



## **Meeting provides information to avoid foreclosure**

January 30, 2012

An informational meeting open to veterans and the public on the foreclosure prevention program entitled Hardest Hit Fund Rhode Island (HHFRT) will be held Monday at 6 p.m. at Franklin Court, 530 Wood St., Bristol.

The program's goal is to prevent foreclosures and stabilize the housing market by assisting homeowners struggling to make mortgage payments. Homeowners may qualify for this program if they have a documented financial hardship such as an unexpected job loss, underemployment, unforeseen medical expenses, and disability of a family's key wage earner. It also includes the unexpected and costly home repairs which had to be made due to last spring's flooding in Rhode Island.

Regular and reserve component members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard who have experienced a drop in income due to deployment also qualify for assistance.

Homeowners, military personnel and veterans who cannot attend tonight's session and who are unemployed and believe they may qualify for assistance can contact the HHFRI Center at (401) 277-1500 for an appointment to begin the application process.

Homeowners with hardships other than unemployment should seek assistance from a HUD-approved and HHFRI-certified counseling agency such as the Rhode Island Housing Help Center at (401) 457-1130.

Other changes to the program now allow homeowners who own more than one property to qualify for HHFRI assistance, and the amount families can have in savings and still qualify for assistance has been increased to \$15,000, with no limit to the amount in a retirement account such as a 401 (k) or an IRA.

For more information about HHFRI and a schedule of community meetings, go online to [www.HHFRI.org](http://www.HHFRI.org), send an e-mail to [info@HHFRI.org](mailto:info@HHFRI.org) or call (401) 277-1500.