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Foreclosure-prevention seminar Saturday at UCLC

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A free "Keep Your Home" foreclosure-prevention event will be held Saturday at the University Center of Lake County.

The program, scheduled from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 1200 University Center Drive, Grayslake, offers help for those in danger of losing their homes to foreclosure.

The event is sponsored by Attorneys' Title Guaranty Fund, Inc., and Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago, in partnership with The Chicago Community Trust, the Lake County Bar Association and the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court of Lake County.

More than 100 volunteer real estate attorneys and HUD-certified counselors, nearly half Spanish-speaking, will provide free, loan modification application assistance and information to at-risk homeowners. Participants' paperwork will be reviewed to determine if they qualify for assistance under the Obama Homeowner Affordability and Stability Plan. If so, an application will be prepared and submitted to the loan servicer via the Internet.

Specifics about the event -- who's qualified, what to bring and other key details -- can be found at www.atgf.com/tabid/1144/Default.aspx.

The fourth quarter of 2009 had the highest level of foreclosure filing activity for any quarter since the foreclosure crisis began in 2006.

Lake County foreclosures increased 36 percent from 2008 to 2009, with nearly 5,600 new foreclosures filed.

The Illinois Housing Development Authority, the Regional Home Ownership Preservation Initiative, the Lake County Community Foundation and Spanish Coalition for Housing are also event sponsors.