

HYATTSVILLE, MD – Today, Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) joined the Housing Initiative Partnership (HIP) and the Hispanic Communications Network for the launch of the Sustainable Hispanic Homeownership Program and Educational Outreach Campaign.

“Foreclosure continues to be a serious problem for Prince George’s County, where over one third of the residents are behind on their mortgage,” **stated Congressman Hoyer**. “The Hispanic population in this county has been particularly hard hit – by both predatory lenders and the economic downturn. In order to help these homeowners, I support the Housing Initiative Partnership’s Sustainable Hispanic Homeownership Program and Educational Outreach Campaign, which reaches out to Hispanic homeowners and connects them with bilingual counselors at a trustworthy counseling agency. Programs like HIP have provided free counseling to thousands of struggling homeowners to help them avoid the devastating effects of foreclosure, and as long as foreclosures continue to impact our community, I will continue working to ensure that these responsible homeowners have our support and every available resource to help them stay in their homes.”

In 2009, Congressman Hoyer secured \$500,000 in the FY 2010 Budget to support the hiring of bilingual housing counselors in order to minimize foreclosures and increase homeownership preparedness, particularly in the Spanish-speaking community in Maryland. This funding will also provide for media outreach to the hardest hit and isolated Spanish-speaking communities in the Washington Metropolitan area.

For more information on the Housing Initiative Partnership, [click here](#) .

For more information on the Hispanic Communications Network, [click here](#) .