

**Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency**

211 N. Front St.  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

*www.PHFA.org*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Sept. 27, 2013

**Contact:** Scott Elliott  
717-780-3916 (office)  
717-649-6522 (cell)  
sellott@phfa.org

**PHFA announces foreclosure help for homeowners in Erie County**

*Housing counseling specialists to be available to negotiate mortgage modifications*

HARRISBURG – The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, in collaboration with the American Society of Certified Housing Executives (ASCHE) and the National Real Estate Training Institute (NREI), today announces a day-long event for Erie County residents in danger of losing their home or struggling with their mortgage. This special event will be held Oct. 8 at the Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel, 55 West Bay Drive, Erie, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Experienced housing counseling specialists from counseling agencies in the region will be on hand to discuss options to address homeowners' particular situations. Homeowners facing foreclosure, and those who are current on their home loans but are upside down on their mortgages, should attend this event. Counselors will be available to negotiate workout packages and mortgage modifications with loan servicers on the spot.

Lenders who have confirmed they will be sending representatives to this event are Bank of America, Citibank and Chase Home Mortgage Corporation. Additional lenders may be confirmed prior to the event.

"We're happy to be working with counseling agencies and lenders to help Erie County residents resolve their pressing home mortgage issues," said PHFA Executive Director and CEO Brian A. Hudson Sr. "During these tough economic times, it's important to bring some relief to Pennsylvania homeowners facing foreclosure and to keep our communities strong. This event will help us achieve those goals."

Erie County homeowners seeking foreclosure help are asked to schedule an Oct. 8 counseling session with any of the following four counseling agencies:

- CCCS of Western PA - Northwest, 888-511-2227
- Greater Erie Community Action Committee, 814-459-4581 ext. 499
- NeighborWorks Western PA, 877-872-3608
- St. Martin Center, Inc., 814-452-6113

Scheduling a session in advance of the event is strongly encouraged, but walk-ins will be accepted.

PHFA also manages the Homeowners' Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program (HEMAP) to help Pennsylvania residents facing foreclosure. Homeowners who are delinquent on their mortgages but can't attend this event can contact HEMAP for assistance toll-free during weekday business hours at 1-800-342-2397. More information also is available online at [www.PHFA.org](http://www.PHFA.org). To access the HEMAP information, use the search feature in the upper-right corner of the PHFA home page and enter the search term "HEMAP."

#### About PHFA

The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency works to provide affordable homeownership and rental housing options for older adults, low- and moderate-income families, and people with special housing needs. Through its carefully managed mortgage programs and investments in multifamily housing developments, PHFA also promotes economic development across the state. Since its creation by the legislature in 1972, it has generated \$11.2 billion of funding for more than 152,900 single-family home mortgage loans, helped fund the construction of 122,590 rental units, and saved the homes of nearly 46,800 families from foreclosure. PHFA programs and operations are funded primarily by the sale of securities, not by public tax dollars. PHFA is governed by a 14-member board.

# # #