Dear Texas advocates,

Please help us spread the word about the call-in campaign for World Refugee Day. We're asking people to Stand with Refugees and call their member of Congress this week to urge them to support refugees. Our goal is to make 100,000 calls to Congress. I'm including the take action language below that you can share with your networks as well as a few other advocacy resources. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks!

- 1) Stand with Refugees Call-in campaign for World Refugee Day
- 2) Stories to share on social media
- 3) New resources to share to address concerns about refugees (attached)

1.Stand with Refugees Campaign – please share with your networks

As we approach World Refugee Day on June 20th, we have an opportunity to honor the contributions and gifts refugees bring to our communities each day. Right now, over 21 million refugees have been forced from their homes, more than any other time in history. The need to live out our nation's values and welcome refugees has never been more urgent.

<u>Stand with refugees</u> the week of **June 12th-16th** and tell Congress to stand with refugees. Help us reach our goal of making 100,000 calls to Congress!

June 12th – June 16th: Call Your Members of Congress at 1-844-4STAND5 Here's what you can say: "In honor of World Refugee Day, I am calling in support of welcoming refugees to the United States. I urge Congress to welcome more refugees to the U.S. next year and provide adequate funding levels to assist refugees worldwide."

Feel free to share a personal story about the importance of refugees to you, your faith, your community, your business, etc. Let them know the specific ways that refugees benefit and are welcomed into your community, and why refugee protection is so important to you.

Tweet your policy makers:

- ". <u>@SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE</u>, my community members stand #withrefugees! Show that
- #AmericaWelcomes by supporting U.S. refugee resettlement! #RefugeesWelcome #GreaterAs1"
- ".<u>@SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE</u>, I #standwithrefugees in my community. You should too [link to homemade video] #RefugeesWelcome #GreaterAs1"

Tweet your networks: "Stand #withrefugees & tell lawmakers to welcome more refugees in the US! Call now: 1-844-4STAND5! #RefugeesWelcome #GreaterAs1"

2.Stories to share on social media:

- How Dallas became one of America's most refugee-friendly cities
- Refugee families share food, foster understanding at new Dallas supper club
- <u>Children At Risk interviews Wafa Abdin, Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston about how</u> the current political climate is impacting immigrant & refugee children
- In Houston visit, senior UN official touts economic upside of taking in refugees
- New "Refugees Love America" video: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/cu7mskiddguyzbr/AACD_EMDN0wG6ulHL5Bxqu_ta?dl=0

Sample Facebook posts:

- 1. "This country gave me the opportunity to be a successful woman in the future," Rukhsara, a former refugee from Afghanistan, shares her thanks for America's welcome of her and her family. Watch & share her story with your members of Congress today. #RefugeesLoveAmerica.
- "Now I know that I am human and now I know my rights," Rukhsara, who was welcomed to the U.S. with her family 7 years after fleeing Afghanistan. Share her video message with your member of Congress. #RefugeesLoveAmerica.

- 3. "I love this country," Watch Rukhsara's story of going from fearing death every second to having the "opportunity to be a successful woman" in America. SHARE her message of thanks and love for America with the President and Congress. #RefugeesLoveAmerica.
- <u>Download</u> Myths & Facts about Refugees .pdf this is a good piece for you to read !! sjt

Gislaine Williams, MSW Texas Grassroots Organizer Refugee Council USA (RCUSA) 346-201-5854 gwilliams@rcusa.org www.rcusa.org Follow us on Twitter & Facebook!