

REQUEST FOR INTEREST

Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-289) Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling and Legal Assistance Fund Grants

The Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) is applying for federal funds for foreclosure mitigation counseling and legal assistance and is seeking qualified entities to provide these services. NeighborWorks America, pursuant to the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, is making available grant funds (1) for foreclosure intervention counseling and legal assistance to expand and supplement counseling opportunities available to owner-occupants of single-family properties with mortgages in default or danger of default; or (2) to provide legal assistance to homeowners of owner-occupied homes with mortgages in default, in danger of default, or subject to or at risk of foreclosure and who have legal issues that cannot be handled by counselors.

Applications for funds for (1) furnishing foreclosure mitigation counseling services under the National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Program; and/or (2) furnishing legal assistance in accordance with federal requirements shall be received at the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC), 677 Queen Street, Suite 300, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 until 4:30 pm, Hawaii Standard Time on September 22, 2008. Applications received after the time and date fixed shall not be considered.

To be eligible for funding under this Program, applicants for foreclosure mitigation counseling services must certify that they have:

- (1) Worked successfully with financial institutions and with borrowers facing default, delinquency, and foreclosure;
- (2) Documented counseling capacity, outreach capacity, past successful performance and positive outcomes with documented counseling plans (including post mortgage foreclosure mitigation counseling), loan workout agreements, and loan modification agreements; and
- (3) Achieved *one* of the following:
 - (a) Provided foreclosure counseling services that included documented action plans to at least 50 people during the past year or 20 people during the past quarter OR
 - (b) if > 75% of the applicant's service area is rural and applicant provided foreclosure counseling services that included documented action plans to at least 25 people during the past year or 10 people during the past quarter OR
 - (c) Applicant has provided foreclosure counseling services that included documented action plans to at least 12 people during the past year AND has at least one comprehensively trained and qualified foreclosure counselor on staff.

To be eligible for funding under this Program, applicants for legal assistance funds must certify that they have at least one attorney trained in foreclosure-related legal issues and are able to provide quality legal services within 90 days.

All applicants must be nonprofit organizations that have never been indicted for a violation under Federal law relating to an election for Federal Office, and do not employ individuals who have.

Potential applicants interested in responding to this solicitation may do so by contacting Ms. Chris A. Valles, HHFDC, at (808) 587-0561, Fax (808) 587-0600, or email: Chris.A.Valles@hawaii.gov. Any questions relating to this solicitation shall also be directed to Ms. Valles.

Application under this Program shall not be construed as an obligation of funds. The State reserves the right to incorporate or not incorporate any recommendations presented in response to this request in its application for the grant.

KAREN SEDDON
Executive Director
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation

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