

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 10/25/2010

Issued By: Dane County Foreclosure Prevention Taskforce

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FREE Workshop for Homeowners: *Planning for Difficult Times – Tools to Manage Your Mortgage*

Feeling overwhelmed by your mortgage? You're not alone. "Homeowners that are struggling to make ends meet in this economy need to know there is help available," says Ellen Bernards, co-chair of the Dane County Foreclosure Prevention Taskforce. "In September there were 167 new foreclosure lawsuit filings. People are not alone." It is the mission of the Dane County Foreclosure Prevention Taskforce to offer information and resources to homeowners so they can avoid foreclosure, get help with loan modifications and understand their options.

The Taskforce has organized a two-part workshop where homeowners will receive free financial planning information that will empower them to take control of their situations. The goal is for homeowners to leave with useful tools for making informed decisions.

The workshop will be held at the Madison College (MATC) West Campus 302 S. Gammon Road across from West Towne Mall Room 116. The first part is set for Monday, November 8th and the second part will be held the following week on Monday, November 15. Participants should plan to attend both evenings. Registration is requested. Please contact Annie Beaman to register at 608-261-5677.

What happens when you miss a mortgage payment? What help is available? What is foreclosure and how can you avoid it? Homeowners who attend the workshop will have these questions answered and many more.

The first evening will include an informational presentation that will help homeowners understand all the options that might be available to them. Each homeowner will leave with tools to help them plan for their particular circumstances. Loan modifications and other alternatives to foreclosure will be discussed. The second evening will allow homeowners to work in small groups with experienced housing counselors, attorneys, real estate agents and other community resources to further explore their options.

"People need to know that FREE help is available to them, from qualified, certified counselors from HUD (Housing and Urban Development) approved housing counseling agencies. No one needs to pay for help in getting a loan modification or understanding their financial situation." Bernards states.

- What:** **FREE Workshop for Homeowners:**
Planning for Difficult Times – Tools to Manage Your Mortgage
- Where:** **MATC WEST Campus Room 116**
302 S. Gammon Road Madison
(Across from West Towne Mall)
- When:** **PART 1: Monday November 8 from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm**
PART 2: Monday November 15th from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
(Participants should plan to attend both sessions.)
- Reservations:** **Space is limited to 50 homeowners. Reservations requested.**
Call Annie Beaman (608) 261-5677 beaman@co.dane.wi.us for more information and to sign up.
- Cost:** **Free. Open to homeowners only.**

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 efforts.