



## THE REBECCA PROJECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

---

*Health Safety and Dignity for Vulnerable Families*

December 18, 2008

Mr. John Podesta  
Ms. Valerie Jarrett  
Mr. Peter Rouse  
Co-Chairs, Obama-Biden Transition Project  
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. Podesta, Ms. Jarrett, and Mr. Rouse,

At this critical moment in America's history, when so many families are suffering to simply provide food, shelter, and clothing for their children, we are keenly aware of the work and commitment that must be demonstrated to support our middleclass. At the same time, there are so many vulnerable women and girls who are mothering at the margins, struggling with violence, grinding poverty, a broken child welfare system and an overreaching criminal justice system. They deserve our attention too.

The Rebecca Project respectfully submits our vision of the critical policy reforms required to improve the lives of vulnerable women and girls—and to give them an opportunity for health, wholeness and dignity. We look forward to meeting with you to discuss in further detail the imperative for reforms in child welfare, criminal justice, housing and health policies for America's most vulnerable women and girls.

Sincerely,

Malika Saada Saar  
Founder and Executive Director