



TWIN CITIES WORLD REFUGEE DAY

PRESS KIT

2009 Twin Cities World Refugee Day General Information

WHEN: Saturday, June 20, 2009
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

WHERE: Minnehaha Park
4801 South Minnehaha Park Dr.
Minneapolis, MN 55417

WHAT: Cultural performers and speakers, food and vendors from around the world, immigrant resource fair, cultural displays and KidZone
11:00am-2:00pm Immigrant resource fair and cultural displays
12:00pm-3:00pm Cultural performances
3:00pm Main program, featuring prominent refugee community speakers, spoken word and breakdancing
4:00pm Spoken word artist e.g. bailey and live music by Marimba Africa



PHOTO BY PAT CONNOLLY

What is World Refugee Day?

In 2000, as an expression of solidarity with Africa, the United Nations General Assembly established June 20 as World Refugee Day to coincide with Africa Refugee Day. Since 2001, people all over the world have celebrated World Refugee Day with events that honor the world's more than 11 million refugees and raise awareness about their continued plight.

Who is a refugee?

A person *outside* of his or her country of origin who seeks protection on the grounds that he or she fears persecution in his or her homeland

To attain refugee status, the person must prove that he or she has a "well-founded fear of persecution" on the basis of at least one of five specifically recognized grounds. These grounds include the person's:

- Race
- Religion
- Membership in a social group
- Political opinion
- National origin



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Refugee Facts

Refugees around the world

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees states that there are 31.7 million people in need of international protection and assistance worldwide. 11.4 million of these are refugees. The rest are internally displaced people or fall into other categories of migrants.

Where Do They Come From?

<u>Host Region</u>	<u>People of Concern</u>
Africa	10.5 million
Asia and Pacific	6.9 million
Middle East and North Africa	6.1 million
Americas	4.2 million
Europe	4.0 million

Refugee resettlement

The number of refugees resettled represents a tiny fraction of the refugees from each of these countries. A total of 75,300 people were resettled in 2007 to 14 countries. This is less than 1% of all refugees.

The United States

The U.S. government sets a cap for refugee resettlement each fiscal year. The actual number of refugees resettled is often lower. In 2008 the U.S. set its ceiling at 80,000 and received 60,188 refugees for resettlement. Minnesota received 1,321 of these. The ceiling for FY 2009 is also 80,000 refugees, and so far 43,957 have arrived, of which 484 have been resettled in Minnesota.

Minnesota

Minnesota resettles more refugees than most other states and also has the highest secondary migration rate, meaning refugees resettled elsewhere in the U.S. move to Minnesota more often than to any other state. Currently Minnesota accepts only refugees who are being reunited with family members living in the state. Minnesota's largest refugee communities include the Somali, Hmong, Karen and Liberian in addition to others from Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe.

Since 1979, over 90,000 refugees from around the world have been resettled in Minnesota, and many others resettled in other states have moved to Minnesota to reunite with family members, find jobs and join communities with roots in the state.



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2009 Twin Cities World Refugee Day Schedule of Events

10:00am	Event opens to public Multicultural food and craft vendors
11:00am-2:00pm	Immigrant Resource Fair (Pavilion) Global Cultural Displays (Pavilion)
11:00am-5:00pm	KidZone "What Is Home?" mural project, Hmong storyteller, bouncy tent, balloons, snacks
12:00pm-4:00pm	KidZone Youth soccer games, face painting
12:00pm-3:00pm	Short cultural performances (Bandstand) Cultural Society of Filipino-Americans (CSFA) - Filipino dance Hoang Anh Dance Group - Vietnamese dance Logan Moua - Hmong musician Nepali Dance Group Kay - Somali vocalist Somali Women Youth Dancers of Eastside Neighborhood Services MN African Women's Association Youth Dancers (MAWA Agile Program) & Titambe - West African Dance Russian Soul - Russian music and dance Ka Joog: "The Last Poets," Karen Community of Minnesota Karen Community of Minnesota - Karen music and dance
3:00pm	Main Program (Bandstand) Emcee: Charles Dennis (KMOJ Radio) Refugee Community Representatives: Tou Saiko Lee (Hmong), Mangala Sharma (Bhutanese), Amano Dube (Oromo), Saw Josiah (Karen), Anisa Esse (Somali), Charles Dennis (Liberian) Performances: Tou Saiko Lee (spoken word artist), Motion Crew (Hmong breakdancers)
4:00pm	Spoken word by e.g. bailey (Bandstand)
4:30pm	Live music by Marimba Africa (Bandstand)
6:00pm	Event ends



PHOTO BY KURT MOSES



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2009 Twin Cities World Refugee Day Tip Sheet for Media

Please visit the information/press tent throughout the day if you need assistance. Members of the event planning committee in bright green shirts will also be able to answer your questions.

Performances most visually appealing for video:

- Hoang Anh Dance Group, 12:15-12:30pm
- Nepali Dance Group, 12:45-1:00pm
- MAWA Agile Program & Titambe, 1:30-2:00pm
- Main program, featuring emcee Charles Dennis, spoken word and breakdance performances, and speakers from six prominent refugee communities, 3:00-4:00pm
- Marimba Africa, 4:30-6:00pm

Performances with original sounds for radio:

- Logan Moua, 12:30-12:45pm
- Russian Soul, 2:00-2:15pm
- Ka Joog: "The Last Poets," 2:15-2:30pm
- Main program, featuring emcee Charles Dennis, spoken word and breakdance performances, and speakers from six prominent refugee communities, 3:00-4:00pm
- e.g. bailey and Marimba Africa, 4:00-6:00pm



PHOTO BY PAT CONNOLLY

Local people knowledgeable about refugee issues:

- Representatives from voluntary agencies (resettlement agencies) in the Twin Cities: Catholic Charities, Lutheran Social Service, Minnesota Council of Churches, World Relief, International Institute of Minnesota
- Organizations exhibiting at the immigrant resource fair
- Event planning committee point people in bright green shirts

Speak with refugees themselves:

- Event attendees
- Performers and speakers from refugee groups
- Food and non-food vendors
- Staff of organizations represented at the immigrant resource fair

Marketing/Press coordinator:

Alexis Walstad, Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota | Cell: 952-237-3403

www.tcworlerefugeeday.org



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2009 Twin Cities World Refugee Day People

For media inquiries before and after June 20, please contact:

Alexis Walstad, Press Coordinator

612-879-5263 (daytime) | 952-237-3403 (evenings/weekends) | alexis.walstad@lssmn.org

For media inquiries at the event, see point people in bright green staff t-shirts:

Event Chair & Fundraising: Sara Chute, *Minnesota Department of Health*

Marketing/Press: Alexis Walstad, *Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota*

Entertainment: Amy Miller

Immigrant Resource Fair: Amanda Smith, *International Institute of Minnesota*

Education: Liz Lock, *Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota*

Kids Zone: Claire Anderson, *Episcopal Community Services*

Transportation: Diane Galatowitsch, *Minnesota Department of Health*

Logistics: Diane Galatowitsch, *Minnesota Department of Health*

Community Liaisons: Brenda Xiong, *Hennepin County Office of Multicultural Services*

Volunteers: Julie Honerbrink, *CAPI*

Vendors: Drew Prakash

Food: Diane Galatowitsch, *Minnesota Department of Health*

Other organizations represented on the 2009 planning committee:

Council on Black Minnesotans

Crown Medical Center

Brian Coyle Center - Emerge Community Development

Metropolitan Health Plan - Hennepin County

Minnesota Council of Churches

Minnesota International Health Volunteers

Ramsey County - Public Health Department

Slavic Community Center

St. Paul Public Schools

Statewide Tobacco Education and Engagement Project (STEEP)

Volunteers of America - Minnesota

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2009 Twin Cities World Refugee Day Immigrant Resource Fair Participants

Employment East Metro OIC

RESOURCE, Inc. - Employment Action Center
Lifetrack

Housing

Minneapolis Public Housing Authority

Legal

Legal Aid Society of Minneapolis

Health

American Cancer Society
Association for Nonsmokers - MN
Augsburg Fairview Academy
Children's Dental Services
ClearWay Minnesota
Community Dental Care
Community University Healthcare Center
Crown Medical Center
Disabled Immigrant Association
Hennepin County Child and Teen Checkups Program
Metropolitan Health Plan
Midwest Home Health Care, Inc.
Minnesota Department of Health
Minnesota International Health Volunteers
Minnesota Prevention Resource Center
Northpoint Health and Wellness Center
Planned Parenthood of Minnesota, North Dakota
and South Dakota
Simply Good Eating Programs
St. Paul-Ramsey Public Health - County Child and
Teen Checkups Program
Statewide Tobacco Education and Engagement Pro-
ject (STEEP)
Sub-Saharan African Youth and Family Services of
Minnesota (SAYFSM)
UCare

Education

High Tech Institute
Lincoln High School
Minneapolis Public Schools
Minnesota Literacy Council
Riverside Plaza Tenants' Association

Social Services

CAPI
Hennepin County Community Services
International Institute of Minnesota
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Minnesota Council of Churches - Refugee Services
Southeast Asian Refugee Community Home - Min-
nesota (SEARCH)
Southeast Asian Ministry
Vietnamese Social Service of Minnesota
Volunteers of America - Minnesota
World Relief

Other

American Refugee Committee
ARC Greater Twin Cities
Cedar Riverside Peoples Project
Census 2010
Center for Victims of Torture
Council on Black Minnesotans/MAAATEN
FBI
HSPHD-ISU - Baby Tracks
Midtown Global Market
Minneapolis Urban League
Oxfam
Pillsbury United Communities
Slavic Community Center
Sustainable Resource Center
United Way 211



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2009 Twin Cities World Refugee Day Event Sponsors

Platinum Sponsors



ClearWay Minnesota - QUITPLAN
Council on Black Minnesotans
Crown Medical Center
Minnesota African-American African Tobacco Education Network (MAAATEN)
Minnesota Department of Health - Refugee Health Program
Volunteers of America - Minnesota

Sponsors

American Refugee Committee
CAPI
Community Dental Care
Hennepin County Community Services
Metropolitan Health Plan
Midtown Global Market
Minneapolis Public Housing Authority
Minnesota International Health Volunteers
UCare

Contributors

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RESOURCE, Inc. - Employment Action Center
Statewide Tobacco Education and Engagement Project (STEEP)
Sub-Saharan African Youth and Family Services in Minnesota (SAYFSM)
World Relief

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