Resources for Those Facing Foreclosure or Affected By Predatory Lending

As the housing industry continues to experience turbulence, more consumers face the effects of rising interest rates and an expanded sub-prime lending market. As foreclosures continue to rise, it became clear that organizations, government agencies and private lenders need to come together to reach out to homeowners facing foreclosure, help them preserve their homes if possible, and identify and eliminate predatory lending practices in our community.

This list of resources is intended to be shared throughout the community, and used as a reference piece by representatives in government, community-based and faith-based organizations, and others. Its purpose is **to direct consumers and homeowners to trusted sources of help** and reputable agencies that can provide them with counseling, options and advice specific to their circumstance.

What You Can Do

- Encourage homeowners **to seek help early** when they are experiencing trouble making their mortgage payments. For a list of tips on how to avoid foreclosure, visit the HUD website at: www.hud.gov/foreclosure/index.cfm.
- Raise awareness of lender options, nonprofit resources and counseling.
- Refer homeowners and consumers to the hotlines or a website listed below

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Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) Hotline: 1-888-995-HOPE

Provides FREE counseling 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in English and Spanish. Counselors will link callers as appropriate with their lender or a local NeighborWorks® organization. This hotline is part of a three-year public service campaign by NeighborWorks® America and the Ad Council.

Information for homeowners, counselors and others is also available online:

- Hope Now: www.hopenow.com
- Homeownership Preservation Foundation: www.995hope.org and www.ForeclosureHelpandHope.org
- National Foundation for Credit Counseling (NFCC): www.housinghelpnow.org
- The NeighborWorks® Center for Foreclosure Solutions: www.nw.org

To find a local HUD-approved housing counseling agency, call 1-800-569-4287 or visit the Hope Now website. *From there you can link to a HUD website that allows you to search for a counselor near you.*

This document was developed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Predatory Lending & Foreclosure Prevention Task Force. Its members include ACORN Housing, ACTS CDC, Chase, City of Milwaukee, Consumer Credit Counseling Service, Dominican Center for Women, Inc., FDIC, Housing Resources, Inc., Internal Revenue Service, Landmark Credit Union, Layton Boulevard West Neighbors, League of Women Voters, Legacy Bank, Legal Action of WI, Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee, LISC Milwaukee, LULAC, M&I Community Development Corp., Marquette University Law School, Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council, Milwaukee Christian Center-NIP, Mitchell Bank, National City Bank, Neighborhood Assistance Corp. of America, Office of the Comptroller of Currency (OCC), Office of U.S. Representative Gwendolyn Moore, Office of U.S. Senator Herb Kohl, Office of U.S. Senator Russ Feingold, Select Milwaukee, Social Development Commission, Urban Economic Development Association of WI, US Bank, UW-Extension, UW Law School, UW-Milwaukee Employment and Training Institute, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Wisconsin Catholic Conference, WI Housing & Economic Development Authority and the WI Partnership for Housing Development.