

Proclaiming June 2019 as Refugee Awareness Month

For decades, refugees have sought sanctuary, liberty, and basic human rights around the world. Refugees see the United States as a pathway to freedom from the persecution and violence they experienced in their native lands. They not only recognize the autonomy of our nation but also see the countless opportunities for success. Many decide to pursue their dreams and resettle in Los Angeles County.

The economy, diversity, and social fabric of Los Angeles County is enriched by its refugee residents. Per information from the California Department of Social Services, Refugee Programs Bureau, 5,635 refugees from nearly 40 different countries arrived in Los Angeles County in the past five years. Numerous refugees experience language, educational, and cultural barriers that impede their successful adaptation to our society.

The Los Angeles County’s Departments of Public Health and Public Social Services, along with local refugee resettlement and community-based organizations, are committed to support refugees’ determination to succeed and achieve an effective transition to self-sufficiency in the United States. These organizations’ programs and

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services are fundamental in helping refugees and their families in their path to integration and self-sufficiency. Local refugee service organizations include: Armenian Relief Society, Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles, Interfaith Refugee and Immigration Service, International Institute of Los Angeles, International Rescue Committee, Jobs Vision Success SoCal, World Relief, and Refugee Forum of Los Angeles.

I, THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors proclaim the month June 2019 as “Refugee Awareness Month” throughout the County of Los Angeles to recognize the significant contributions of refugees and the efforts of local refugee service organizations.

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