



WHEREAS, The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to lead and coordinate international action to protect refugees and find solutions to refugee problems worldwide; and

WHEREAS, The United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopted on December 4, 2000, a resolution naming the 20th of June every year, as World Refugee Day, to extend to them encouragement, support and respect; and

WHEREAS, World Refugee Day 2016 is dedicated to protecting refugees and providing them with opportunities to rebuild their lives in safety and dignity; and

WHEREAS, Refugee children contribute to our country's rich diversity and bring great enthusiasm for the journey forward in their education and new lives in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Public schools are often the first place where refugee children start their new lives to achieve their American Dreams; and

WHEREAS, Today we celebrate our vibrant refugee community with a special tribute to educators who have shown exceptional commitment to supporting refugee children to succeed in school and integrate into their new community.

NOW THEREFORE, The Mayor and Council of Rockville proclaim **June 20, 2016 as World Refugee Day** and call on all residents of Rockville to continue to ensure every refugee child gets an education, every refugee family has somewhere safe to live and every refugee can work or learn new skills to make a positive contribution to their community.



Bridget Donnell Newton
Bridget Donnell Newton, Mayor

Beryl L. Feinberg
Beryl L. Feinberg, Councilmember

Virginia D. Onley
Virginia D. Onley, Councilmember

Julie Palakovich Carr
Julie Palakovich Carr, Councilmember

Mark Pierzchala
Mark Pierzchala, Councilmember

June 20, 2016