FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Melissa Theesen
Tel. 303-399-4500 ext. 313
Address 5250 Leetsdale Ave Suite 200 Denver, CO 80246
Email melissa@acc-den.org

Women’s Community Engagement for Health Project

*Colorado Health Foundation Awards Grant to ECDC African Community Center for Women’s Community Orientation Classes*

DENVER, CO, September 15, 2017 (eReleases) -- Welcoming Denver’s newest community members, ECDC African Community Center (ACC) identified a need for expanding its co-ed Community Orientation courses to offer a course focused specifically on newly arrived refugee women. The Community Engagement for Health project seeks to increase the social and community participation of isolated refugee women. By teaching women about health topics, community resources, and the importance of social engagement, the project aims to improve both their mental and physical well-being.

The Colorado Health Foundation awarded a grant to ACC last month to implement its Community Engagement for Health project. The Colorado Health Foundation is bringing health in reach for all Coloradans by engaging closely with communities across the state through investing, policy and advocacy, learning and capacity building. The funding comes from the foundation’s Supporting Immigrant and Refugee Communities funding opportunity, which is aimed at addressing the immediate and emerging needs of Colorado’s newcomers. Through this support, the Colorado Health Foundation seeks to advance opportunities to pursue good health and achieve health equity. One-time funding was available to provide timely and responsive resources to organizations, such as legal assistance, “know your rights” education, access to primary care and behavioral health services, self-care management programs, and community navigation services. ACC is honored to be among those chosen as a grantee.

ACC provides services to over 1,600 refugees annually, supporting them with case management, housing assistance, job training, school enrollment, and much more. The majority of ACC’s refugee community members come from Syria, Afghanistan, and Somalia, but ACC welcomes individuals and families from all around the world. ACC’s staff of 38 speak a combined 26 languages and rely on support from over
100 volunteers each year. ACC’s vision is to be an integrative center of multicultural exchange where community members feel a sense of belonging and actively contribute to an inclusive society.

ECDC African Community Center (ACC) is a branch office of the Ethiopian Community Development Council that has helped refugees and immigrants build safe, sustainable lives in the Denver area for more than 16 years. Reception and placement activities that ACC conducts are paid for, in part, through financial assistance provided by the Department of State. ACC is a 501(c)(3) entity. For more information about ACC, visit www.acc-den.org and follow on Facebook.

###