



**Office of the Mayor
City of Los Angeles**

ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA

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MAYOR VILLARAIGOSA ANNOUNCES FORECLOSURE COUNSELING CLINIC AT SOUTH LA WORKSOURCE CENTER

WorkSource Centers provide local residents with options for avoiding foreclosure and staying in their homes

SOUTH LOS ANGELES – Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa today announced the second in a series of foreclosure counseling clinics at the South LA WorkSource Center. Set to take place from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM TONIGHT, January 14, 2009, this free clinic is designed to educate the public about the foreclosure process, distribute information about foreclosure prevention, and present residents with options to modify loans and keep their homes.

“Our residents are looking for their elected representatives to step up to the plate with the tools and resources necessary to weather the storm of foreclosures and falling home values,” Mayor Villaraigosa said. “These foreclosure clinics will give homeowners the security of a helping hand and help Angelenos rebuild the foundation of our crumbling housing market.”

Working with the local community, LA Neighborhood Housing Services (LANHS), the Community Development Department (CDD) and the City’s WorkSource Center System, the Mayor’s Office developed a program to offer counseling services and foreclosure prevention resources to local families at-risk of losing their homes. Topics covered in these sessions include the foreclosure timeline, homeowner rights and responsibilities, foreclosure prevention options, and transition strategies.

After reviewing the information provided by residents, counselors can determine the options available to the homeowner, including ways to enhance affordability and alter their mortgages and loan payments.

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“LANHS encourages homeowners to take advantage of the opportunity to get their foreclosure prevention questions answered by a HUD-certified counseling agency in their community,” said Larry Reed, Director of Home Ownership Centers for LANHS. “These services are free because nothing is worse than doing nothing.”

The South LA WorkSource Center is located at 7518-7526 South Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90044. Space for the evening’s clinic is limited. Interested families can RSVP by calling (323) 752-2115 ext. 236.

The Los Angeles Foreclosure Response Network

The Los Angeles Foreclosure Response Network is a partnership between the Mayor’s Office, LANHS, CDD and the City WorkSource Centers. As the foreclosure crisis continues to grow, this network brings foreclosure prevention resources to six WorkSource Centers – strategically-located in or near those communities hardest hit by the wave of foreclosures sweeping the nation.

In addition to the South LA site, services will be available at:

West Adams–Baldwin Hills WorkSource Center

5681 W. Jefferson Blvd., Los Angeles, 90016
(323) 525-3740 | TTY: (323) 931-9076
www.laul.org

Metro North WorkSource Center

342 San Fernando Rd., Los Angeles, 90031
(323) 539-2000 | TTY: (323) 539-2057
www.goodwillsocal.org

Southeast LA–Watts WorkSource Center

10950 S. Central Ave., Los Angeles, 90059
(323) 563-4702 | TTY: (323) 563-5684
www.wlcac.org

Sun Valley WorkSource Center

9024 Laurel Canyon Blvd., Sun Valley, 91352
(818) 504-0334 | TTY: (818) 504-1974
www.wscalnetwork.org

Van Nuys-North Sherman Oaks WorkSource Center

15400 Sherman Way, Suite 140, Van Nuys, 91406
(818) 267-3383

These participating centers will serve as conduits through which Angelenos can conveniently access foreclosure prevention resources, including basic information about available services, foreclosure counseling, and foreclosure prevention clinics.

The WorkSource Centers' staff has been trained by LANHS to provide basic intake to new clients and to steer them to the right sources of information.

The Foreclosure Crisis in LA

The Los Angeles area has experienced some of the worst effects of the nation's housing crisis. In 2007, there were 4,627 foreclosures in the City; in the first three quarters of 2008 alone, 10,891 local families lost their homes, with the majority located in South LA and the East and West San Fernando Valley.

This region is also confronting the growing problem of foreclosed multi-unit and rental properties. The first two quarters of 2008 saw 737 buildings closed down – located primarily in South LA and the mid-City area – comprising 2,079 individual units.

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