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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Contacts:

Vinicia Mascarenhas, (202) 401-9392 or <u>Vinicia.Mascarenhas@acf.hhs.gov</u> Matt Seney, (202) 205-9547 or <u>Matthew.Seney@acf.hhs.gov</u>

## Children and Disaster Commissioner Anderson Presents Key Recommendations to Federal Education and Training Group

National Commission on Children and Disasters Vice-Chairperson Michael Anderson, M.D. presented on key recommendations today to the Federal Education and Training Interagency Group (FETIG) at their meeting in Washington, D.C. Dr. Anderson's presentation focused on the need to develop national standards in core competencies and medical response team training specifically for children. The Commission will submit an Interim Report to President Obama and Congress October 2009.

"Children have unique medical needs that require special training and equipment," said Dr. Anderson. "The Commission's interim report will include several recommendations to the President and Congress that focus specifically on pediatric care. Among the key recommendations will be the formation of a pediatric disaster medicine education and training working group and the expansion of all federally-funded medical response teams to include pediatric expertise."

FETIG functions to serve as the coordinating mechanism for public health and medical disaster preparedness and response core curricula, training, and education across Federal agencies, departments, and other stakeholders.

For more information on the Commissions recommendations or to schedule an interview please contact Vinicia Mascarenhas at <u>Vinicia.Mascarenhas@acf.hhs.gov</u> or 202-401-9392. To view Vice-Chairperson Anderson's biography <u>click here.</u>