

Minnesota is now HOME.



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Twin Cities to celebrate World Refugee Day on June 25

Minneapolis— Alongside tens of thousands of people around the world, the Twin Cities will take time to recognize and applaud the contribution of forcibly displaced people throughout the world on June 25th, at World Refugee Day. The annual commemoration is marked by a variety of events in more than 100 countries, involving government officials, humanitarian aid workers, celebrities, civilians and the refugees themselves.

Gathering at Minnehaha Falls, World Refugee Day celebrates the diversity of Minnesota while educating and inspiring all who attend. It's an opportunity to:

- See what home means to Minnesota refugees in their native countries, in the refugee camps, and here in their new state.
- Welcome home your new neighbors by celebrating the diverse cultures, experiences, and assets they bring to the community.
- Share a fun and vibrant day with your friends and family in the beautiful Minnehaha Park

The purpose of World Refugee Day is to give voice to refugee stories, honor their lives and raise awareness of the millions of refugees in the world who have been forced to flee their homes. The annual event is held each year in June by a collaboration of resettlement agencies, community based organizations, for-profit entities and ordinary citizens to recognize refugees' journeys to their new homes through celebration and education.

The 2011 Honorary Chairs of Twin Cities World Refugee Day are:



Eh Taw Dwe – [Karen Organization of Minnesota \(KOM\)](#)



Pham Thi Hoa – [CAPI](#)



Chong Bee Vang - [Karen Organization of Minnesota \(KOM\)](#)



Hussein Samattar – [African Development Center](#)

Twin Cities World Refugee Day is a locally organized festival that celebrates the more than 100,000 refugees living in Minnesota and the diversity of cultures, experiences and assets they bring to our community. Since 2001, people all over the world have celebrated World Refugee Day with events that honor the world's more than 15 million refugees and raise awareness about their continued plight. For more information about the event and refugees worldwide, visit www.tcworldrefugeeday.org.

To schedule an interview or review the schedule of events, please contact Tessa Wetjen at 612-230-3251 or twetjen@wellshareinternational.org.

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