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**Thai Community Development Center Awarded a Subcontract by**

**US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants to Continue Anti-Trafficking Program**

Los Angeles, CA – The Thai Community Development Center (Thai CDC) was recently awarded a subcontract to continue the anti-trafficking services by a new agency called the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI). The federal government awarded the USCRI to administer the anti-trafficking program nationwide. It was difficult, if not impossible, for even the new contracted agency to dismiss or ignore Thai CDC because our organization has proven to be a leading service provider with the largest number of Thai human-trafficking victims.

Thai CDC's anti-trafficking staff and services are no longer at risk of being eliminated. The USCRI's subcontract will allow Thai CDC to continue our services seamlessly beginning from when the last contract ended with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Migration and Refugee Services (USCCB MRS), which was October 10, 2011. When our contractor USCCB MRS was not awarded the new multi-year federal contract, staff at Thai CDC were concerned about how we were going to raise enough funds to continue staffing the program and serving our clients. This was a multi-year subcontract that had come to an end when our contractor's contract was not renewed. Fortunately, because of our organizations' lobbying efforts, Thai CDC was able to save the anti-trafficking funding from being zeroed out by Congress, allowing the federal government to issue requests for proposals. Though it ended up awarding a new agency, Thai CDC's hard work and perseverance have proven that our organization maintains superior levels of service to the largest number of Thai human-trafficking survivors. Thai CDC has gained its indisputable reputation through dedication, passion and commitment to its goals: helping survivors overcome their trauma, assisting in the development of their survival and self-sufficiency skills, and preparing them to seek redress and restitution through various legal channels.

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) awarded grants to three organizations for its National Human Trafficking Victim Assistance Program. One of the organizations is the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI). The funds will be administered by ACF's Office of Refugee Resettlement.

The central purpose of these grants is to provide comprehensive case management services on a per capita basis to foreign victims and potential victims of trafficking seeking HHS certification in any location in the United States. The primary goal of the comprehensive case management services is to provide for short-term referrals for services and emergency assistance to victims of trafficking during their immediate efforts to obtain HHS certification (or eligibility in the case of a victim under the age of 18) for access to Federal benefits and services to the same extent as refugees.

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