

Meeting Summary
StateStat website, April 27, 2010

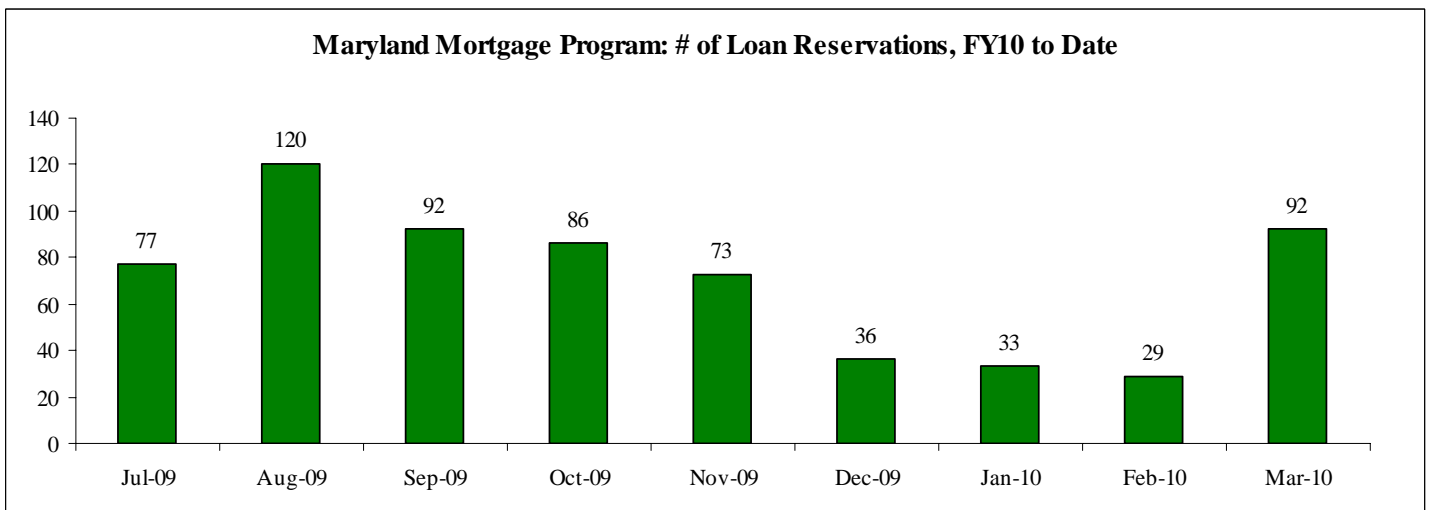
Agency: DHCD

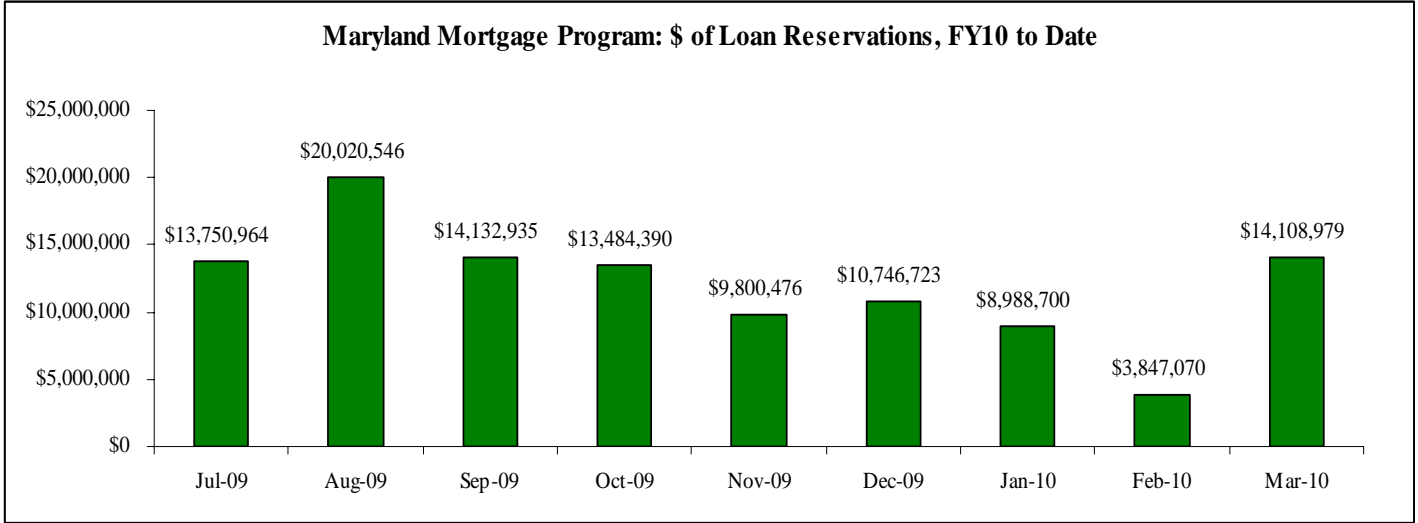
Date of Meeting: April 22, 2010

Following is a summary of issues discussed at the DHCD Stat on April 22, 2010. Analysis is provided by StateStat and the Governor’s Delivery Unit (GDU).

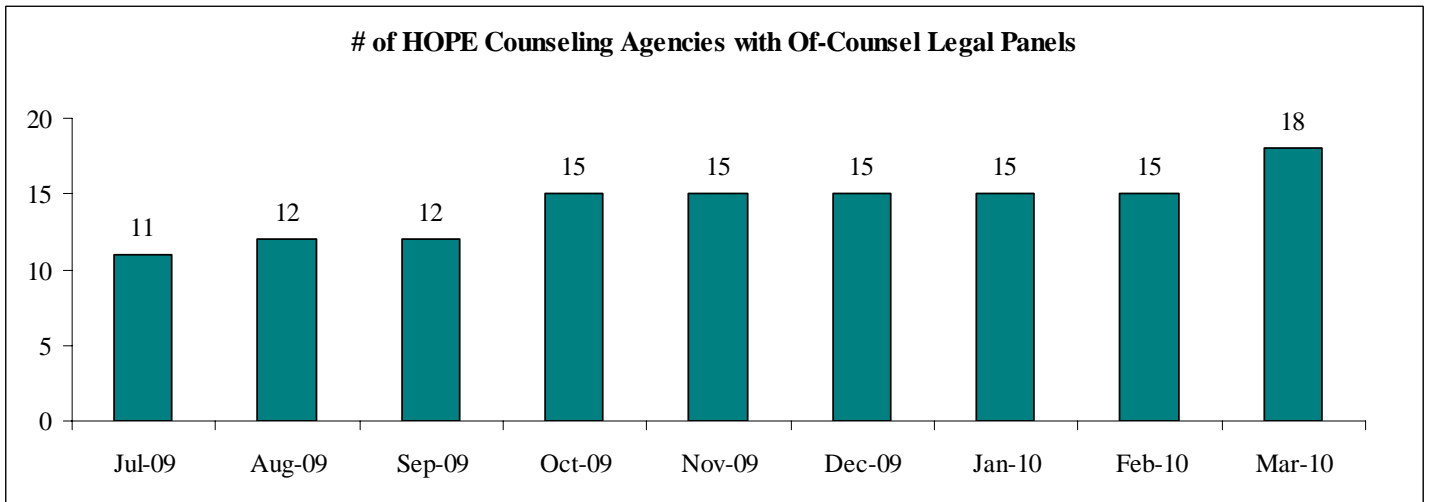
General Discussion

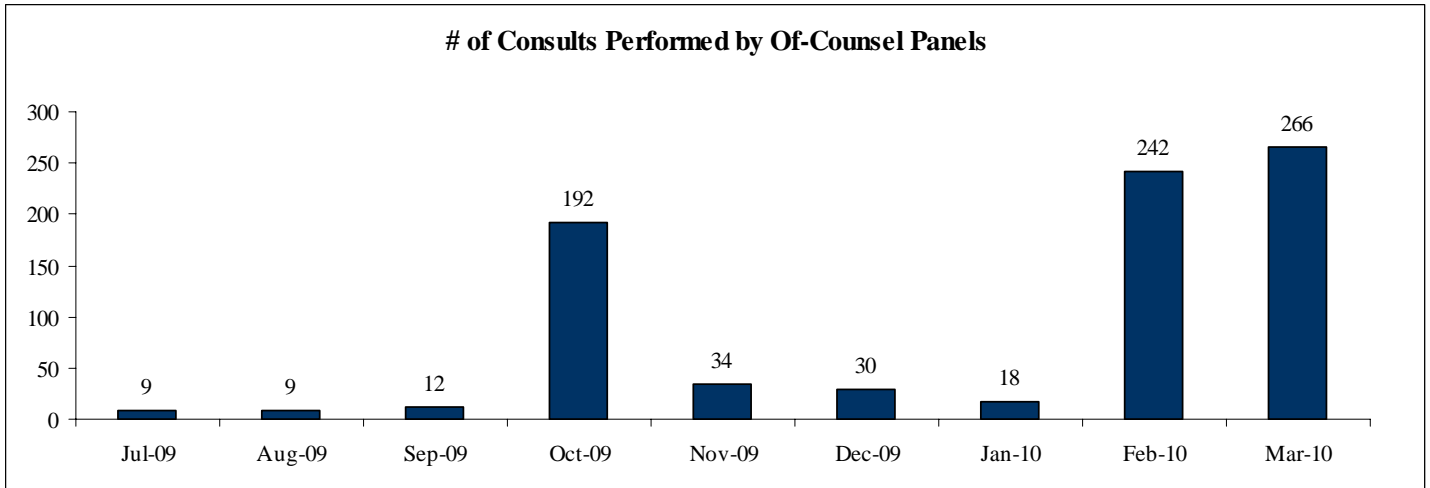
- **U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) Retrofit Ramp-Up Initiative.** DHCD announced that its “Investment in Main Street: Energy Efficiency for Economic Growth” plan received a \$20 million grant from USDOE. The DHCD plan is a community-based approach targeting individual households, multifamily rental and commercial properties for energy-efficiency retrofits. DHCD secured the grant by winning a competitive awards process under USDOE’s Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program. DHCD is estimating that 5,400 jobs could potentially be created and 4,000 families could benefit from the grant, with 2,100 jobs created and 2,000 families benefitting from energy efficiency retrofits within 3 years. The target communities for the grant will be communities that are current participants in the Main Street Maryland Program.
- **Maryland Mortgage Program.** After announcing that interest rates under the Maryland Mortgage Program will be lowered from 5.75% to 5.25%, the program experienced a boon in activity in March. As outreach efforts intensify and interest rates from competitors rise, DHCD expects loan activity by the Maryland Mortgage Program to continue to rise.



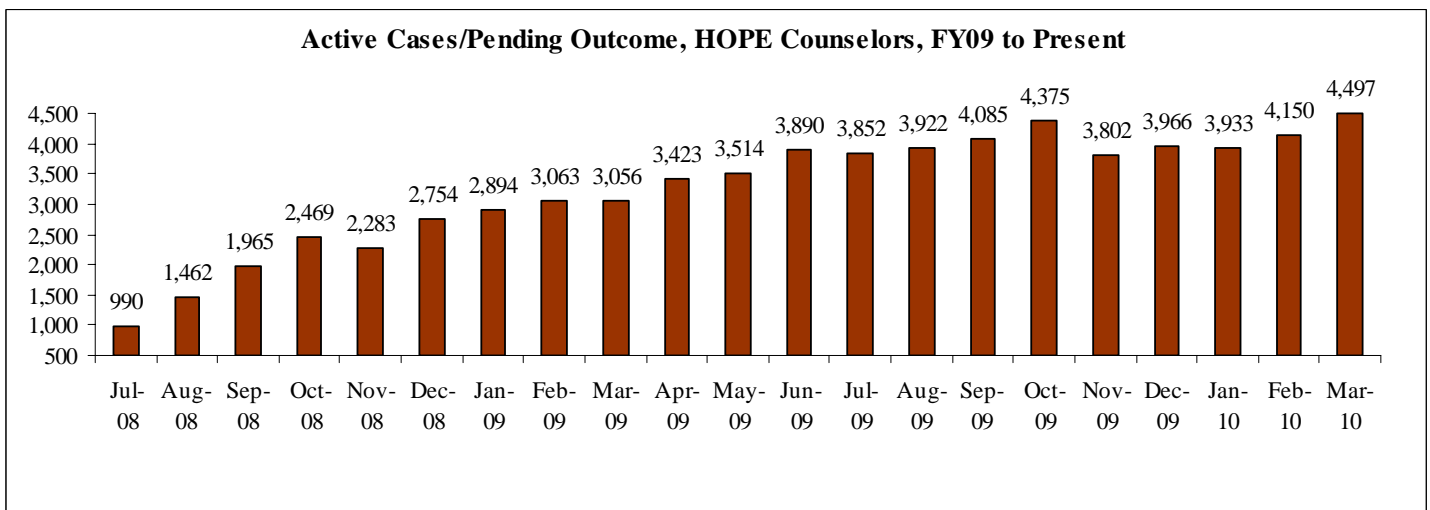


- HOPE Legal Panels.** DHCD commented on the increase in legal assistance offered by HOPE counseling agencies. DHCD believes that there is utility in diverting legal help to communities that are being hit hardest by foreclosures. Since the beginning of FY10, DHCD has increased the number of counseling agencies with of-counsel legal panels from 11 to 18. Over the past two months, legal counseling efforts have intensified, with 508 people being counseled by legal over the last two months, compared to 304 people counseled from July to January.

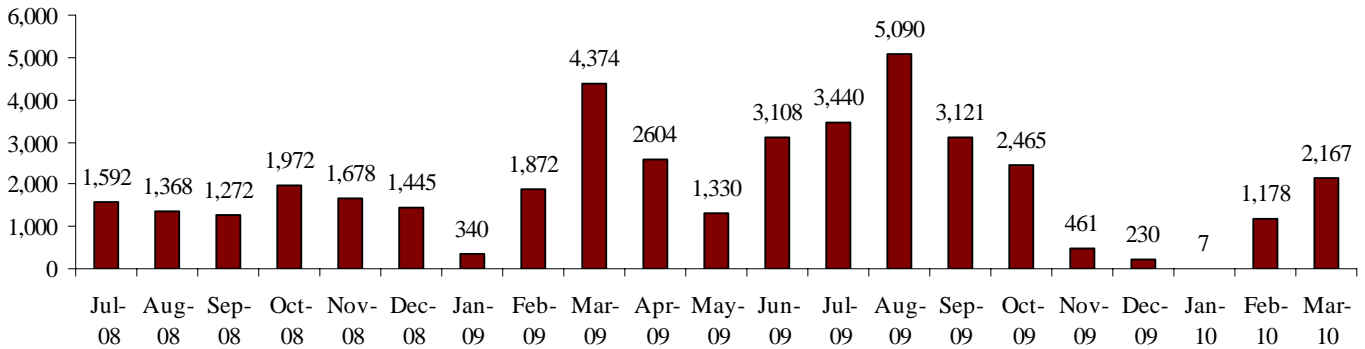




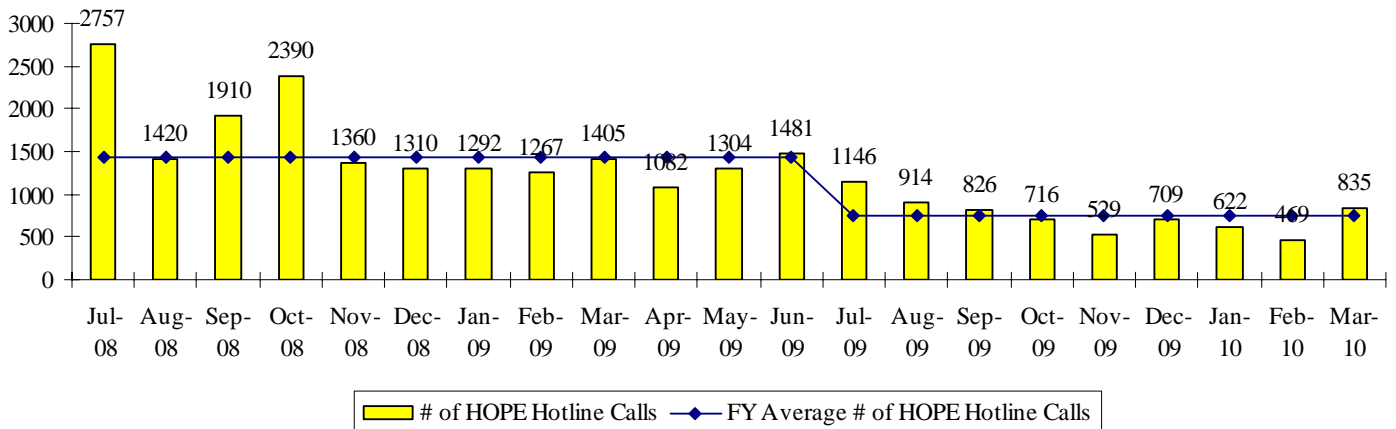
- HOPE Outreach.** After limited activity due to the harsh winter, both attendance at HOPE public events and calls received by the HOPE Hotline increased in March. Additionally, the number of active cases being handled by the HOPE program reached its highest point on record in March. As promotional efforts related to foreclosure mediation legislation passed in April begin to ramp-up, DHCD expects a continued increase in activity among its HOPE counseling programs. DHCD is hopeful that citizens facing mortgage problems will make use of free assistance offered by the agency, so that issues can be resolved before a lender resorts to filing a foreclosure claim against a borrower.



of People Attending Public Events, FY09 to Present

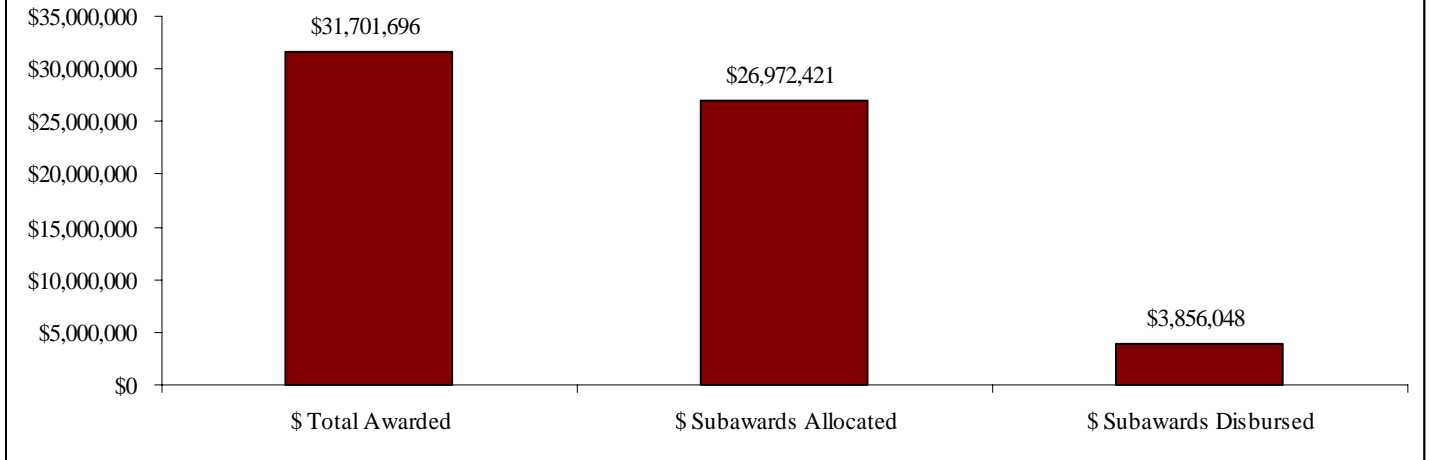


of HOPE Hotline Calls, FY09 to Present



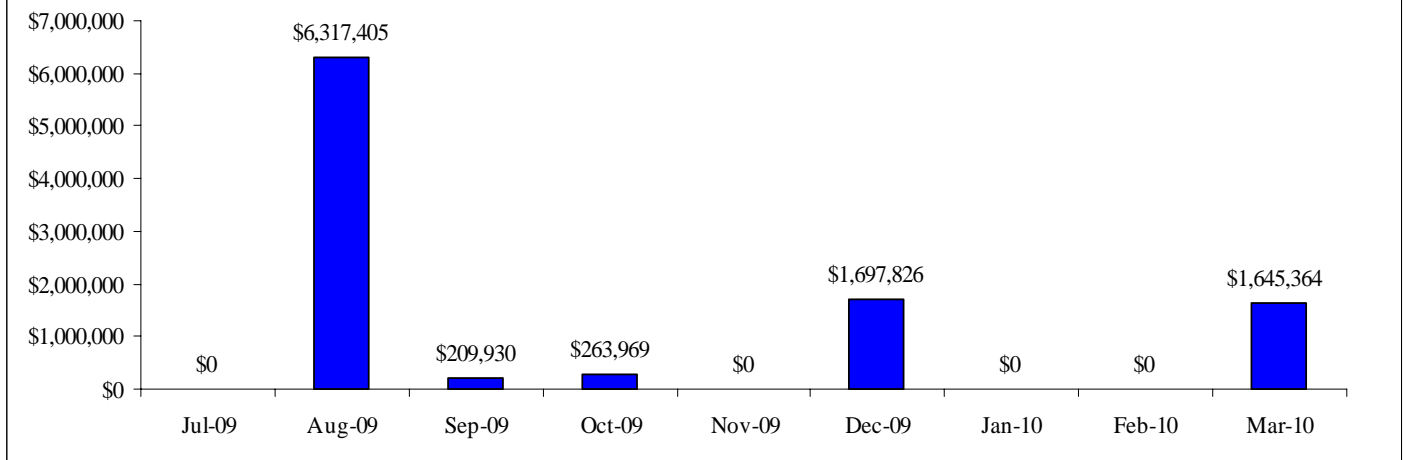
- Tax Credit Assistance Program (TCAP).** DHCD reported that it has closed on all 14 projects receiving grants from the ARRA-funded TCAP, and that all projects were reporting that construction was underway. Approximately \$27 million of the available \$31 million in TCAP grants has been allocated to specific projects. DHCD indicated that disbursement figures under TCAP should begin to rise by the month, as funding under this program can only be disbursed on a construction cost reimbursement basis. The federal government has set a mandate that 75% of TCAP funding must be expended by February 2011, which DHCD believes will be reached with several months left to spare.

Tax Credit Assistance Program: Amount Awarded, Allocated and Disbursed



- Community Service Block Grants (CSBG).** DHCD reported that 17 sub-awards for a total \$13.6 million have been made under CSBG. \$10.1 million, or 74% of the grants have been disbursed to the 17 sub-awardees. Additionally, a total of 345 jobs have been created or retained under CSBG in FY2010. The CSBG Program is designed to help low-income residents in achieve self-sufficiency. The program accomplishes this goal by providing housing assistance, Head Start education, nutrition programs, transportation programs, employment services, emergency shelter and energy assistance to those in need. The program is operated by various Community Action Agencies in different localities throughout the state.

CSBG, Amount Disbursed, FY10 to date



- **Weatherization.** ARRA-funded weatherization production continued to increase in March, with 203 total units receiving weatherization assistance. Despite weather-related setbacks, DHCD expects to weatherize close to 300 ARRA-funded units in April. DHCD believes that ARRA-funded weatherization production should reach USDOE monthly goal levels by June.

