



## **Getting Out From Under Water: Tools for Helping NJ Families Facing Foreclosures**

### **Panelists**

#### **Elyse D. Cherry ~ @BoCoCapital Boston Community Capital**

Elyse D. Cherry is CEO of Boston Community Capital (BCC), a 30 year old non-profit Community Development Financial Institution whose mission is to building healthy communities where low income people live and work. She is also President of BCC's Venture Fund, Aura Mortgage Advisors and NSP Residential affiliates. Cherry helped found BCC in 1984, and has been integrally involved in its growth from a start-up organization to what is, today, a national model for community investment. Under her leadership, BCC has invested more than \$1 billion in underserved communities, financing affordable housing and creating jobs and opportunities for low-income people. BCC's innovative foreclosure relief program, the SUN Initiative, helps homeowners facing foreclosure or eviction to remain in their homes by providing new affordable 30 year fixed-rate mortgages.

#### **Peter Grof ~ @NJCLF New Jersey Community Capital**

Peter Grof joined New Jersey Community Capital in 2009 and serves as Deputy to the President. As Deputy, he provides essential support to the President by managing relationships with funders and partners; coordinating responses to external requests; and overseeing special projects. Prior to joining NJCC, Mr. Grof spent time as both a Wachovia Bank/Department of Community Affairs Housing Scholar for the City of Newark and an AmeriCorps VISTA member working for the New Jersey Community Development Corporation. Mr. Grof holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Master of Public Policy with a concentration in Community Development from Rutgers University.

#### **Stefanie Kavookjian Wynne ~ @AHA\_housingall Affordable Housing Alliance**

Stefanie assists in the management of the agency's affordable rental and sale programs as well as housing counseling and Superstorm Sandy assistance programs. For the past seven years, she has specialized in counseling at risk borrowers by offering loss mitigation assistance to avoid foreclosure. She frequently presents on homeowner options for avoiding foreclosure as well as loan modification scam prevention tips to community stakeholders. She is also responsible for the majority of the outreach the department provides to local communities and residents. She has studied the psychosocial effects that foreclosure has on families and individuals. Stefanie has a Masters in Social Work from Monmouth University and a Bachelor's Degree in International Affairs from The George Washington University in Washington, DC.

### **Moderator**

#### **Pilar Hogan Closkey ~ @sjscamden Saint Joseph's Carpenter Society**

Pilar joined the Carpenter Society in 1998 as the Operations Manager and, in 2004, was named the Executive Director. Saint Joseph's Carpenter Society has developed over 800 units of housing including partnering on the Baldwin's Run development and is now actively working to improve other Camden neighborhoods outside of East Camden. She has served on the Network's Board of Directors since 2009.