



Bethany - Branford - East Haven - Guilford - Hamden - Madison - Meriden - Milford
New Haven - North Branford - North Haven - Orange - Wallingford - West Haven - Woodbridge

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

Thursday, September 30, 2011

For More Information Contact:

Carl J. Amento at (203) 234-7555 or
camento@scrcog.org

Jeff Trull at (203) 401-3377 or
jeff@gnhclf.org

**Mayors Announce Launch of
Regional Foreclosure Prevention Program**

North Haven, CT – The South Central Connecticut Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG), comprised of the 15 mayors and first selectmen in the Greater New Haven region, announced the launch of a foreclosure prevention program to serve the region. The mayors and first selectmen have joined forces with The Real Options, Overcoming Foreclosure (ROOF) Project which has been serving the City of New Haven since 2008. To date, ROOF and its network of partners have worked to bring assistance to over 3,000 residents in, or at risk of, foreclosure within the City of New Haven. ROOF services will now be offered to residents throughout the 15 town region bordered by Milford on the west, Madison on the east, and Meriden to the north.

The official announcement of the expansion of the initiative to the regional level, with speakers from SCRCOG and ROOF, occurred at the monthly SCRCOG meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 28th at the SCRCOG Offices, 127 Washington Ave., North Haven, CT. Speakers included SCRCOG Executive Director, Carl Amento; Woodbridge First Selectman and SCRCOG Board Chair Ed Sheehy; East Haven Mayor April Capone; Madison First Selectman Fillmore McPherson; North Haven First Selectman Michael Freda; ROOF Project Manager Jeff Trull; and Managing Director, Home Ownership Center, Neighborhood Housing Services of New Haven (NHS), Bridgette Russell. The SCRCOG leaders approved funding for the ROOF effort in order to address the growing number of foreclosures they are seeing in their towns. Volunteer representatives from the 15 towns, appointed by the mayors and first selectmen, have formed a Regional Housing Committee to help guide the new initiative.

The ROOF Project was formed in 2008 by non-profit organizations in New Haven and the city government as an effort to alleviate the foreclosure crisis affecting New Haven residents. Since then, it has become clear that the current foreclosure crisis is not simply an urban problem related to subprime loans. The impacts of foreclosure have spread to all communities within the South Central Connecticut region as residents have become affected by job losses and decreased incomes. Since the beginning of 2008, South Central Connecticut has seen over 12,000 foreclosure cases, affecting approximately 1 in every 12 homes in the region.

ROOF will offer foreclosure clinics on a monthly basis in different sub-regions within South Central Connecticut and will be expanding outreach to all 15 communities. Outreach activities include sending letters about counseling and mediation resources directly to homeowners who are just entering foreclosure, training for town staffs on foreclosure resources available to residents, and additional outreach efforts to those who are struggling with their mortgages where assistance may avert foreclosure.

ROOF's partners offer a wide array of services to help both homeowners and tenants. HUD-certified counselors offer information and assistance to homeowners to help them avoid foreclosure. This is a free service, and ROOF is working with SCRCOG leaders to alert the public that they should never have to pay for help and should be wary of foreclosure scams. Tenants may seek legal help through Statewide Legal Services.

ROOF also advises homeowners in foreclosure to participate in Connecticut's mandatory Foreclosure Mediation Program, which assists homeowners and lenders in coming to a mutually agreeable resolution to a mortgage foreclosure action.

For more information about The ROOF Project visit, www.theroofproject.org.

Foreclosure Data:

Municipality	Lis Penden Filings*				Total	Foreclosure Deeds**				Total
	2008	2009	2010	2011 (through Q2)		2008	2009	2010	2011 (through Q2)	
Bethany	13	37	27	7	84	1	4	11	0	16
Branford	109	224	209	44	586	21	31	39	0	91
East Haven	185	342	325	124	976	52	79	68	7	206
Guilford	57	133	117	21	328	16	24	25	3	68
Hamden	307	519	488	107	1,421	68	86	100	9	263
Madison	43	64	95	28	230	11	7	15	2	35
Meriden	461	761	629	159	2,010	174	171	206	44	595
Milford	180	317	246	72	815	38	55	59	14	166
New Haven	714	1,125	829	231	2,899	368	333	374	58	1,133
North Branford	55	87	63	24	229	15	16	14	5	50
North Haven	83	167	93	17	360	22	21	28	4	75
Orange	26	48	41	7	122	6	4	5	2	17
Wallingford	122	240	253	70	685	40	36	42	9	127
West Haven	380	531	496	151	1,558	137	120	153	23	433
Woodbridge	26	36	25	7	94	5	7	7	1	20
TOTAL	2,761	4,631	3,936	1,069	12,397	974	994	1,146	181	3,295

Data Source: Warren Group ©

Data portrayed is based upon data received from the Warren Group© and does not constitute an all-inclusive list.

* New Foreclosure Actions

** Completed Foreclosures