

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

PROCLAMATION NO. _____

Proclaiming June 20th, 2013 as World Refugee Day in Multnomah County, Oregon

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. World Refugee Day was established to honor the contributions and resiliency of those forced to flee from their homelands due to violence, persecution or natural disasters.
- b. According to the United Nations High Commission on Refugees, in 2011 there were over 43 million displaced people, including 10.4 million refugees worldwide.
- c. Since 2002, 11,533 refugees have settled in Oregon and Multnomah County serves as a first stop for refugees in our community.
- d. Refugees face daunting challenges relocating to a new community, with new rules, resources and often a new language.
- e. Multnomah County and our partner agencies support refugees in establishing housing, employment, healthcare and meaningful connections in our community.
- f. The hard-earned wisdom, diverse experiences, and unceasing courage of refugees enrich and strengthen the unique fabric of our community.
- g. The theme of this year's commemorations is, "One refugee family without shelter is too many."

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

1. June 20th, 2013 as World Refugee Day in Multnomah County, Oregon.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 20__.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

Jeff Cogen, Chair

SUBMITTED BY: Commissioner Judy Shiprack