

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, since 2000, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has recognized June 20 as World Refugee Day, which celebrates the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution; and

WHEREAS, since 1980, the U.S. Refugee Act has represented the United States government's commitment to protecting refugees through resettlement and asylum programs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Missoula recognizes the immense economic, cultural, and social contributions refugees and immigrants provide to our community; and

WHEREAS, Soft Landing Missoula formed in 2015 to welcome refugee and immigrant families to Missoula with open arms and hearts; and

WHEREAS, since 2016, the International Rescue Committee has welcomed more than 500 displaced people to Missoula including people from Afghanistan, Burma, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, and Syria; and

WHEREAS, World Refugee Day 2022 is dedicated to recognizing the strength and resilience of our refugee neighbors as well as providing opportunities to rebuild their lives in safety and dignity.

NOW THEREFORE, I, John Engen, Mayor of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, hereby recognize the 20th of June, 2022 as;

WORLD REFUGEE DAY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, to be affixed at Missoula, Montana, this 20th day of June, in the year two thousand twenty-two.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Engen".

John Engen, Mayor