
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PROCLAMATION

In the past thirty years, more than one million refugees have settled in our Golden State, seeking lives free from racial, religious, political or social persecution. As they journey toward self-sufficiency, they must overcome cultural barriers and make tremendous sacrifices to obtain employment and build new lives in a free country.

Reflecting the best humanitarian traditions of the American people, California is a leader in its administration of the Refugee Resettlement Program. Public and private agencies collaborate to deliver culturally sensitive social and health services that bring relief to refugees and victims of conflict from around the globe. These partnerships also help generate new jobs and provide essential training for refugees and their families.

During Refugee Awareness Month, we consider the freedom and opportunity that are America's legacies and greatest responsibilities, and we recognize those who have fled their homes in pursuit of this freedom. We acknowledge the valuable contributions refugees make to our cultural diversity and economic prosperity, and welcome them with open arms as they adapt and pursue the American Dream.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim June 2006, as "Refugee Awareness Month."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have here unto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 25th day of May 2006.



Arnold Schwarzenegger
GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA
Attest:

Bruce McPherson
SECRETARY OF STATE