



## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Felecia Maxfield-Barrett Named Recipient of Utah Leadership Award** *Population Workforce Specialist Selected by Human Rights Commission*

SALT LAKE CITY – Felecia Maxfield-Barrett has been selected as the 2009 Utah Leadership Scholarship Award recipient by the Salt Lake City Human Rights Commission. The annual Leadership Award honors one individual who exhibits a strong record of commitment to diversity, community outreach and advocacy efforts. As recipient of the scholarship, Maxfield-Barrett will be part of Leadership Utah, a year-long training program designed by the Salt Lake Chamber to provide opportunities for learning about the challenges facing the community.

Maxfield-Barrett’s experience as an advocate for the refugee community, homeless and victims of domestic violence uniquely qualifies her for the award. She serves as the Specialized Population Workforce Eligibility Supervisor for the Department of Workforce Services in Salt Lake City.

“The committee was impressed by Felecia Maxfield-Barrett’s desire to work with refugees and help them succeed as members of our diverse City landscape,” noted Yolanda Francisco-Nez, coordinator of Salt Lake City’s Office of Diversity and Human Rights.

“My passion to help refugees overcome barriers and find resolution with obstacles they face goes beyond hoping for change. I am focused on developing advocacy solutions and resources for people in need,” Maxfield-Barrett said. “One story after another portrays the pain, heartache and fears refugees experience. These stories bring into focus the need for increased awareness in our community.”

Maxfield-Barrett says the barriers refugee communities face are daunting. She plans to use the Leadership Utah Scholarship Award to further develop community partnerships, increase resources for refugees and their families, and help refugee communities better develop a political voice to increase public awareness.

For more information about the Utah Leadership Scholarship Award, please contact Yolanda Francisco-Nez at (801) 535-7734 or e-mail at [Yolanda.Francisco-Nez@slc.gov](mailto:Yolanda.Francisco-Nez@slc.gov).

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