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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contacts:

Vinicia Mascarenhas, (202) 401-9392 or Vinicia.Mascarenhas@acf.hhs.gov

**MEDIA ALERT: NATIONAL COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND DISASTERS HOLDS
FIELD VISIT IN CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA**

Washington, D.C. – The National Commission on Children and Disasters is holding a field visit in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where Commission Chairperson Mark Shriver and Commissioners Sheila Leslie and Dr. David Schonfeld will meet with Federal, state and local officials to discuss the severe flooding and tornadoes in 2008 and the unique challenges of disaster emergency response and recovery efforts for children.

The Commissioners will address topics related to school recovery, mental health services, child welfare, child care, disaster case management and long-term community recovery. United States Senators Charles Grassley and Tom Harkin have been invited to attend along with Federal, state and local government officials, elected officials and non-governmental organization representatives.

Who: Commission Chairperson Mark K. Shriver
Commissioner Sheila Leslie, Assemblywoman, NV
Commissioner David Schonfeld

What: Commission Field Visit – Media Availability

When: January 6, 2010 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Reporters are permitted to arrive early to set up equipment.

Where: Abbe Center for Community Mental Health
Conference Room
520 11th Street NW
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

This event is open to the media. To schedule an interview or for more details please contact Vinicia Mascarenhas, 202-401-9392 or Vinicia.Mascarenhas@acf.hhs.gov

The National Commission on Children and Disasters is an independent, bi-partisan Commission conducting a comprehensive study to examine and assess the unique needs of children as they relate to preparation for, response to, and recovery from all hazards. The Commission submitted an [Interim Report](#) to the President and Congress in October, 2009 and will submit a final report to the President and the Congress in October, 2010.

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