



BRIDGE
REFUGEE SERVICES, INC.
DIGNITY • HOPE • OPPORTUNITY

Bridge Refugee Services, Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chattanooga, TN – **DATE** – The United Nations’ (UN) World Refugee Day has been observed on June 20 each year since 2001. This event honors the courage, strength and determination of women, men, and children who have fled persecution and resettled in our city as neighbors, business owners, public servants, and friends. Today we honor the courage and contributions of refugees in our community, and we commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the bipartisan Refugee Act of 1980 which created the US Refugee Admissions Program.

This year Bridge Refugee Services will be holding a week of action from June 14 - June 20 and will live stream the World Refugee Day celebration on Facebook and Youtube on June 20th from 12-2pm. This year’s theme is ‘Together at Home’ and the event will include opportunities to learn more about the cultures and experiences of refugees, including a cooking demonstration, storytelling, and music and dance performances. The online event is free, but Bridge encourages community members to purchase a “World Refugee Day” kit ahead of time that provides supplementary materials to engage in the online event and week of action. Kits are available at **URL** for a suggested donation of \$25.

We would like to thank the people of **Chattanooga** for continually providing opportunities for refugees to create a new home and new life here. We recognize that without you, our efforts would be in vain, and we hope you will join us at **URL** on June 20th to celebrate the contributions of refugees in our community.

#RefugeesWelcome

ABOUT BRIDGE REFUGEE SERVICES:

Bridge Refugee Services is an affiliate of Episcopal Migration Ministries, one of nine national agencies that collaborate with the U.S. Department of State and United Nations to protect one of the most vulnerable groups of people, refugees. Bridge is the only agency that facilitates the resettlement of refugees in **Chattanooga, and has served more than 1,500 refugees from Burundi, Bosnia, Cuba, Sudan, Colombia, Somalia, Iraq, Iran, Vietnam, Ukraine, Syria, and other countries.** We are committed to supporting refugees as they rebuild their lives and become successful and integrated members of our community.

For more information, visit www.bridgerefugees.org or contact **Marina Peshterianu** at (423) 954-1911 or mpeshterianu@bridgerefugees.org.