



News Release

For more information contact:

Dr. Gary L. Wood or Dr. Patricia N. Alexander
(813) 870-0392 (Hillsborough County, Florida)
(727) 576-5164 (Pinellas County, Florida)
(800) 870-0392 (Out-of-area)

A new program aimed at homeowners who haven't defaulted yet could help mortgage borrowers stay in their homes.



Tampa, Fla. (January 1, 2009). With more Americans then ever being faced with foreclosure, banks are undoubtedly feeling pressured to be more aggressive in aiding home owners, given how many billions of taxpayer dollars have poured into the industry to stem the credit crisis. One large mortgage holder says it will expand its foreclosure prevention efforts and try to keep 130,000 troubled borrowers with \$20 billion in mortgages in their homes. Several others are also enacting such measures.

A large number of homeowners will lose their homes this year and the number is estimated and projected to go higher next year due to foreclosure or distressed sales. If you are in this situation or on the brink of such a financial downturn, ask yourself a few questions:

What is this foreclosure prevention effort?

Can someone help me prepare or coach me through my next steps?

Do I qualify for this benefit?

How do I find out if I have access to this program?

Personal financial recovery is a large task to embark upon, but it is just that, a recovery. The word recover is defined as, “to get back again; to regain normal health, poise or status”. Making better decisions for a better life, and having the knowledge and education to carry it out is the key to the recovery process. Are you prepared to do what you have to? Remember that the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a benefit available to all employees and dependents of companies contracted with Wood & Associates for providing confidential free professional assistance 24-hours a day, 7 days a week. Remember that you or a dependent may contact the EAP regarding any concern that you might have – you don’t have to wait until a problem becomes big to seek help. Above all, keep in mind that concerns develop over time but the way you address them can be changed. Your EAP, Wood & Associates, can provide you with a resource to guide you through this by using cash flow analysis, budget analysis, and the knowledge of how to find the information and resources you’ll need to take charge of your financial recovery. Call your EAP to be directed to an accredited, experienced and objective financial counselor.

About Wood & Associates

Wood & Associates is an Employee Assistance Program and behavioral health consulting firm that helps employers maintain productivity, safety and behavioral health in the workplace. Wood & Associates is a pioneer in the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) industry and has served employers and employees in the greater Tampa Bay area and nationwide since 1982. The firm’s diverse group of clients includes a number of major employers who also contract for its mental health and substance abuse services.

Gary L. Wood, Psy.D., founder of the Wood & Associates consulting practice, is a pioneer in the field of Employee Assistance Program

(EAP) services. Since 1979, his practice has centered on providing solutions to employee and organizational problems. Wood is a licensed clinical psychologist, a member of the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology, and a graduate of Rutgers University, West Georgia College and Mercer University.

Patricia N. Alexander earned a Ph.D. in mental health counseling at the University of Florida. Trained in critical incident stress management through the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, she is a Florida Licensed Mental Health Counselor and nationally certified counselor. Through her work experience she has addressed all types of critical incident situations, including explosions, multiple homicides, suicides, line-of-duty deaths, serious accidents and robberies. Alexander conducts training on stress management for law enforcement and businesses, and has developed peer support programs for law enforcement and industry. Alexander is an educator and consultant on a wide variety of behavioral health concerns.