturday, September 27, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The fair will be held in Gaithersburg at the Activity Center in Bohrer Park, Summit Hall Farm, 506 S. Frederick Avenue. Foreclosure prevention counseling and free credit reports will be available to those who attend. To register for the one to one foreclosure prevention session at the fair, please call HomeFree USA at 301-891-8404.

It is a sad fact that many families whose lives have been disrupted by foreclosure could have been helped if they had sought assistance. They were unaware of the resources that are available, or they were reluctant to step forward and ask for help. The enclosed information will help you steer persons in need to the State and County resources and programs now available.

Thank you for joining our public/private partnership to address the worsening foreclosure crisis. Please help us spread this urgent message: Foreclosure assistance is out there. All you need to do is ask for it!

Sincerely

Isiah Leggett

County Executive