



World Refugee Day 2025

Partners Toolkit

“Was not the earth of God spacious enough for you to flee for refuge?”

(Holy Qur’an 4:97)

What is World Refugee Day?

World Refugee Day was first established on June 20, 2001 by the United Nations in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, and is now celebrated every year on June 20th. World Refugee Day encompasses the honoring of Internally Displaced People (IDPs), refugees, stateless persons, returnees, migrants, and asylum seekers. This day highlights the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution. World Refugee Day is an occasion to build empathy and understanding for the plight of refugees and to recognize their resilience in rebuilding their lives.

World Refugee Day is also an opportunity to commemorate. Leaders and community members recognize the strength, courage, and perseverance of refugees around the globe. **Every minute, 20 people are forced to leave everything behind to escape war, persecution, and/or terror.** This day also aims to raise awareness about the plight of displaced people and to advocate for their rights and protection. The day highlights the need for global solidarity and support for those who have been forced to flee their homes.

12 Ideas of how to celebrate and commemorate this important day:

1. Fundraising Galas and Charity Dinners

Host formal events where attendees can donate to refugee causes through ticket sales, auctions, and pledges.

2. Cultural Festivals

Celebrate the diverse cultures of refugee communities through music, dance, food, and art. This promotes cultural understanding and raises funds.

3. Awareness Walks/Runs

Organize a 5K walk/run to raise awareness and funds for refugee support programs.

4. Educational Workshops and Seminars

Conduct workshops on refugee rights, integration challenges, and success stories to educate the public.

5. Art Exhibitions

Display art created by refugees, showcasing their talents and stories. Proceeds from sales can support refugee artists and programs.

6. Film Screenings and Panel Discussions

Screen documentaries and films about the refugee experience followed by panel discussions with experts and refugees.

7. Benefit Concerts

Host concerts featuring local and international artists to raise funds and awareness.

8. Community Service Days

Organize days where volunteers can help with local refugee support programs, such as language classes, resume workshops, or community garden projects.

9. Sports Tournaments

Arrange soccer, basketball, or other sports tournaments to bring communities together and raise funds.

10. Pop-Up Markets and Bazaars

Set up markets where refugees can sell handmade goods, food, and crafts, providing them with income and exposure.

11. Online Campaigns

Host webinars, virtual events, or online art auctions to engage a broader audience.

12. Storytelling Nights

Create events where refugees share their personal stories, to foster empathy and understanding.



Islamic Relief USA Resettlement Program:

What do we do?

IRUSA is currently preparing to become the 11th Resettlement Agency in the United States under the US Refugee Admissions Program [USRAP]. IRUSA is engaged in the second year of a three-year partnership with the International Rescue Committee authorized by the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration [PRM]. This strategic collaboration is geared towards the establishment and maintenance of an extensive IRUSA national network, consisting of Reception and Placement [R&P] affiliates across the United States.

R&P Program Support:

Upon arrival in the United States, refugees receive support through the Reception and Placement [R&P] program. This support includes temporary housing, assistance with essential services such as food, transportation, and access to medical care, as well as help in finding employment and accessing education. IRUSA, through its affiliate organizations, plays a vital role in delivering these services.

Housing Assistance:

IRUSA helps refugees find safe and suitable housing upon arrival, ensuring they have a stable place to call home as they start their new life.

Basic Needs Support:

The program covers initial basic needs such as clothing, food, and essential household items to ensure refugees have the essentials to begin their resettlement journey.

Cultural Orientation:

Refugees receive cultural orientation to familiarize them with American customs, norms, and daily life practices, helping them navigate their new environment effectively.

Language Classes:

Language is a crucial aspect of integration. IRUSA facilitates access to English language classes to empower refugees with the skills they need to communicate and engage in their communities.

Employment Assistance:

The program assists refugees in finding employment opportunities that match their skills and aspirations, supporting their path to self-sufficiency.

Education Enrollment:

IRUSA ensures that refugee children are enrolled in school, helping them access quality education and contributing to their overall well-being.

Medical Care:

Access to healthcare services is vital. The program helps refugees access medical care, ensuring their health needs are addressed.

Social Services:

IRUSA offers guidance on accessing public services, legal assistance, and other essential resources that refugees may require.

Financial Literacy:

Refugees receive support in building financial literacy skills, helping them manage their finances effectively and plan for their future.