

## The Minnesota Home Ownership Center

*Growing and Sustaining Minnesota Home Ownership, Communities*

The Minnesota Home Ownership Center is the state's leading independent, nonprofit provider of information and resources aimed at helping all Minnesotans to begin and maintain home ownership. Since 1993, we have served over 87,000 Minnesotans through our range of home ownership services, from pre-purchased education to foreclosure prevention counseling.

### HOME OWNERSHIP SOLUTIONS

Through our partnerships with nonprofit service providers, governments and business organizations, we provide resources, information and technical assistance to all Minnesota first-time home buyers and home owners facing foreclosure. In particular, we work to help low- and moderate-income people and families statewide achieve and sustain home ownership.

- **Resources for Home Buyers.** *The Minnesota Home Ownership Center is committed to making new home ownership attainable for Minnesota families and communities through its first-time home buyer education services.*

*Across Minnesota, 38 community nonprofit organizations offer the Center's Home Stretch classes for first-time home buyers in three languages. This nationally-recognized curriculum provides potential buyers with important information about the buying process, and our network of counselors is available to provide personalized follow-up planning and budgeting assistance.*

- **Sustaining Home Ownership.** *The Center is equally committed to empowering Minnesota home owners to keep their homes through foreclosure prevention efforts. Twenty-six nonprofit partners across Minnesota provide free, individualized planning and financial counseling services to home owners in danger of foreclosure, and advocate on behalf of home owners with lenders and other institutions.*

### LEADING PARTNERSHIPS TO ADDRESS THE MORTGAGE CRISIS

In 2008, more than 26,000 Minnesotans faced foreclosure. That same year, the Center's network of mortgage support advisors prevented nearly 5,000 foreclosures and provided counseling to 11,809 Minnesotans — a 145 percent increase over the number of homeowners supported in 2007.

In partnership with the Greater Minnesota Housing Fund, the Family Housing Fund, and Minnesota Housing, the Minnesota Home Ownership Center remains at the forefront of responding to the mortgage crisis. The Center continues increased public education and supportive counseling services through new outreach initiatives and its expanded network of statewide partners.