



# AHC

AFFORDABLE HOUSING  
CONFERENCE OF  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
MARYLAND

a 501(c)3 organization

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Media Advisory**

### **WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONFERENCE, FOUR 1<sup>ST</sup> TIME HOMEBUYERS SETTLE INTO NEW HOMES.**

The Affordable Housing Conference of Montgomery County held a “Welcome Home” ceremony and photo opportunity with Ike Leggett, on January 15, 2008 for four families who were winners of its “Break the Barrier to Home Ownership” contest.

Three of the new homebuyers purchased homes through Montgomery County’s MPDU program and one homebuyer was assisted by the Housing Opportunities Commission’s Home Purchase Program. All of the families received closing cost assistance from the Affordable Housing Conference and three of its sponsors: Freddie Mac, PNC Bank and Norman Dreyfuss.

Freddie Mac awarded \$10,000 to Kimberly Walker, PNC Bank awarded \$7,500 to Michael and Nicolle Joshua and Norman Dreyfuss awarded \$7,500 to Nia Pree, and \$7,500 to Jose and Nora Valladares.

The AHC “Break the Barrier to Homeownership” contest has become an annual event at the county’s Affordable Housing Conference. To date, the contest has awarded more than \$100,000 to first-time home buyers, making it possible for 15 families to purchase homes in Montgomery County. The winners are chosen on the basis of an essay they each write entitled “What Homeownership Means to Me” and finalist interviews.

The 2008 “Break the Barrier to Home Ownership” contest is underway, right now and the deadline to apply is January 31, 2008. Applicants must complete an application and write a 200-word essay “What Home Ownership Means to Me”. The 2008 application (pdf) can be downloaded at [www.affordablehousingconference.org](http://www.affordablehousingconference.org). For further information, please contact Lise Tracey at 301-520-1587.

