Greetings from the Welcome to America Team!

World Refugee Day

Each year on 20 June, the world celebrates World Refugee Day, the international day to honor people who have been forced to flee.

According to the [UN Refugee Agency](#) (UNHCR), "Together, we can champion their right to seek safety, build support for their economic and social inclusion, and advocate for solutions to their plight."

A great way to recognize 2024 World Refugee Day is to read some incredible stories of strength, resiliency, and innovation, gathered and published by the UNHCR:

- *[Eli's Chicago Cheesecake creates a winning recipe for refugee inclusion](#)*
- *[Jordanian scientist finds winning formula to get kids reading](#)*
- *[A middle school in Georgia is helping resettled refugee girls flourish in their new community](#)*
- *[Washington D.C. soccer program connects refugee children with sport](#)*

[Find more on the UNHCR website](#)!

World Refugee Day in Tucson

Tucson is fortunate to have refugees from all over. They enrich our lives, create new businesses, and become our friends. Come learn from and about the refugees who live here here in Tucson for World Refugee Day. There will be entertainment, food, cultural booths, and even a kid's activity area for little ones. The event is free!

Saturday, June 22 from 4 to 8 pm
Pima Community College, 29th Street Coalition Center
4355 E Calle Aurora, Building B

P.S. Members of the **Welcome to America Team** will attend the celebration with crafts and a book giveaway (while supplies last)!

Community Spotlight: Small business help for refugees

In a recent blog post, Matthew L., Workforce and Economic Development Librarian, wrote, "Earlier this year, I attended a meeting organized by [Literacy Connects](#) where I met Hannah Johnson from the [International Rescue Committee of Tucson](#) (IRC). Hannah works as a micro-enterprise and small business counselor for the IRC serving the refugee population of Tucson. I spoke with Hannah afterwards about the IRC and her work to support our community."