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**CONTACT: Marta Welch- Communications & Outreach Coordinator
Spring Institute for Intercultural Learning
Phone: 303-863-0188 X317 | Email: mwelch@springinstitute.org**

**Colorado Resettlement Agencies and Refugee Leaders Condemn
President Trump's Expected Executive Action on Refugee Resettlement**
Community members decry Trump administration's plans to halt resettlement

Denver, CO - In response to President Trump's anticipated Executive Order limiting refugee resettlement, Colorado resettlement agencies and refugee leaders urge local community members and elected officials to take immediate action in upholding the United States' long history of welcoming refugees and immigrants, regardless of their religion or country of origin.

"The United States of America's core values are rooted in respect and care for the most vulnerable people around the world," said Melissa Theesen, Managing Director of ECDC ACC. "We are demanding continued commitment to our nation's defining tenet of welcoming those suffering persecution and violence."

"Refugees are fleeing the violent extremism our country is trying to defeat. Shutting the door puts lives at risk and does nothing to make us safer. It further harms innocent people--mothers, daughters, fathers and sons--who are in need of a safe, peaceful and secure home where they are free from discrimination" said Jennifer Wilson, Executive Director of the International Rescue Committee in Denver.

Refugee community supporters have coordinated a rally at Lincoln Park and visits to the offices of elected officials on Jan. 26 - 27, to urge the administration to continue the refugee resettlement program.

"Denver has long been a warm and welcoming community for refugees," said Paula Schriefer, President and CEO of Spring Institute, "and we should all work to ensure it remains one."

"Since 1980, Colorado has welcomed nearly 70,000 refugees and other populations of humanitarian concern from countries all over the world. Our economy and community has benefited from the contributions of refugees, employers in all sectors have hired refugees, members of the community have volunteered their time to support them, and they have become full participants in our society," said Theesen.

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ECDC ACC is a branch office of the Ethiopian Community Development Council. ECDC ACC is authorized by the Department of State to resettle refugees in the U.S. and has been welcoming refugees into the Denver metro area for 15 years. ECDC ACC helps refugees build safe, sustainable lives. ECDC ACC is a 501(c)(3) entity. For more information about ECDC ACC, visit www.acc-den.org and follow on [Facebook](#).

The International Rescue Committee in Denver is a local office of the International Rescue Committee (IRC). The IRC responds to the world's worst humanitarian crises, helping to restore health, safety, education, economic wellbeing,

and power to people devastated by conflict and disaster. Founded in 1933 at the call of Albert Einstein, the IRC is at work in over 40 countries and 29 U.S. cities helping people to survive, reclaim control of their future and strengthen their communities. Learn more at www.rescue.org and follow the IRC on [Twitter](#) & [Facebook](#).

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