



WORLD REFUGEE DAY TX ADVOCACY:

Call Governor Abbott and Let him know that Texas Supports Refugee Resettlement

Earlier this year, Governor Abbott [announced](#) his decision to end refugee resettlement in Texas this fiscal year, a decision that shocks the conscience and is an absolute abdication of Texan values to welcome the most vulnerable. As a leader in the U.S. resettlement program, Texas has a longstanding history of welcoming refugees and helping them reunify with their families and loved ones. This came after the administration signed an [executive order](#) in September 2019 that permits states and localities to block resettlement in their communities. As you now know, several organizations filed a lawsuit and [a federal judge blocked this executive order](#) and resettlement has continued. While we are incredibly grateful for this success, the Administration has filed an appeal and [this fight is not yet over](#).

We must continue to send a strong message to Gov. Abbott and our Texas leaders stating the importance of the resettlement program! Here is what you can do in honor of World Refugee Day 2020:

1. Call Governor Abbott at (512) 463-2000:

Please leave a voicemail after the tone

Sample Script: "I'm your constituent, and [\[as a person of faith/business leader/parent etc.\]](#). June 20th is World Refugee Day and in honor of this celebration, I'm calling to say that I support refugee resettlement in Texas. I am still dismayed by the Governor's earlier decision to stop resettlement in our state. A rejection of refugees is not what the state of Texas wants or needs. **My community in Texas welcomes refugees, and I urge you to do the same.**"

2. Amplify on Social Media:

Here are sample posts to share your message on social media

- @GovAbbott, I'm a Texan and in honor of #WRD2020, I want you to support resettlement in Texas. #RefugeesWelcome #RefugeesWelcomeTX #TxLovesRefugees (click to tweet: <https://ctt.ac/4fgz3>)
- Texan communities, faith leaders, and business people have all said YES to refugees. @GovAbbott please continue to let us welcome the stranger. #WRD2020 #RefugeesWelcomeTX (click to tweet: <https://ctt.ac/27drf>)
- @GovAbbott, Every year, [#refugees](#) open businesses, revitalize towns, become citizens & give back to the communities that welcomed them. This #WRD2020 I ask that you continue to support #Refugees Learn the facts: <http://bit.ly/TxRefugee> #RefugeesWelcomeTX

Sample Graphics For Texas Refugee Advocacy:

- Tx NAE Refugee Flyer: <https://bit.ly/TxEconRefuge1>
- Tx NAE Refugee Income Graphic: <https://bit.ly/TxRefugeeIncome>
- Tx NAE Refugee Businesses Graphic: <https://bit.ly/TxRefugeeBusiness>
- TX Loves Refugees Graphic: [TexasLovesrefugees Image Link](#)

3. Contact Your State Representative and Senator:

Urge state legislators to Support Refugee Resettlement

It is important that Texas legislators know their constituents strongly support resettlement in Texas. Here is how to contact your state legislators:

- (1) Click on [THIS LINK](#) and enter your address to identify your State Representative and Senator.
- (2) You can then click on the legislator name you are given and you'll be directed to their Texas House or Senate page with phone numbers email address.
- (3) **Call your State Representative and Senator** with this sample script: "Hello, My name is [REDACTED], I am from [TOWN], and my zip code is [XXXXX]. As your constituent, I want you to know that my community supports refugee resettlement in our state. June 20th was World Refugee day and in honor of this day, I urge you to make sure Texas continues to welcome refugees."

Refugee Facts for use with all Social Media Posts

To tweet your state and local officials, click to find the twitter handles for [Governor Abbott](#) and [Texas State Legislators](#)

- FACT: 52% of #refugees are under the age of 18. What if that were your child or friend? #WRD2020 #RefugeesWelcomeTX
- 44,400 people a day are forced to flee their homes because of conflict & persecution. #WRD2020
- The number of #refugees and others forcibly displaced from their homes is over 70 million worldwide, the highest level in history #WRD2020 #RefugeesWelcome
- Every minute, 24 people are forced to flee their homes because of war or persecution. #RefugeesSaveLives #WRD2020 #RefugeesWelcomeTX
- 40 years ago the Refugee Act of 1980 was enacted, since then, over 3 million [#refugees](#) have found ways to give back to America. [#RefugeesSaveLives](#) [#WRD2020](#)
- The US Refugee Resettlement Program is a lifesaving, public-private partnership for #refugees with no other means of finding safety. #WRD2020 #RefugeesWelcomeTX
- #Refugees from all over the world do whatever it takes to try to bring their families to safety, once they do, they give back to the communities that take them in. #WRD2020 #RefugeesSaveLives #RefugeesWelcomeTX

Thank you for supporting refugee resettlement in Texas!
Find more ways to advocate in the 2020 World Refugee Day toolkit:

bit.ly/WRD2020Toolkit