

Foreclosure Prevention and Consumer Protection Efforts

The Department of Housing and Community Development and the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation have already been working to help Maryland homeowners, whether they're trying to get out from under an unaffordable loan or trying to ensure they receive fair and legal treatment from mortgage industry professionals.

Lifeline Loans

The Lifeline Loan program, administered by DHCD, was given a significant boost last year when Governor O'Malley committed \$100 million to the loan fund as part of the HOPE initiative. The program allows homeowners with credit scores of 600 or above to refinance up to 100 percent of their loan value. Based on an analysis by the U.S. Secretary of Treasury of homeowners currently with subprime or exotic loan products, the program can assist up to 30 percent of homeowners who qualify.

- The Lifeline program has lent more than \$3.4 million to 14 Maryland homeowners since its inception.
- An additional \$7.3 million has been reserved for 28 homeowners identified as eligible.
- The average loan amount is \$246,747

HOPE Counseling Awards

Under the HOPE Initiative, DHCD has provided over \$1 million through the Maryland Affordable housing Trust (MAHT) to 17 counseling agencies throughout the State to support foreclosure prevention activities and enhance outreach to homeowners across Maryland. The counseling agencies (listed below) will use the assistance to improve and disseminate consistent loss mitigation and refinancing information, promote increased budgeting and financial planning skills for families, and leverage additional resources from private funding partners.

Agency	Address	Web Site	Phone Number	Jurisdiction
Arundel Community Development Services, Inc.	2666 Riva Road, #210 Annapolis, MD 21401	www.acdsinc.org	410-222-7600	Anne Arundel
Belair Edison Neighborhoods, Inc.	3412 Belair Road Baltimore, MD 21213	www.belair-edison.org	410-485-8422	Baltimore City
Civil Justice, Inc.	520 W. Fayette Street, #410 Baltimore, MD 21201	www.civiljusticenetwork.org	410-706-0174	Baltimore City
Delmarva Community Services, Inc.	345 High Street Cambridge, MD 21613	www.dcsdct.org	410-221-1900	Dorchester
City of Frederick/Frederick County CAA	100 South Market Street Frederick, MD 21701	www.cityoffrederick.com	301-600-1506	Frederick
Garrett County County Action Agency	East Center Street Oakland, MD 21550	www.garrettcac.org	301-334-9431	Allegany and Garrett
Greater Washington Urban League, Inc.	2901 14 th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20009	www.gwul.org	202-265-8200	Prince George's
Home Partnership, Inc.	626 Towne Center Drive Joppatowne, MD 21085	www.homepartnershipinc.org	410-679-3200	Cecil and Harford

Housing Initiative Partnership, Inc.	6525 Belcrest Road Hyattsville, MD 20782	www.hiphomes.org	301-699-3835	Prince George's
Kairos Development Corporation	5601 Old Branch Avenue Camp Springs, MD 20748	www.kairosgroups.org	301-899-1180	Prince George's
Maryland Rural Development Corporation	101 Cedar Avenue Greensboro, MD 21639	www.mrdc.net	410-269-0910	Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot
Neighborhood Housing Services of Baltimore, Inc.	244 North Patterson Park Avenue Baltimore, MD 21231	www.nhsbaltimore.com	410-327-1200	Baltimore City and Baltimore County
St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center, Inc.	321 East 25 th Street Baltimore, MD 21218	www.stambros.org	410-366-8550	Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Howard and Montgomery
Salisbury Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc.	513 Camden Avenue Salisbury, MD 21801	www.salisburynhs.org	410-543-4626	Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester
Southeast Community Development Corporation	3700 Eastern Avenue Baltimore, MD 21224	www.southeastcdc.org	410-342-3234	Baltimore City
Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee, Inc.	8383 Leonardtown Road Hughesville, MD 20637	www.smtccac.org	301-274-4474	Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's
Sowing Empowerment & Economic Development, Inc. (SEED)	6201 Riverdale Road Riverdale, MD 20737	www.seedinc.org	301-458-9808	Prince George's
Washington County Community Action Council, Inc.	101 Summit Avenue Hagerstown, MD 21740	www.wccac.org	301-797-4161	Washington

Refunds to Consumers

DLLR's Financial Regulation Division works to recover money paid by consumers to lenders, brokers and other mortgage professionals for fees and charges collected illegally.

- In Fiscal Year 2007 DLLR recovered nearly \$1.4 million for Maryland consumers charged illegal fees.
- So far for Fiscal Year 2008, DLLR has recovered nearly \$500,000 for consumers.

Enforcement Actions

The Financial Regulation Division also works to investigate cases of fraud and foreclosure rescue scams. The current mortgage mess has given rise to a significant increase in these unscrupulous practices.

- 205 cases of fraud or rescue scams were assigned to DLLR enforcement officials in Fiscal Year 2007. An additional 61 enforcement actions were taken, including subpoenas and cease and desist orders against lenders and brokers.

- There have been 271 enforcement actions so far for Fiscal Year 2008, including subpoenas, cease and desist orders and cases assigned, already topping the total enforcement actions for Fiscal Year 2007.

For complaints or to report mortgage fraud, contact DLLR at 888-784-0136

For Housing Counseling services, call DHCD at 877-462-7555 or www.mdhope.org