

David A. Paterson
Governor



Deborah VanAmerongen
Chairperson

New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation

Subprime Foreclosure Prevention Services Program

Applicant: Staten Island Legal Services

SHARS: 20080323

Collaborator: New York ACORN Housing Company, Inc.
Richmond County Bar Association

Award: \$440,000

Proposed Services: Outreach, financial counseling, legal representation and court-based services

Proposed Service Area: Staten Island

Proposed Outcomes: Provide outreach and education to 2,000 households.
Conduct 10-12 education forums reaching 400 households.
Assist 100 households through counseling and legal services to renegotiate existing mortgages or recover equity in their homes.

Staten Island Legal Services (SILS) and New York ACORN Housing Company (ACORN) will expand an existing "Homeowner Defense Project" that provides homeowners in Staten Island with a full spectrum of education, outreach, counseling and legal services to help them avoid foreclosure. In this collaboration, ACORN provides education, outreach and counseling services. SILS provides legal services and representation of homeowners at the mandatory settlement conferences.

Additionally, to increase attorney involvement, the Project has been working with the Richmond County Bar Association to find attorneys who are willing to represent homeowners on a contingent and/or pro bono basis.