

## PRESS RELEASE

## District of Columbia Housing Finance Agency

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## DCHFA ANNOUNCES EXPANSION TO HOMESAVER, A FORECLOSURE PREVENTION PROGRAM

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — Through the HomeSaver Program the District of Columbia Housing Finance Agency (DCHFA) has been providing mortgage payment assistance to qualified D.C. Homeowners who have been receiving Unemployment Insurance benefits. HomeSaver is a part of the U.S. Treasury's Hardest-Hit Initiative to assist jurisdictions with above average unemployment rates – including Washington, D.C. Recently the DCHFA, with approval of the Treasury Department, has **extended the HomeSaver program to aid underemployed persons.** 

DCHFA recognized that some D.C. homeowners who have been re-employed, but have experienced a decline of 25% or more in their incomes, could greatly benefit from mortgage assistance too. In many cases this assistance could help them keep their homes and avoid going into foreclosure or bankruptcy. The program expansion aims to assist this population, as well as the unemployed. To date, since HomeSaver's inception more than 450 D.C. families have received assistance.

"When a Washingtonian losses their job or becomes underemployed that should not mean they lose their home," said Executive Director Harry D. Sewell. "Helping Washingtonians keep their homes is one of the most vital efforts we can take to sustain neighborhoods in our city. HomeSaver helps fulfill part of our agency's core mission – to support affordable homeownership in Washington, D.C."

Available mortgage assistance includes the following for eligible applicants,

- **Lifeline Payment Assistance** a one-time payment of up to six months mortgage delinquency.
- Mortgage Payment Assistance up to 15 months of mortgage payment assistance or a maximum of \$32,385 to keep the applicant's mortgage current.
- Restore Payment Assistance one-time payment of up to \$32,385 for the recently re-employed homeowner to catch-up on delinquent mortgage payments.

Visit <u>www.homesaverdc.org</u> and see the attached program brochure for more information.