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## **DELAWARE STATE HOUSING AUTHORITY HOMEBUYER FAIR IS GREAT SUCCESS**

**April 8, 2014 – (Wilmington, DE)** – The Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA), in partnership with The Money School and the Delaware Federation of Housing Counselors, held its annual Homebuyer Fair on Saturday, April 5, 2014, at the Chase Center on the Riverfront in Wilmington, Delaware. The Fair – geared toward providing prospective homebuyers with the opportunity to learn about the steps in purchasing a home – was a great success for the fourth year in a row.

Approximately 400 Delawareans turned out to the event to hear a variety of homeownership topics to help them attain the dream of owning their own home. Mini seminars were held through the Delaware Federation of Housing Counseling Agencies on topics such as budgeting and personal finance, financial and tax planning, strategies for finding and negotiating on a property, DSHA's Homeownership Programs, and preparing for loan closing.

DSHA Director Anas Ben Addi noted, "Thanks to all of our sponsors and exhibitors for participating in our 4<sup>th</sup> annual homebuyer fair. This event was by far the biggest and most well attended fair we have hosted. I would like to express our sincerest thanks to DSHA staff, our generous partners, sponsors, and exhibitors – and especially to U.S. Senator Chris Coons, U.S. Congressman John Carney, and State Representative Stephanie Bolden – for coming out and supporting the event. We exceeded our expectations for the number of attendees spending their Saturday learning about the many home buying related products and services available to them."



**DSHA Staff and Senator Coons**

*L to R: Jatoya Garnett, Deb Whidden, Gary Hecker, Senator Chris Coons, Pamela Spencer, Brian Rossello, Cynthia Karnai, DSHA Director Anas Ben Addi*

Nate Paustian, of Wilmington, attended Saturday's event along with his wife, Kelly. Nate commented, "This is such a great event filled with lots of information. I would recommend it for anyone looking to buy their first home. We feel better prepared and are looking forward to getting the process started."

More than 50 exhibitors were on hand to answer questions on mortgages, insurance, home repair, inspections, and budgeting. They also gave attendees a chance to win giveaways including a 37-inch LED TV, iPad Mini, iPod Nano, gift baskets, and gift cards.

Keeping with the spirit of DSHA's mission, surplus food was donated to the Sunday Breakfast Mission to support their efforts in feeding the homeless.



**Staff from DSHA and the Sunday Breakfast Mission load surplus lunches to distribute to the homeless.**

*L to R: Gary Hecker, DSHA; Obie Osbourne, SBM; George Buckner, SBM; Anas Ben Addi, DSHA Director*

For photos from the event, please visit DSHA's website at [www.destatehousing.com](http://www.destatehousing.com) and check out the DSHA Flickr photo stream:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/destatehousing/sets/72157643587342475/>.

### **About the Delaware State Housing Authority**

The Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA), formed in 1968, is dedicated to providing quality, affordable housing opportunities and appropriate supportive services to low- and moderate-income Delawareans. In addition to its role as the State's Housing Finance Agency, DSHA is unique in that it also serves as a Public Housing Authority and acts as a Community Development and Planning Agency. As a Public Housing Authority, DSHA receives funding from HUD to build, own and operate public housing in Kent and Sussex counties, two of Delaware's three counties. For more information about the Delaware State Housing Authority, please call: (888) 363-8808 or visit our website at [www.destatehousing.com](http://www.destatehousing.com).