# The Objective Accelerate Participation in the SUN foreclosure prevention program

# **Four Integrated Strategies**

## 1. Achieve credibility through 3rd party affiliations

Establish multiple referral networks for applicants.

**Tactics**: Seek 25 partners to host speakers and distribute materials thru internal networks.

## 2. Quantify response & result

Generate validation points for promotion, partners, potential applicants.

**Tactics**: Track sources of referrals; monitor internal response rates; record time-to-approval and immediately update & promote number of approvals.

## 3. Organize assets

Establish, speakers bureau and develop templates for educational materials incorporating call-to-action that can be quickly and inexpensively reproduced for 3rd party distribution.

**Tactics:** Email invitations, flyers, newsletter ads, web ads for partner sites banners, brochures, posters w/response cards

## 4. Extend validation thru sustained outreach

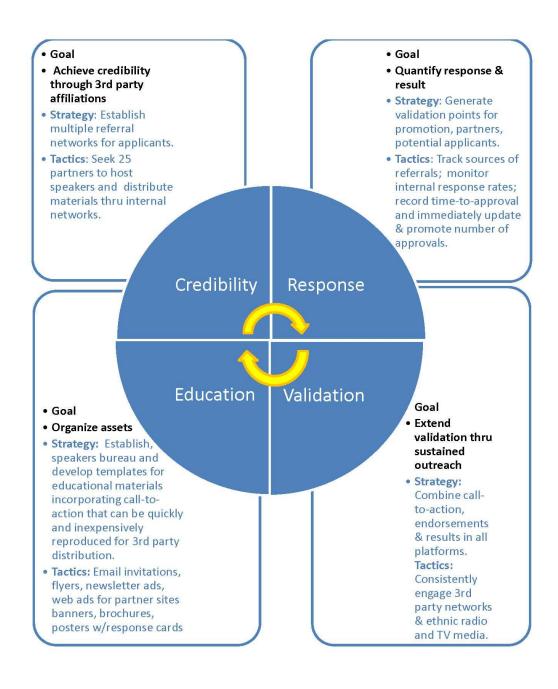
Combine call-to-action, endorsements & results in all platforms.

**Tactics:** Consistently engage 3rd party networks & ethnic radio and TV media.

## Rationale for integrating strategies

If we implement solutions to problems that are not strategically aligned, we may expend time and resources on tactics that do not support a measurable objective.

# Plan Objective: Accelerate Participation Four Strategies



# Content Guide

### **Success measurements**

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# How the strategies work together

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## Success Measurement for the Integrated Approach

(Established in BCC/SUN meeting of 6/27/11)

Increase # of qualified SUN applicants to: 120 per month From current # of average referrals to SUN: 46 per month

## Example: Breakdown of Weekly Referrals to SUN for May and June 2011

Week of May 1: 11
Week of May 8: 14
Week of May 15: 11

Week of May 22: 9 **45 in May 2011** 

Week of May 29: 13 Week of June 5: 7 Week of June 12: 10

Week of June 19: 16 **46 in June 2011** 

Preliminary Results of Integrated Approach: 5x increase per month overall Increase in average of monthly referrals to SUN: from 46 to 210 per month

# Example: Breakdown of Weekly Referrals for September and October 2011

Week of Sept 5 31 (no TV) Week of Sept 12 34 (no TV)

Week of Sept 19 17 (\*\*incomplete report includes 6 Fox News referrals)

Week of Sept 26 108 (includes 73 Fox News referrals)

190 in Sept 2011

Week of Oct 3 44 (includes 20 Fox News referrals)
Week of Oct 10 48 (includes 12 Fox News referrals)

Week of Oct 17 61 (includes 24 Brockton Enterprise; 8 Fox News referrals)
Week of Oct 24 79 (includes 11 Brockton Enterprise; 38 Fox News referrals)

232 in Oct 2011

# Strategy #1: Achieve credibility through 3<sup>rd</sup> party affiliations

Goal A: Secure endorsements from trusted community leaders and elected officials

Tactics: SUN secured permission to re-publish favorable comments from the Mayor of

**Boston and the Mayor of Revere** 

Example: Mayor Menino's comments were incorporated into the banner of a bulleted Fact Sheet and

Q&A (below) that became leading handouts in the campaign. These were also published in

Spanish. See Portfolio B - C for full-size PDFs



The following handout featured quotes of Mayors of Boston and Revere and was published in four languages:

English, Spanish, Haitian Creole and Portuguese See Portfolio D full-size PDF



Strategy #1: Achieve credibility through 3<sup>rd</sup> party affiliations

Goal B: Establish multiple referral networks

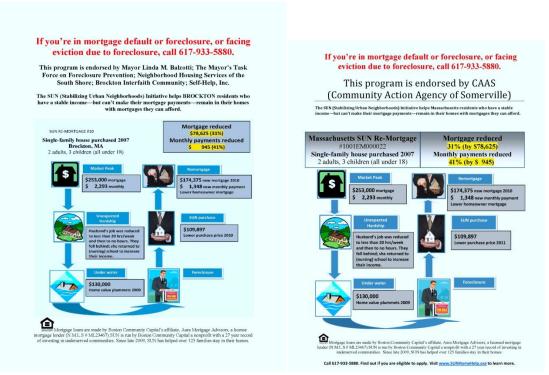
Tactics: SUN circulated outreach materials to- and developed an extensive network of oneon-one relationships with contacts at – See Portfolio W to view copies of community outreach contact summaries submitted for July-Aug-Sept-Oct

- foreclosure agencies
- legal services organizations
- municipal development corporations
- community action agencies
- veterans officers organizations
- interfaith organizations
- state housing financing agencies
- credit unions
- neighborhood housing service agencies
- affordable housing specialists
- government officials

Example:

Illustrated case studies serve a dual purpose in the outreach effort - illustrating the dollars and cents benefits of the SUN program - and providing a platform for endorsements. See Portfolio E – F full-size case studies in PDF.

The flyer (**below left**) was reprinted in English, Spanish, Portuguese and Haitian Creole and circulated extensively by its endorsers - the *Brockton Mayor's Task Force on Housing and Foreclosure*. The same flyer (**below right**) with a few easy content edits also provides an endorsement platform for a handout for *Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS)*. See Portfolio G-H for English and Haitian versions of the flyer with a CAAS headline.



Strategy #2: Quantify response and result

**Goal C:** Track Sources of Referrals

**Tactics:** Outgoing activity: SUN outreach team submits monthly summary of community

partners with whom we met and/or shared information

**Incoming activity:** SUN coordinators circulate weekly referral source report

**Example:** Note correlations between monthly outgoing (left) vs. 1-week incoming (right)

## Sept 12-16 weekly referral report excerpt

Lakay Legal Clinic/Hyde Park	
Christ King Church/Brockton	
SUN/Lawrence	
Neighborhood Group/Brockton	

# Sept 2011 Summary of community outreach Foreclosure Agencies

- Brian Moriarty, Neighborhood Housing Services, Brockton
- David Magalhaes, Affordable Housing Specialist, Community Development/New Bedford, MA

#### Other

- Frank Carvalho, Mill Cities Community Investment-Lowell
- Beth Britz, ELL Counselor, Somerville Schools
- Leo MacNeil, SVP Community Services, Harbor One Credit Union, Brockton

#### **Religious organizations**

 Carol Delorey, Brockton Interfaith Community Government

#### Government

- Robert Jenkins, **Brockton** Redevelopment Authority
- Maureen Moriarty, Relationship Manager, MassHousing Finance Agency
- Melissa McWhinney, Advocacy Director,
   Community Development Agency of Somerville
- Larry Cassava, Deputy Director Community Development, Fitchburg, MA
- Angelo Nuby, MassHousing Finance Agency
- Jonelle Kusminsky, Program Director Support Services, CASPAR
- Jack Wier, Personal Finance Counselor, Massachusetts Family Program Office
- David Farrell, Director Veterans Services,
   Brockton
- Francisco Toro, Director Veterans Services,
   Chelsea
- Marc Dohan, Twin Cities Development Corporation, Fitchburg, MA

Chrisois/Brockton	
City Life/Brockton	
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City Life/Revere	
SUN/Dorchester	
City Life/Randolph	
Cable Channel/Revere	Э
Denise/Abington	
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Google/Randolph	
Greater Four Corners  Coalition/Dorchester	Action
City Life/Boston	
City Life/Hyde Park	
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Friend/Stoughton	kton church
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# Strategy #2: Quantify response and result

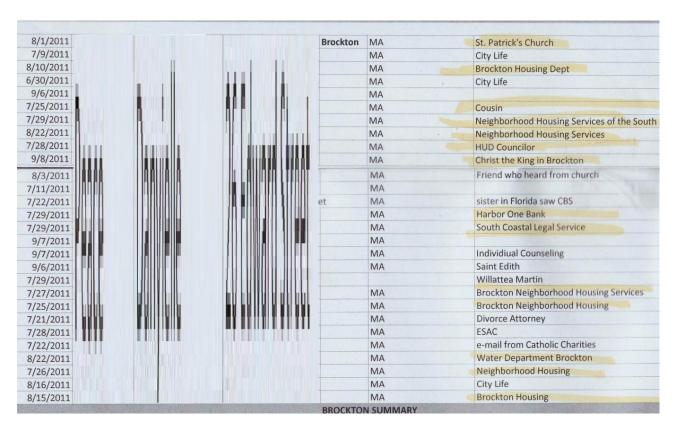
# **Goal D:** Provide update and Feedback to Referral Sources

**Tactics:** An informal feedback loop exists with the Brockton Task Force whereby

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## Example:

marketing outreach counts weekly referrals and notifies their Task Force leader. The current process could be strengthened / improved by consistently generating monthly, city-based reports that provide a comprehensive list of referrals /by city/by date per the example below. The list below was generated on 9/12/11 by Encompass. Names/ addresses are removed to preserve the privacy of the applicants.



## **Additional Strategic Considerations**

### \*a. Generating a comprehensive city-based list of referrals—

- makes it possible for the local groups to measure the impact of their efforts;
- helps create a sense of anticipation/competitiveness on the part of the referrers;
- could be an additional duty assigned to whomever circulates the weekly referral list in-house

### \*\*b. Generating a list of closings circulated on a monthly basis-

- helps reinforce the same goals articulated in a – on an additional level.

### Strategy #3: Organize Assets

## Goal E: Systematize outreach to the community

**Tactics:** Systematize Community Outreach

**Examples:** 

- a. Contact management system. As a nonprofit, Boston Community Capital qualified for and obtained 10 free licenses to Salesforce.com (<a href="http://foundation.force.com/products\_donation\_eligibility">http://foundation.force.com/products\_donation\_eligibility</a>).
   This premier database enables us to store documents, automatically record emails, telephone conversations and importantly, share this information with licensed users across a cloud-based system.
- b. Speaker's Bureau. SUN's partnerships with city-wide groups typically begin with in-person briefings. -Initially, we met informally with groups and passed out copies of the fact sheet, case studies and FAQ. It was perhaps too informal a step-by-step presentation that covers all the bases and ensures consistency is preferable. In October 2011, SUN invited a small group of foreclosure counselors to the office for a more formalized presentation. It explained in detail exactly how the SUN program works. See Portfolio I, SUN overview for foreclosure counselors for a PDF copy of a 20-slide ppt presentation, which was put together by Jessica Brooks and very warmly received.
- c. Door to Door campaigns through existing community organizer networks
   A 1 Pg / double-sided FAQ answered some of the more complex questions (e.g., loan loss reserve; shared appreciation; interest rate) in a concise, yet comprehensive way.
   Black & white is inexpensive to reprint; it also faxes and copies more readably than color.
   See Portfolio J for a B&W copy of "Getting prepared for your application" which the foreclosure counselors found very useful.
- d. 10 Full color case studies (i.e., one of which provided the basis for the community-based endorsements) are also being circulated by third party groups to help explain the program. See Portfolio K-L-M to view series of 9 case studies (and case key) based on real-life numbers/homeowner mortgages
- e. Newsletters for hospitals and insurance groups and other variations on community-based networks often requested copy they could reprint SUN responded with a written narrative about the product and how to apply. See Portfolio N

Strategy #4: Extend validation thru sustained outreach

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## Goal F: Combine call-to-action, endorsements & results in all platforms.

**Tactics:** Consistently engage 3rd party networks & ethnic radio and TV media.

#### a. Media – Paid and Unpaid

Local TV interviews with Elyse Cherry had the largest effect in comparison to every other outreach. These were orchestrated by Jessica Brooks working with a NYC PR firm.

68 referrals (out of a record-setting/highest total of 108) for week ending 9/30/2011 for a Fox News interviews - <a href="http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/news/special reports/local-program-helping-families-facing-foreclosure-20110922">http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/news/special reports/local-program-helping-families-facing-foreclosure-20110922</a>

35 referrals (out of a 2nd highest total of 80) for the week ending 10/28 for a Fox morning news feature - <a href="http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/morning/boston-community-capital-20111027">http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/morning/boston-community-capital-20111027</a> See Portfolio O-P for the referral list – minus names to preserve privacy.

b. Paid media—Lacking close personal contact and recognizable third party validation, paid media has not virtually no impact.

Negligible. Radio ads. Close to \$40,000 was spent on radio ads in the early days of the program

**Negligible Bus stop advertisements.** A five figure budget was dedicated to this effort in the early days of the program with a very limited impact.

**Negligible. El Mundo. A 10 week Spanish-language ad campaign costing \$4600** + design fees. The publisher also provided two full-page color ads – to replace two half page ads – at no extra charge.

c. Community and Regional Newspapers: Impact ranges from good, to great, to negligible

**Good.** The Revere Journal. <a href="http://www.reverejournal.com/2011/03/30/sun-rising-program-povides-dynamic-assistance-to-homeowners-in-crisis/">http://www.reverejournal.com/2011/03/30/sun-rising-program-povides-dynamic-assistance-to-homeowners-in-crisis/</a>

A Mar 2011 interview generated 10 referrals – a significant number at that time. It featured a front-page endorsement by the Mayor. Perhaps more important, referrals have continued to come in from Revere. See Portfolio Q to read that story.

**Great. Brockton Enterprise.** A 10/16/11 interview with the SUN client (i.e., the real-life subject of the case study featured in the Brockton citywide flyer effort); Elyse Cherry and supporting commentary from the head of the Brockton Mayor's Task Force generated **46 referrals over a 3 week period.** <a href="http://www.enterprisenews.com/answerbook/brockton/x1876834993/Stabilizing-Urban-Neighborhoods-program-helps-homeowners-stay-in-their-homes#ixzz1aysaRkYN">http://www.enterprisenews.com/answerbook/brockton/x1876834993/Stabilizing-Urban-Neighborhoods-program-helps-homeowners-stay-in-their-homes#ixzz1aysaRkYN</a>. **See Portfolio R to read that story.** 

#### Negligible. Chelsea Record.

A 7.28.11 interview kindly arranged by Eliza Parad of Chelsea Collaborative featured her first SUN client closing his mortgage in Chelsea. She reported that she received no calls from potential clients. See Portfolio S to read that story.

## **Preliminary Conclusion**

The vast majority of outreach efforts currently underway, especially including the public relations efforts orchestrated by Jessica Brooks, have been measurably successful. Most notably, paid media – whether it was paid radio, paid print in Latino media, or billboards at bus stops, has had a negligible effect. There are not currently a wide of activities; rather there is a narrowly focused set of activities, which may be an important/revealing key to success.