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INTERVIEW ALERT
 For further information contact:
 Nicole Wilett (202) 347-3507
 Evenings: (202) 215-3183

U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) Discusses Long-Term Solutions to Resettle Hurricane Katrina Evacuees

Who? U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI), www.refugees.org

Spokespeople: Lavinia Limón, President & CEO and senior staff.

What? The U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) is a non-profit, nongovernmental organization that has served refugees and immigrants and defended the rights of refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced persons worldwide since 1911. USCRI's national resettlement program and network of community-based partner agencies help thousands of refugees build new lives in the United States each year. USCRI publishes the World Refugee Survey and Refugee Reports.

Where? USCRI's headquarters are in Washington, DC.

When? Senior staff from USCRI are available during regular business hours for interviews or by special arrangement for early morning or evening reports.

Why? USCRI is currently in discussion with federal authorities on options to move assistance efforts from the relief stage to stabilization, planning which we anticipate will include resettlement options for displaced Americans who chose to participate. Every day, non-profit organizations demonstrate their ability to help refugees from all over the world begin new, promising lives in the United States. We now have the opportunity for an impressive civilian response directed at the evacuees of our own national tragedy, Hurricane Katrina. A massive national network of community-based organizations with expertise in the resettlement of displaced persons is poised to permanently relocate interested evacuees from the Gulf states so they can return to work and school. Our network can mobilize to integrate evacuees into new communities, giving them the necessary tools to find new homes, secure transportation, enroll children in schools, and locate local community services.

For more information or to set up an interview, please contact:

Nicole Wilett, Press Officer, USCRI at 202- 347-3507 x 3111 (day), 202-215-3183 (evenings), or nwilett@uscriddc.org.

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