



**SHRIVER
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Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

Taking Action to End Poverty

PRESS RELEASE

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Anti-Poverty Center Welcomes Community Investment Attorney

Chicago- (Sept. 22, 2008)- The Sargent Shriver National Center On Poverty Law is pleased to announce that it has named Karen Harris as the leader of its Community Investment Unit (CIU). Harris comes to the Shriver Center with 18 years of experience in the Chicago legal community, a deep knowledge of the city, and a commitment to equal opportunity and equal justice.

Harris has substantial experience as a litigator, counselor and transactional attorney at top Chicago law firms. As Director of Diversity at DLA Piper, Harris developed and implemented a five-year diversity program focusing on recruitment, retention and promotion of minority attorneys. As the Senior Associate for the Corporate Health Care Group, Harris represented physicians, HMO and other health care entities in relation to issues such as telemedicine and e-health websites and transactions.

Harris received her Juris Doctorate from Harvard Law School and her bachelor's degree from Princeton University. She will begin work at the Shriver Center on October 6, 2008.

The Shriver Center was established in 1967 to champion law and policy for low income people, and it continues to use policy development, communications, and diverse advocacy strategies to fight poverty. Asset building is the work of the Shriver Center's Community Investment Unit, and it is a vital component of the Shriver Center's [12-point National Agenda](#). For each policy idea, the agenda cites opportunities for action that antipoverty advocates can take on both the federal and state levels. In 2008, the Shriver Center hopes to expand asset-building opportunities to complement traditional income-support programs, promote policies that encourage investment in unbanked and undeserved communities, and protect consumers against abusive consumer and mortgage lending.

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The Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, a national resource, champions law and policy promoting equal opportunity and support for low-income individuals, families, and communities so that they can escape poverty permanently.