



## Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc.

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*Empowering refugees and immigrants since 1983*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc. Receives \$300,000 Donation From The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints**

**Arlington, VA**— On November 28, 2017, Kris J. Mecham, Director of National Resource Services at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, presented ECDC with a donation of \$300,000. The contribution includes \$60,000 in cash and \$240,000 for household items. This is the second year of this partnership between ECDC and LDS Charities.

In his letter to Tsehaye Teferra, Ph.D., ECDC's President and CEO the Managing Director of LDS Welfare Services, Steven K. Peterson, said "We express our sincere commendation and appreciation for the work of the Ethiopian Community Development Council (ECDC) and for the relief that your organization brings to so many who would otherwise suffer from exploitation, hunger, and neglect."

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints made this generous gift in recognition of ECDC's work with refugees and immigrant communities. Before receiving the award, ECDC staff shared the positive impact that the first year of the partnership has had on ECDC's resettlement affiliate network and newcomers to America.



Kris J. Mecham and some ECDC Headquarters staff.

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*ECDC is one of nine resettlement agencies working in partnership with the Department of State and the Office of Refugee Resettlement to provide initial placement and support services to refugees being resettled in the United States. ECDC promotes cultural, educational and socio-economic development programs to assist refugees and immigrants in becoming productive members of their new homeland.*