

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG AS A WELCOMING CITY THAT CELEBRATES THE GROWING DIVERSITY OF ITS RESIDENTS AND ACKNOWLEDGES THAT REFUGEES, IMMIGRANTS, AND ALL NEWCOMERS ENHANCE THE CULTURE AND THE ECONOMY AND ACKNOWLEDGING WORLD REFUGEE DAY ON JUNE 20, 2019.

WHEREAS, more than 68 million displaced people have been forced from their homes, more than any time in recorded history, including over 25 million refugees;

WHEREAS, by definition, refugees are people who have fled their country because they have a well-founded fear of persecution because of their race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group.

WHEREAS, resettlement provides safe haven in a third country when refugees cannot return home and cannot rebuild their lives in the country where they first fled due to lack of access to safety, shelter, health care, education, or protection;

WHEREAS, resettlement to the U.S. is available only for those who demonstrate the greatest and most immediate need for protection - such as unaccompanied and other at-risk children, female-headed households, victims of torture, the physically disabled, and members of minority groups that are experiencing oppression in the host country (for example, religious minorities or LGBT individuals) - and takes place after eligible refugees undergo a rigorous selection, security vetting, and medical screening process;

WHEREAS, the City of Reynoldsburg is home to a diverse population of refugees and immigrants, adding to the economic strength and cultural richness of our community;

WHEREAS, organizations responsible for resettling refugees in our community, as well as numerous other community organizations and religious institutions, have declared their support for resettling refugees in the City of Reynoldsburg;

WHEREAS, the City of Reynoldsburg has been an example of a hospitable and welcoming place to all newcomers, where the contributions of all are celebrated and valued;

WHEREAS, cities across the United States have declared themselves to be welcoming to refugees and immigrants, joining a national movement for creating an inclusive community;

WHEREAS, residents of City of Reynoldsburg aspire to live up to our highest societal values of acceptance and equality, and treat newcomers with decency and respect, creating a vibrant community for all to live in;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG that the City of Reynoldsburg is hereby declared a Welcoming City, and one that affirms the beauty and richness of our diversity, and one in which all are welcome, accepted, and appreciated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Reynoldsburg hereby urges other local and state communities to join us in a stronger national effort to resettle the most vulnerable refugees worldwide and help them integrate and thrive.
Adopted this the 24th day of June 2019.


Doug Joseph, President


Kristin Bryant, At Large


Caleb Skinner, Ward I


Marshall Spalding, Ward III


Barth R. Cotner, At Large


Stacie Baker, At Large


Brett Luzader, Ward II


Mel Clemens, Ward IV