

# PROCLAMATION



## Office of the Mayor

**WHEREAS**, refugees are men, women, and children from all parts of the world who are forced to flee their homelands because of war, human rights crises, and fear of persecution or death due to race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a social group; and

**WHEREAS**, World Refugee Day, a global observance that honors all refugees and raises awareness of their strength and courage and serves as a time to acknowledge the hardships refugees have encountered, the new lives they have built, and the positive effect they have on our local communities; and

**WHEREAS**, World Refugee Day was first celebrated on June 20, 2001, to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Appleton values its strong collaborative relationship with World Relief Fox Valley, the resettlement agency bringing refugees to settle in our community, which provides vital services to newly arrived refugees with access to basic necessities, and the journey to belonging while helping them become all they want to be through culturally relevant learning opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Appleton facilitates the Fox Valley Refugee Resettlement team and provides immediate health care screenings for all Appleton refugees, and our staff strives to better understand and serve our refugee communities.


**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I, JACOB A. WOODFORD**, Mayor of the City of Appleton, Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim June 20, 2026, as

## Refugee Day

in Appleton and encourage all residents to take pride in our longstanding role as a community that welcomes and supports refugees, and to join me in honoring refugees by recognizing the hardships they have encountered, the new lives they have built, and the positive contributions they make to our city.



Signed and sealed this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May 2026

  
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**JACOB A. WOODFORD**  
MAYOR OF APPLETON

Proc: #46-556