
ECDC NEWS

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 26, 2009

ECDC President Issues Tribute to Senator Kennedy Citing His ‘Enormous Contributions’ to Refugees

Expressing profound gratitude for Senator Ted Kennedy’s “enormous contributions to refugees, immigrants and other valuable populations around the world,” the president of the nation’s only community-based refugee resettlement agency joined mourners in a tribute sent today to a website established by the Committee for a Democratic Society to receive such messages

“He helped strengthen and pass refugee, asylum and immigration laws that preserved and extended America’s heritage of welcome and hospitality,” said Tsehaye Teferra, president of the Ethiopian Community Development, Inc. “He led efforts to alleviate famine in Africa and curb violent tribal and ethnic conflicts on that continent and elsewhere around the globe. Whenever and wherever violations of human rights surfaced, his was the most powerful and effective voice urging action and aid. Though silent now, that voice will echo through future generations and his legacy of compassion, dedication and public service will long endure.”

ECDC is one of nine voluntary agencies working in partnership with the Department of State and the Office of Refugee Resettlement to provide initial placement and support services to refugees being resettled in the United States. With a special focus on African refugees, ECDC promotes cultural, educational and socio-economic development programs to assist refugees and immigrants in becoming productive members of their new homeland.

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