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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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FREE ELGIN CLINIC SCHEDULED TO OFFER ‘HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS’

Assistance, information, and counseling services available at homeowner workshop

GENEVA - Kane County and the City of Elgin will present a free homeowner clinic later this month to assist residents with everything from home-repair programs to foreclosure prevention counseling. The open-house-style event will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, September 20, in the Heritage Ballroom at the Centre of Elgin, 100 Symphony Way, Elgin. Community leaders and housing experts will be on-hand to provide information and assistance to area homeowners. Additional information is available at www.countyofkane.org.

The Elgin workshop is the third of four clinics scheduled throughout Kane County as part of the “Help for Homeowners” initiative. Clinics were held earlier this summer in Carpentersville and Geneva, and one is scheduled for Aurora on October 18. At each event, information and confidential counseling services are offered in both English and Spanish to residents with questions about the home buying process and avoiding foreclosure. Information regarding housing rehab/repair programs, first-time homebuyer assistance, and property tax exemptions for homeowners will also available.

“Kane County is working closely with our area housing agencies and municipalities to make sure that homeowners know what options are available to them – and these community clinics are a key part of that effort,” said Karen McConnaughay, Kane County Board Chairman. “This effort is about getting information to all of our residents and communities, and we will continue to look for new venues to accomplish that goal. We are especially pleased to have our Supervisor of Assessments Office available for this clinic so that homeowners can immediately review their current property tax exemptions and see if they qualify for additional exemptions.”

Launched by the Kane County Board in June, “Help for Homeowners” is a comprehensive public information campaign aimed at alerting residents of the many homeowner services and resources that are available – from emergency repair assistance and property tax exemptions, to property tax freeze options and foreclosure prevention counseling. Paid for through Riverboat Grant dollars, the effort comes at no additional cost to taxpayers.

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