



Pedro E. Segarra
Mayor

HARTFORD RECEIVES FEDERAL COUNSELING GRANTS TO HELP FAMILIES FIND AND KEEP HOUSING

---NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE---

(December 23, 2010)--- Mayor Pedro E. Segarra is pleased to announce that the Community Renewal Team, Inc in Hartford has received more than \$40,000 in grants from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in order to help families find housing and to prevent future foreclosures.

“Organizations like CRT are on the front lines of helping struggling families find or stay in their homes during these difficult economic times. I applaud the Obama Administration’s continued efforts to help these families get the money management counseling they need to navigate their home-buying process which helps stabilize our neighborhoods and addresses quality of life issues in our communities,” said Mayor Segarra.

“I am proud to be able to help coordinate these vital resources at this critical time around the holidays. During these difficult economic times, professional housing counseling is in high demand and I am thankful that HUD was able to provide additional resources to the City of Hartford before the end of the year,” said Congressman John Larson, (D) 1st District.

“We are very pleased to receive this grant, which underscores CRT’s expertise in helping Hartford residents move toward homeownership and remain in stable housing,” said Lena Rodriguez, President and CEO of the Community Renewal Team, which has been a HUD-approved Local Housing Counseling Agency since 2007. “This grant allows us to expand our housing counseling program, and ensure quality in the delivery of services to customers throughout the community.”

Earlier this year, HUD awarded an additional \$9.3 million in funding to Connecticut communities--- including Hartford--- working to reverse the effects of foreclosure. Those grants represented a third round of funding through HUD’s Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP).

Under NSP 1, Hartford received and fully committed \$2.7 million. With that money, 24 new homeowners and four rental units were created. Two blighted and abandoned eyesores that were deemed structurally unsound were also demolished.

“Although Hartford’s foreclosure challenges have not been as desperate as other communities, we appreciate every effort to help families in need,” said Mayor Segarra.