



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, under the new leadership of Governor Mikie Sherrill, continues to welcome refugees through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program, ensuring newcomers receive the services and support that they need to become self-sufficient and thrive in the Garden State; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, shares the values of the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and celebrates this year's World Refugee Day with an emphasis on the theme "Until everyone is safe, we show up. Until everyone is safe, the work is not done;" and

WHEREAS, New Jersey acknowledges the strength, courage, and resilience it takes for individuals to uproot their lives and adapt to a new home; and

WHEREAS, World Refugee Day shines a light on the rights, needs, and dreams of refugees; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey champions the right of refugees to seek safety, builds support for their economic and social inclusion, and works to ensure that refugees live with dignity; and

WHEREAS, refugees and other humanitarian arrivals play a vital role in bolstering and enhancing New Jersey's economy by filling critical workforce needs, starting businesses, paying taxes, and being consumers, contributing to the long-term growth and resilience of our communities; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services' Office of New Americans leads as the official State Refugee Coordinator and directly oversees the Refugee Resettlement Program's State Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Office of New Americans in partnership with the International Rescue Committees' New Jersey Office for Refugees and in collaboration with community-based partners provide refugee services across the state to newly arrived refugees and other ORR-eligible humanitarian populations; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has proudly welcomed refugees from around the world, including in recent years from Afghanistan, Ukraine, Central America, the Caribbean, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, South America, and the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey remains committed to welcoming refugees who collectively add to the economic strength and cultural richness of this state, to serving the most vulnerable who have been forced to flee their homes, and to providing refugees the opportunity to restart their lives;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mikie Sherrill, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

JUNE 20, 2026
AS
WORLD REFUGE DAY

in New Jersey.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this eighth day of June in the year two thousand twenty-six, the two hundred fiftieth year of the Independence of the United States.

Dale G. Cohen

Lt. GOVERNOR

Mikie Sherrill

GOVERNOR