

ECDC NEWS

Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc.

901 S. Highland Street. Arlington, Virginia 22204

Phone: (703) 685-0510 Fax: (703) 685-0529 Email: info@ecdcus.org website: www.ecdcinternational.org

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For more information, contact:

Awel Gheddai (703) 685-0510 Ext. 239

White House Highlights Dr. Tsehaye Teferra as a “Champion of Change” and Trailblazer in American Diaspora Communities

On Monday, January 30, the White House will honor Dr. Tsehaye Teferra as one of fourteen Champions of Change who are leaders in American Diaspora communities with roots in the Horn of Africa. These leaders are helping to build stronger neighborhoods in communities across the country, and are working to mobilize networks across borders to address global challenges.

“I am honored to be recognized as a White House Champion of Change but acknowledge that this recognition belongs not only to me but also to the thousands of African immigrants and refugees who have given back to their new homeland through remarkable contributions in science, business, culture, the arts, and government,” said Dr. Teferra. “We have seen the generosity that this great country extends to people in need here and around the world. Following that tradition, ECDC and its network of African CBOs work locally and nationally to assist those who begin anew in America.”

The Champions of Change program was created as a part of President Obama’s Winning the Future initiative. Each week, a different sector is highlighted and groups of Champions, ranging from educators to entrepreneurs to community leaders, are recognized for the work they are doing to serve and strengthen their communities.

“These men and women are American leaders we want to celebrate,” said Deputy National Security Advisor Denis McDonough. “We commend the innovative practices, achievements and leadership these change makers bring not only to their communities around this country—but also to the development of and diplomacy with their countries of origin.”

To watch this event live, visit www.whitehouse.gov/live at 3:00 pm ET January 30, 2012.

About ECDC

ECDC is a non-profit 501(c)(3) located in Arlington, Virginia. ECDC resettles refugees and promotes cultural, educational and socio-economic development in refugee and immigrant communities across the country.