



For Immediate Release

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Business & Community Lenders of Texas Supports Extension of Homebuyer Tax Credit

Urges Homebuyers to Seek Homeownership Education Prior to Home Purchase

Austin, TX — Business & Community Lenders (BCL) of Texas applauds the latest decision by Congress and the Obama Administration to renew the homebuyer tax credit and make the credit available to both first-time homebuyers and repeat homeowners who have lived in their homes for five years.

Regardless of whether you are a first-time homebuyer or an existing homeowner ready to make your next home purchase, BCL of Texas urges all homebuyers in Central Texas to seek homeownership education from a HUD-approved nonprofit organization, like BCL of Texas, before purchasing a home.

Participation in homeownership education helps homebuyers determine if they are ready for homeownership. Through classroom and BCL's online homeownership education, potential homebuyers will:

- Assess their financial situation and determine if their financial house in order;
- Decide how much home they can afford, in terms of both cost and size;
- Understand responsible home financing and which loan products are most appropriate for them;
- Learn how to adequately maintain a home after purchase.

For 19 years, BCL of Texas, a local NeighborWorks organization, has worked with over 5000 homebuyers to help them achieve their dream of long-term homeownership.

With the addition of BCL's online homebuyer education BCL has assisted over 250 families in the last three months, providing them with a simple and easy alternative for families who can not find a babysitter, getting off from work, give up a weekend or week day, or travel more than 15 miles to a class.

We have trained counselors on-staff ready to advise families one-on-one and help them make the right homeownership choices for them. To find out more about our online or classroom homeownership education courses, please visit www.bclhomeownershipcenter.org or call 512-383-0025.



About BCL of Texas

Established in 1990 as a statewide not-for-profit Certified Development Corporation, BCL of Texas successfully promotes business and community development and provides business capital and commercial real estate loans throughout Texas. True to its mission to create jobs through business development, BCL of Texas has helped to create jobs for more than 3,500 Texans. In addition to providing businesses with counseling and technical assistance, BCL of Texas originates, underwrites, processes, closes and services business loans to healthy, growing businesses. The organization also offers homeownership program, helping customers remain responsible and successful homeowners. BCL of Texas is a member of the nationwide NeighborWorks® Network, which engages in revitalization strategies that strengthen communities and transform lives. For more information go to www.bcloftexas.org or <http://www.bclhomeownershipcenter.org>

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