

County and State Officials Will Provide Guidance on Foreclosure Issues at Free Public Forum

Union County Human Relations Commission

Our mission is to actively encourage, develop, promote and strengthen respect for human rights and cultural diversity among the people of Union County. Co-Chairs: James F. Keefe, Esq. and Barbara Boyer Recording Secretary: Karen E. Positan
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PRESS RELEASE

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Learn how to sign up for New Jersey's Foreclosure Mediation Program

Union County, NJ – A public education forum, “Foreclosure: Moving From Fear To Positive Action,” will be held on Thursday, October 11, 2012 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Rahway Public Library, 2 City Hall Plaza, Rahway. The event is

free and open to the public.

The forum is designed to provide guidance to property owners fearing or facing foreclosure issues, and to help tenants in properties with foreclosure issues. Free parking is available and the facility is wheelchair accessible.

“Understandably, anyone who is fearing or facing foreclosure is anxious and scared,” stated Barbara Boyer, Co-Chair of the Union County Human Relations Commission. “We are trying to spread the word that there are free resources that are offered on a state and county level, options that are available, and positive actions that can be taken so the best possible outcome can be achieved.” (MORE)

“People in foreclosure wake up worried every day,” stated Elizabeth Hulse. “They do not know how to save their homes or how to ask for help. This conference is about reaching out. We want these homeowners to know that they are not alone. The mediation program is designed to provide them with experienced advocates and neutral mediators to make sure that all possible ways of keeping their houses are explored with their banks.”

Ms. Hulse is with the New Jersey Public Defender’s Office of Dispute Settlement, and will be one of the key presenters. She will provide an overview of the New Jersey Foreclosure Mediation Program, and how to apply for the program and its services.

The New Jersey Foreclosure Mediation Program provides resources and referral information for distressed homeowners, including free state-appointed legal representation in mediation, and housing counselors who can assist with budgeting, financing, viable loan modifications and mortgage assistance programs.

At the forum, attendees will also gain an understanding of foreclosure proceedings, the court mediation process, guidance on avoiding foreclosure scams, and details about resources

available to those who are affected.

Members of the Union County Foreclosure Task Force will also share information about foreclosure resources and distribute literature. The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders created this Task Force in the fall of 2008 as the foreclosure crisis was beginning to intensify.

The mission of the Foreclosure Task Force is to help stabilize Union County neighborhoods by providing property owners and tenants with guidance on their legal rights and resources.

“If you have any concerns about foreclosure, the upcoming forum is a good place to start learning more about your situation so you can take effective action,” said Union County Freeholder Chairman Alexander Mirabella. “You’ll be getting reliable advice from experienced professionals, and you’ll be better equipped to avoid scams and fraud.”

For more information regarding the forum, contact the Union County Human Relations Commission, 908-889-9028.