CITY OF HARRISONBURG
CITY COUNCIL

HARRISONBURG CITY HALL
409 SOUTH MAIN STREET, HARRISONBURG, VA 22801
OFFICE (540) 432-7701 • FAX (540) 432-7778

World Refugee Day June 20, 2025

WHEREAS, World Refugee Day is an annual commemoration adopted by the United Nations in 2000 to honor and raise awareness of refugees; and

WHEREAS, the city of Harrisonburg is a welcoming City that celebrates the growing diversity of its residents and acknowledges that refugees, immigrants, and all newcomers enhance the culture and the economy; and

WHEREAS, more than 100 million displaced people have been forced from their homes worldwide, more than any time in recorded history, including over 31 million refugees; and

WHEREAS, refugees are people who have fled their country because they have a well-founded fear of persecution because of their race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group; and

WHEREAS, resettlement provides safe haven in a third country when refugees cannot return home and cannot rebuild their lives in the country where they first fled due to lack of access to safety, shelter, health care, education, or protection; and

WHEREAS, the City of Harrisonburg is home to a diverse population of refugees and immigrants, adding to the economic strength and cultural richness of our community; and

WHEREAS, residents of the City of Harrisonburg aspire to live up to our highest societal values of acceptance and equality, and treat newcomers with decency and respect, creating a vibrant community for all to live in.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MAYOR DEANNA R. REED, CITY OF HARRISONBURG, do hereby proclaim June 20, 2025, as World Refugee Day.

GIVEN under my hand this ___ day of June, 2025.

BY: _____
Deanna R. Reed, Mayor

ATTEST:_____
Pamela Ulmer, City Clerk