

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 1, 2011

Issued By: Dane County Foreclosure Prevention Taskforce

For more information contact:

Ellen Bernards (608) 576-8658

ebarnards@Greenpath.com

FREE Workshop on September 8th, 2011 from 6 pm to 8 pm: Foreclosure Prevention and Education Workshop – for any and all homeowners in fear of losing their home.

What: FREE Workshop for Homeowners in Distress

Where: Madison College (MATC) – Truax Campus (near the airport)
3550 Anderson Street, Room 142A, Madison
(Free Parking in the Student Parking Area off Wright Street.)

When: August 11, 2011 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

(Please allow time to walk from parking to the class room.) This is a recurring workshop and takes place on the 2nd Thursday evening of every month.

Reservations: Space is limited. Reservations are appreciated but not required. Please call Bethany Nelson @ (608) 261-5677 for more information.

Cost: FREE

From January to July 2011, 784 foreclosures were started in Dane County and approximately 35% of the homes for sale in Dane County are “Distress Properties” related to foreclosure. [Source: danecountymarket.com]

“Homeowners are still not getting the help and information they need to make decisions about their situation” says Leanna Covert, Certified Housing Counselor with GreenPath Debt Solutions. “Most of the homeowners who attend our workshops have been trying to “go it alone” with their lenders...with little or no success” Ellen Bernards, Co-Chair of the Dane County Foreclosure Prevention Taskforce reports. “They’re so frustrated and they really don’t know where to turn or who to believe.”

Comments from August workshop participants:

“I appreciated the willingness of presenters to take questions”

“It was very clear with difficult topics”

“The workshop helped me identify other resources that may help my situation”

“They kept it lively”

Presenters: **Ellen Bernards, GreenPath Debt Solutions** and NFCC’s 2010 Counselor of the Year instructs homeowners about various retention options including loan modifications -the good, the bad and the ugly. They also learn about possible exit strategies if their home is no longer affordable. In addition, **Attorney Stacia Conneely from Legal Action of Wisconsin** explains the foreclosure timeline in Wisconsin and **Attorney Juscha Robinson, Herrick & Kasdorf, LLP** helps homeowners understand how bankruptcy might be helpful in foreclosure situations.

The Dane County Foreclosure Prevention Taskforce wants to make sure that homeowners have the information they need to make good decisions and get the assistance they need. We are increasing the number of workshops this year in an effort to reach more homeowners in distress. They will take place every month on the 2nd Thursday at the Madison College (formerly MATC) Truax Campus beginning February 10, 2011. A special thank you to Madison College for providing free space for these workshops.

The Dane County Foreclosure Prevention Taskforce is a coalition of government agencies, non-profit service providers and other community partners working to implement a coordinated response to the foreclosure problem in Dane County through prevention, intervention, and neighborhood stabilization effort. www.daneforeclosurehelp.org