FACT SHEET

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Refugee Resettlement

SUBJECT: Summary of ORR Benefits and Services to Eligible Populations

ORR BENEFITS-AT-A-GLANCE

The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) provides benefits and services to assist the resettlement and local integration of specific eligible populations, including refugees; asylees; Cuban/Haitian Entrants; Certified Victims of Trafficking; Iraqi or Afghan Special Immigrants; Amerasians; Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs) who have held one of those statuses in the past, and in most cases, spouses and unmarried children under 21 of those holding such statuses. These benefits include the following:

- For those persons determined not eligible for federal cash assistance such as TANF or SSI, Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) is available for up to 8 months from date of admission to the U.S. in qualifying status, date of final grant of asylum, or date of certification by ORR as Victim of Trafficking.

- For those persons determined not eligible for Medicaid, there is Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA) for up to 8 months from date of admission to the U.S. in qualifying status, date of grant of asylum, or date of certification by ORR as Victim of Trafficking.

- The benefit level of RCA and RMA will vary from State to State as RCA is generally tied to the TANF payment standard by family size, and RMA reflects the same services as each State’s approved Title XIX State Plan. There is no difference between Medicaid coverage and RMA coverage except that ORR pays 100 percent of the RMA costs.

- Refugee Social Services (RSS) are available for up to 5 years from date of admission to the U.S. in qualifying status, date of final grant of asylum, or date of certification by ORR as a Victim of Trafficking. RSS includes employment and employability services; job training and preparation; assistance with job search, placement and retention; English language and vocational training; skills recertification; job-related day care; job-related transportation; translation and interpreter services, and case management.

- Under the Matching Grant program, participating resettlement agencies enroll clients in this alternative program to RSS. In this program, agencies agree to “maintain” the case and assure housing, transportation, case management and food (including food stamps) through a minimum of 120 days. These services may be provided either through family sponsors or the agency and may be continued through 180 days. Employment services are key, as the goal is to assist clients become economically self-sufficient within 120-180 days.

The ORR Unaccompanied Alien Children Program provides temporary custody and care to unaccompanied alien children who do not have an immigration status. The ORR Survivors of Torture Program provides services to persons who were the victims of torture outside the U.S. The ORR Repatriation Program provides temporary assistance to U.S. citizens and their immediate family members who have returned to the U.S. after having fallen into distress abroad, or who are escaping from civil unrest or natural catastrophe abroad.

Visit the ORR website at http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/ for more information about ORR’s authority, history, programs, benefits and services, eligibility rules, and other useful information.