



**For Immediate Release**

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Contact: Lisa Harrison Smith

c. 801-913-9748

**Mayor's Office of Diversity Adds Refugee Liaison**

SALT LAKE CITY – Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker is pleased to announce the addition of Miranda Winterowd to the staff of the Mayor's Office of Diversity and Human Rights.

Winterowd returns to the ODHR as a full-time staffer, hired through an AmeriCorps VISTA grant. She previously served an internship in the Mayor's office, working on numerous projects including the *Dialogue on Race Series* and the Mayor's Antidiscrimination Campaign.

VISTA members commit to serve a one-year assignment and work in a number of areas including fighting illiteracy, improving health services, and strengthening communities. Winterowd will work under the direction of ODHR coordinator Yolanda Francisco-Nez as a liaison with the City's refugee community. Related assignments include creating educational opportunities for employees at risk of employment discrimination.

"Miranda's benevolent demeanor and fantastic human relations experience in government are a welcome addition to City Hall," Francisco-Nez said. "We look forward to working with her to foster hope, equity and opportunity and to accelerate a collaborative relationship with the refugee community."

According to the State of Utah Refugee Office, over 25,000 refugees make their home in Utah, with the majority of that population residing in the Salt Lake Valley. While refugees in the state represent dozens of nations, the majority of Utah's refugee population has come to the state from Somalia, Sudan and Bosnia.

The Mayor's Office of Diversity and Human Rights is committed to the elevation and protection of basic human rights for all Salt Lake City residents through policy, education advocacy and celebration. Winterowd brings a background of service to achieving ODHR goals and previously worked for the Jakarta Metropolitan Government, helping to create a five-year master plan for the Kota Tua historic neighborhood in Jakarta, Indonesia.

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