

PROCLAMATION

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR | CITY OF BEAVERTON

- WHEREAS, the month of June is Immigrant Heritage Month and June 20 is World Refugee Day; and
- WHEREAS, an immigrant is a person who is living in a country other than their country of birth, and immigrants in the United States may be here pursuant to different types of immigration status, including US citizenship through naturalization; and
- WHEREAS, a refugee is a someone who has experienced or fears persecution by their government or a force that their government cannot or will not control, because of that person's race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group; and
- WHEREAS, over 20,000 people who live in Beaverton were born outside of the United States, including immigrant and refugee residents from countries around the world that enrich our city, state, and nation by making us better, stronger, more innovative, and more prosperous; and
- WHEREAS, immigrants and refugees make tremendous contributions as elected officials, public servants, teachers, artists, faith leaders, community organizers, entrepreneurs, physicians, innovators, factory workers, first responders, frontline workers, and more.
- WHEREAS, for generations and still today, immigrants and refugees are often treated as outsiders; experience exclusion and disparities in access to health care, education, and benefits; and are the victims of hate and discrimination in our city and across the nation; and
- WHEREAS, over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, immigrants and refugees have experienced demonization even while working in essential industries, putting their own lives at risk to support themselves and their families, and in so doing, enabling residents of Beaverton to continue to obtain essential items and services; and
- WHEREAS, Immigrant Heritage Month offers opportunities to recognize the accomplishments and contributions that immigrants and their families have made in shaping our nation's history, enriching our culture, and contributing to the economy and success of the United States; and
- WHEREAS, World Refugee Day commemorates the 50th anniversary of the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees; and provides an opportunity to recognize the strength and resilience of refugees who have fled conflict and persecution in their home countries in hopes of reaching sanctuary and a better life in the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lacey Beaty, Mayor of the City of Beaverton, do hereby proclaim June 2022 and June 20th, 2022, respectively, as:

Immigrant Heritage Month and World Refugee Day

in the City of Beaverton and urge all residents to join me this month in recommitting to our values as a welcoming city and in celebrating immigrant and refugee cultures, heritage, leadership, stories, and resilience.


Lacey Beaty, Mayor

