



# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## UCFS-CALC Celebrates National Immigrant Heritage Month and Announces 2026 World Refugee Day Community Picnic



Troy, MI — June 2026 — United Community Family Services – Chaldean American Ladies of Charity (UCFS-CALC) proudly joins organizations across Michigan in celebrating **National Immigrant Heritage Month**, honoring the rich cultural, economic, and social contributions immigrants bring to the state. Governor Gretchen Whitmer and Lieutenant Governor Garlin Gilchrist II have issued an official proclamation recognizing June 2026 as Immigrant Heritage Month in Michigan.

“We are grateful for this statewide recognition,” said Melanie Duquesnel, CEO of UCFS-CALC. “Immigrants have shaped Michigan’s identity for generations. Their resilience, entrepreneurship, and cultural

traditions strengthen every community in our state. This proclamation affirms the value of the families we serve every day.”

UCFS-CALC encourages community partners, supporters, and local leaders to share the proclamation and join in celebrating the diverse heritage that continues to enrich Michigan.

## **UCFS-CALC Announces 2026 World Refugee Day Celebration – June 19**



As part of its ongoing commitment to supporting immigrant and refugee families, UCFS-CALC is excited to announce the return of its annual **World Refugee Day Celebration** on **June 19, 2026**. The event is a joyful community picnic that brings together families, friends, and partner organizations for an afternoon of connection and cultural celebration.

“This event is one of the most meaningful traditions we host,” said Duquesnel. “World Refugee Day gives us a chance to honor the journeys, stories, and strength of the refugee families who now call Michigan

home. It’s a day filled with joy, community, and gratitude.”

The celebration will feature:

- **Cultural food**
- **Music and entertainment**
- **Games and family activities**
- **Opportunities to connect with community partners**

More than a picnic, the event highlights the resilience and contributions of refugees who enrich Michigan's neighborhoods, workplaces, and schools.

“At UCFS-CALC, we believe in creating spaces where every person feels seen, valued, and welcomed,” Duquesnel added. “World Refugee Day is a beautiful reminder that when we embrace our differences, we build stronger communities.”

**What:** World Refugee Day

**When:** Friday, June 19, 1-4 p.m.

**What:** Picnic celebrating World Refugee Day

**Where:** Brinston Park, 2248 Brinston Dr, Troy, MI 48083

### ***About UCFS-CALC***

United Community Family Services – Chaldean American Ladies of Charity (UCFS-CALC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering individuals and families through compassionate, culturally sensitive services. UCFS-CALC provides food assistance, basic needs support, workforce development, behavioral health services, and programs that help immigrants and refugees build stable, thriving lives in Michigan.