

Breaking the

**BARRIERS**

to

Home  
Ownership

*"The American Dream of Home Ownership  
Can Come True..."*



Long Island Home Purchase Process Initiative  
(LIHPPI)

## What is LIHPPI

On Long Island, as in many communities, providing fair and equal access to affordable home ownership opportunities is a challenge. The Long Island Home Purchase Process Initiative (LIHPPI) is an effort by professionals involved in the home-selection and purchase process to eliminate potentially discriminatory practices that affect prospective home buyers.

LIHPPI was designed to shed light on the entire home purchase process and the industries involved. It attempts to isolate areas where discrimination or other barriers to home ownership may occur and identify solutions to issues raised by industry experts.

## How Can LIHPPI Help

LIHPPI recognizes that buying a home on Long Island is a dream for many families. The information contained in this brochure will help make the process... and your dream a reality.

## Fair Housing

Make certain that you understand your rights.

The following can provide you with information on fair housing and assist you in finding an attorney, when the time is right.

**LI Housing Services** ----- (516) 582-2727

**Nassau Bar Association** ----- (516) 747-4070

**Suffolk Bar Association** ----- (516) 234-5511

**Nassau/Suffolk** ----- (516) 292-8100

**Law Services**

## Finding a Home

Call your local Town Hall to find out what affordable housing programs are available.

- Contact Not-For-Profit Housing Agencies
- Look in Friday's Real Estate section of *Newsday*
- Check your local circulars

## Know Your Credit

It is important to know what your credit looks like before you go shopping for a home. There are three major credit bureaus that keep credit records.

**TRW/Experian** ----- 1-800-682-7654

**Trans Union** ----- 1-800-916-8800

**Equifax** ----- 1-800-685-1111

## Keeping a Good Rating

If your credit report is wrong, you will need to correct it.

The following organizations provide credit counseling:

### **Cornell Cooperative Extension**

**Suffolk** ----- (516) 727-7850

**Nassau**----- (516) 454-0900

**Family Services League** ----- (516) 587-1906

**Family Services Association**-- (516) 485-4600

## Seminars

There are many local organizations, libraries, banks and adult education courses that offer potential homeowners information and education on the home buying process.

## Websites

If you have access to a computer and the Internet, the following web sites can be fun and informative. Your local library may have Internet access for free.

**HUD** ----- [www.Hudhome.com](http://www.Hudhome.com)

**Fannie Mae** -----[www.Homepath.com](http://www.Homepath.com)

**LIHPPI** ----- [www.LIHOME.com](http://www.LIHOME.com)

# Buying a Home

The Following guides are a recommended starting point for breaking the barrier to home ownership on Long Island. Call and a guide will be sent to you free of charge:

- **Federal Reserve Bank of New York / LIHPPI**  
(212) 720-6134  
“L.I. Home Finance Resource Guide”
- **SONYMA** 1-800-382 -HOME  
“Home Ownership Programs”
- **Fannie Mae** 1-800-834-3377  
“Opening The Door to A Home of Your Own”  
“Choosing The Mortgage That’s Right For You”
- **HUD** 1-800-767-4HUD  
“Consumer Guide Book”

These guides will discuss various mortgage products that are available. They will also specify approved lenders. Remember: Your local community licensed mortgage professional has many mortgage products that can be right for you.

Look in these guides for agencies in your community that provide Housing Counseling.

# LIHPPI

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For additional copies of this brochure, please call (212) 720-6134  
or visit the LIHPPI website at [www.LIHOME.com](http://www.LIHOME.com)