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Contact: Barbara Brancaccio, HRA
212-331-6200/ 917-416-2684

**NEW YORK CITY HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OF CHILD
SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT HOSTS FAMILY DAY AT ASTROLAND PARK**

*Family Day Celebrates Child Support Enforcement Month and NYC Dads Committed to
Supporting their Children*

New York - The New York City Human Resources Administration is culminating Child Support Enforcement Month by rewarding New York City parents who fulfill their child support responsibilities. On Saturday, August 25, 2007, from 12 pm to 4 pm, HRA's Office of Child Support Enforcement will host a free afternoon at Coney Island's Astroland for nearly 200 fathers with their children. Last month, the agency identified non-custodial parents, mostly dads, who had demonstrated commitment to their children by providing ongoing financial support to their children through the agency's Office of Child Support Enforcement.

HRA purchased 1,000 discounted tickets and offered them free of charge to low income non-custodial parents who are current in their child support payments. The tickets were given on a first come first serve basis and each family was permitted up to four tickets.

Approximately 41% of the City's poor children are living in families where the father is absent. "Child support is a necessary supplement for working mothers, and for many single parent households, it's a critical pathway out of poverty," said HRA Commissioner Robert Doar. "Child support enforcement is a top priority for HRA, but being a responsible parent isn't just about money. That's why we encourage fathers to be financially and emotionally involved in their children's lives."

The Office of Child Support Enforcement helps custodial parents (parents living with and caring for their children) to obtain the financial support that their children need and deserve from non-custodial parents (parents not living with their children). Every year the agency collects over half a billion dollars in child support payments and arrears for New York City's children.

Currently, there are on average 295,000 non custodial parents required to pay child support in New York City. In City Fiscal Year 2007, New York City collected \$601.8 million in child support payments. For the month of July 2007, the Office of Child Support Enforcement collected \$45.9 million, which is \$3 million more than July 2006.

The Human Resources Administration assists individuals and families with a wide range of social service and economic needs. The mission of the agency is to make work central in the lives of New Yorkers receiving public assistance. HRA's programs also ensure that those needy individuals who meet eligibility requirements are provided food, shelter, temporary financial assistance, medical care, counseling and other essential services. For those with the ability to become self-sufficient, HRA provides temporary supports including: temporary public assistance, food stamps, health benefits, child support enforcement, childcare, adult protective services and eviction prevention. For New Yorkers who require long term support to live independently, HRA provides housing support, home care and long term care for the elderly and disabled, and counseling and housing support for people with HIV and AIDS.

Prior to serving as HRA Commissioner, Robert Doar served as Commissioner of the State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) and Deputy Commissioner for OTDA's Division of Child Support Enforcement. Since his arrival at HRA, Commissioner Doar has made involved fatherhood a top priority. In June, the agency hosted the first annual Father's Day Picnic at Coney Island's Keyspan Park to celebrate New York City Dads who participate in local fatherhood programs promoting the positive effects fathers have on the lives of their children.