



**SHRIVER  
CENTER**

Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

50 E. Washington Street,  
Suite 500, Chicago, IL 60602  
312-263-3830  
Fax: 312-263-3846  
www.povertylaw.org

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: Rikeesha Cannon  
312.368.2677 office  
217.671.1970 mobile

### **Shriver Center Honors Jeffrey Sachs and Morgan Spurlock at Awards Ceremony: *The State of Poverty: America's Undeclared Disaster Area***

(Chicago)—When Hurricane Katrina swept through Louisiana and Mississippi late last August and early September, it wasn't just those two states that Katrina brought to the nation's attention. The Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law hopes to draw attention to another state that many in the United States saw for the first time—the nation's 51st state, the “State of Poverty.”

The Shriver Center's annual awards dinner on December 1 in Chicago will address the devastating effects of poverty in America. “From the eye of the storm, we at the Shriver Center know the possibilities of moving from the state of poverty to the state of prosperity,” says Rita McLennon, the Shriver Center's executive director.

The economist Jeffrey Sachs, author of *The End of Poverty*, is expected to expound on the state of poverty in America in a keynote address. Professor Sachs, who will receive the Sargent Shriver Award for Equal Justice, is being honored for distinguished achievement in promoting the alleviation of poverty.

Morgan Spurlock, the documentary filmmaker of *Super Size Me* fame, will also receive the Sargent Shriver Award for Equal Justice. He is being honored for distinguished achievement in raising awareness of the plight of minimum-wage workers in the United States in his FX television series *30 Days*.

Event organizers hope that national attention on poverty will not wane in the aftermath of the storms and that governmental leaders will be forced to set poverty as a priority on the national agenda. The Shriver Center is leading a national campaign to end “The State of Poverty” by advocating laws and proposing model policies to benefit low-income families across America.

Where: Palmer House Hilton Grand Ballroom, 17 E. Monroe St. Chicago, Illinois

Who: Jeffrey Sachs, author of the “The End of Poverty,” will deliver the keynote address

When: Thursday, December 1, 2005

5:30 p.m. Reception

6:00 p.m. Cocktails and Silent Auction

7:00 p.m. Dinner Program and Awards

Contact Rikeesha Cannon, Shriver Center media coordinator,  
for more information on the event and interview requests with Jeffrey Sachs or Morgan Spurlock.