



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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“Preparing for Homeownership”

Virtual Workshop for First-Time Buyers Offered Free to all Rhode Islanders

Live session on Zoom will take participants through the step-by-step process of buying their first home

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – Prospective first-time homebuyers are invited to attend a no-cost, virtual workshop titled “Preparing for Homeownership” on Monday, October 18. The session will be held via Zoom beginning at 5:30 p.m. and is being hosted by Bank Rhode Island (BankRI) and Pawtucket Central Falls Development.

It is geared toward any individual or family interested in buying their first home, whether just starting to consider the steps or already in the midst of the process. The virtual workshop is open to all Rhode Islanders who wish to attend. Those interested are asked to register in advance at: <https://bit.ly/3EnWgAS>.

During the workshop, attendees will learn from members of the PCF Development team, as well as Stephanie Silva, a BankRI mortgage specialist with extensive experience in residential lending. Topics to be covered include affordability, income, understanding debt to income ratio, savings, credit and credit score, and how to strengthen a credit report.

“Buying a home, especially for the first time, is the single biggest investment you can make, and pre-purchase education is such an important part of the process,” said Stephanie Silva. “There is a lot of value in attending this workshop and we’re thrilled to partner with a strong organization in PCF Development to offer it to any and all Rhode Islanders.”

Along with providing expert knowledge to attendees, the workshop serves as an introduction to PCF Development’s eight hour, HUD-approved Homebuyer Education Course. The in-depth, more extensive course is taught using a statewide approved curriculum and offers participants a certificate of completion upon graduation.

PCF Development is a nonprofit community development organization dedicated to the development of high quality affordable housing and neighborhood revitalization. Since 1990, PCF Development has constructed more than 300 affordable rental units and over 100 new affordable homeownership units in Providence County. The Pawtucket Central Falls Home Ownership Program is comprised of financial coaching, homebuyer education, credit counseling, in-house home sales, and post-purchase training.

Questions about the October 18 workshop, or PCF Development’s HUD-approved Homebuyer Education Course, may be directed to Dianny Pena at dpena@pcfdevelopment.org, or at (401) 726-1173 ext. 12.

About Bank Rhode Island

Bank Rhode Island, a wholly owned subsidiary of Brookline Bancorp, Inc. (NASDAQ:BRKL), is a full-service, FDIC-insured financial institution headquartered in Providence, Rhode Island. The bank operates 20 branches and more than 30 ATMs throughout Providence, Kent, Newport and Washington Counties. For more information, visit www.bankri.com. You can also find BankRI on [Facebook](#).

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