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2-1-1



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PRESS RELEASE

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United Way 2-1-1 Partners with CPTV to Connect State Residents with Mortgage Foreclosure Assistance

United Way of Connecticut (UWC) is partnering with Connecticut Public Television (CPTV) in an effort to connect Connecticut residents who are at risk of mortgage foreclosure with the resources they need. In June, CPTV will air "Facing the Mortgage Crisis Town Meeting", a program that will feature experts from local and state agencies that are assisting homeowners in financial need and representatives from the mortgage industry. Viewers will also hear from homeowners whose subprime loans almost forced their homes into foreclosure.

During the program, viewers will be encouraged to call United Way 2-1-1, Connecticut's statewide information and referral service, for assistance. UWC President and CEO Rick Porth says, "As mortgage foreclosures continue in Connecticut, it is essential that residents know where to turn for help. United Way 2-1-1 is poised to offer assistance to residents statewide who are struggling with foreclosure issues and consequently may need help with other basic needs. United Way 2-1-1 is therefore pleased to partner with CPTV in an endeavor that will help more people get connected with the mortgage foreclosure assistance they need."

United Way 2-1-1 has seen a steady increase in the number of requests for information related to mortgage foreclosure. In the first five months of 2009, 2-1-1 received close to 1,800 requests for information on mortgage foreclosure and mortgage payment assistance, an increase of 70% over the same time period in 2008. Close to half of those calling for mortgage foreclosure assistance are first-time callers to 2-1-1. Call Specialists say many of these callers have never had to seek assistance and are unaware of the supports that are available for those facing a financial crisis. Many of those seeking information on mortgage foreclosure are also seeking utility and food assistance.

For more information on United Way 2-1-1 visit www.211ct.org. For information on "Facing the Mortgage Crisis Town Meeting" visit <http://www.cptv2.org/mortgagecrisis/>.

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The mission of the United Way of Connecticut is to help meet the needs of Connecticut residents by providing information, education and connection to services. UWC furthers its mission by providing 24/7 toll-free call center access to health and human services information through 2-1-1; specialized services in child care, child development and disabilities, and HUSKY health insurance; and by collaborating with local United Ways and Connecticut State agencies and elected officials. For more information about United Way of Connecticut, visit www.ctunitedway.org.