

PROCLAMATION

HONORING WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2020

WHEREAS, on December 4, 2000, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution designating June 20 as World Refugee Day;

WHEREAS, World Refugee Day is a global day to commemorate the courage, strength, and determination of the women, men, and children who are forced to flee their homes under the threats of conflict, violence, and persecution;

WHEREAS, there are over 65,000,000 displaced people worldwide, the highest levels ever recorded;

WHEREAS, children account for over 50 percent of the refugee population in the world, millions of whom are unable to access basic services including education;

WHEREAS, on this day the United Nations Refugee Agency and civic groups around the world host events in order to draw attention to the millions of refugees and displaced persons worldwide;

WHEREAS, on World Refugee Day we recognize not only the challenges and uncertainty refugees face, but also their will to survive and rebuild their lives. Refugees have made invaluable contributions, expanding our worldviews and enriching our communities with their diverse traditions, perseverance, ingenuity, and hard-earned wisdom;

WHEREAS, the Refugee Forum of Orange County (RFOC) was formed in 1976 as an umbrella group of organizations such as Access California Services, Cal Optima, World Relief, United Nations Association, Orange County Social Services, Orange County Health Care Agency, American Red Cross, Salvation Army, Heart of Mercy, Uplift Charity, Sabil USA, and individuals who work with refugees to assist with their successful resettlement in Orange County;

WHEREAS, over the last forty years, the rich diversity of refugees in Orange County included Vietnamese, Cambodians, Cham, Iraqis, Afghans, Syrians, Iranians, East Africans, Mexicans, Salvadorians, Cubans, and many other communities that have contributed to Orange County's economic and civic prosperity; and

WHEREAS, refugees are public officials, entrepreneurs, doctors, lawyers, teachers, business owners, our neighbors and contributing citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Garden Grove City Council that June 20, 2020 be, and is hereby, officially recognized as World Refugee Day in the City of Garden Grove.

June 9, 2020