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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## The HomeOwnership Center Receives \$26,000 to Support Foreclosure Prevention

*Grant provides much-needed boost to area homeowners in danger of foreclosure*

November 2, 2009 (Utica, NY) – UNHS NeighborWorks HomeOwnership Center, a member of the national NeighborWorks® network, is being awarded \$26,000 to support foreclosure prevention counseling efforts. This funding will provide a much-needed boost in support to The HomeOwnership Center's foreclosure counseling in Oneida, Herkimer, Madison, Ostego and Fulton Counties.

"We have seen a rising need to provide foreclosure prevention services in this area and are grateful for the support to meet increasing demand," said Janice Forte, executive director of The HomeOwnership Center. "Homeowners facing the possibility of foreclosure often need help navigating through the process with their lender and we will continue to provide that much-needed service."

The grant to support The HomeOwnership Center's foreclosure intervention efforts was provided by funds from the National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Program. The initial funding was provided by Congress in the FY08 Consolidated Appropriations Act. Additional funding was provided through the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 and the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009. The National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Program is administered through a competitive application process by NeighborWorks® America, within guidelines defined by Congressional legislation. NeighborWorks America is an independent, Congressionally-chartered non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C., with a mission to provide access to sustainable homeownership and safe, affordable rental housing.

Chartered in 1979, The UNHS NeighborWorks® HomeOwnership Center has been the leader in housing initiatives for over 30 years. Through various programs such as Home Buyer Education, Financial Literacy and Pre-purchase Counseling, the certified and trained staff at HOC help serve low- to moderate-income families in Oneida, Herkimer and Madison counties.

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If you would like more information on this topic, or to schedule an interview, please contact Julie Howarth at (315) 724-4197 or email Julie at [jhowarth@unhs.org](mailto:jhowarth@unhs.org)