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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## UNHS NeighborWorks® HomeOwnership Center Supports Cuomo's Crackdown on Foreclosure Rescue Scams

**June 10, 2009 (Utica, NY)** – As if the nightmare of foreclosure isn't bad enough, there are companies who try to take advantage of already financially strapped homeowners by charging them excessive fees on the pretext of "saving" the home – and family - from foreclosure.

Staff at The UNHS NeighborWorks® HomeOwnership Center, a HUD-Certified Housing Counseling Agency that offers free foreclosure intervention counseling to homeowners of any income in Oneida, Herkimer, Madison, Otsego and Fulton Counties, is trying to educate homeowners about these foreclosure rescue scams through monthly Mortgage Check-Up workshops.

"We are trying to get the word out so that homeowners will no longer fall victim to these Foreclosure Rescue Scams," said Janice Forte, executive director of The HomeOwnership Center. "It's unfortunate that there are companies out there taking money from financially troubled homeowners and in return delivering nothing but empty promises," she added. "We are relieved to see that, through the work of Attorney General Cuomo's office, these so-called loan modification companies are being held accountable for their deceptive practices."

For more information about The HomeOwnership Center's Educational Workshops or confidential one-on-one counseling for existing or prospective homeowners, please call 315-724-4197 or visit [www.thehomeownershipcenter.org](http://www.thehomeownershipcenter.org) for more information.

Chartered in 1979 by NeighborWorks America, The UNHS NeighborWorks® HomeOwnership Center has been the leader in housing initiatives for more than 30 years. Through various programs such as Home Buyer Education, Financial Literacy and Pre-purchase Counseling, the certified and trained staff at the HOC offers a multitude of services on HomeOwnership. The HOC is your one-stop shop for HomeOwnership. Serving 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)