

WHEREAS; first celebrated on June 20, 2001, World Refugee Day was originally recognized to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1951 Refugee Convention, also known as the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees; and

WHEREAS; every year, World Refugee Day provides an opportunity to acknowledge and reflect on the resilience refugees have shown in the face of unimaginable circumstances, the new lives they have built for themselves and their families, and the positive impact they have on local communities; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin has a rich history of opening its doors to people of all backgrounds, experiences, and walks of life, and it is estimated that the state has welcomed over 16,000 refugees from all over the world in the last 20 years; and

WHEREAS; according to the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, since last October, the state of Wisconsin has aided in the resettlement of 928 newcomers from 18 countries worldwide; and

WHEREAS; the state strives to always serve refugee communities with respect and dignity, acknowledging the hardships they have encountered, recognizing their courage, sacrifice, and resilience, and celebrating their vast and valuable contributions to communities and the state as a whole; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin proudly joins all Wisconsinites in spreading awareness of the issues affecting the world's refugees, honoring refugee communities, and supporting local agencies that serve refugees and their families here in Wisconsin, throughout the nation, and around the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim June 20 2023 as

## **WORLD REFUGEE DAY**

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance  
to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 19<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State