

PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REGARDING REFUGEE
ADMISSION TO CLARKSTON

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF CLARKSTON, GEORGIA

WHEREAS, the Trump Administration has steadily and significantly restricted the number of refugees admitted to the United States throughout his term, ultimately setting the admissions rate for Fiscal Year 2021 at only 15,000, a historic low for the program;

WHEREAS, the Biden administration committed in February, 2021 to raising the cap for refugee admissions in Fiscal Year 2021 to 62,500;

WHEREAS, The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has determined that there are almost 30 million refugees worldwide, and refugee resettlement is a lifeline for less than one percent of the world's refugee population;

WHEREAS, the United States has historically been a leader in providing safe haven to the world's most vulnerable including torture survivors, people with severe medical conditions, LGBTIQ individuals, orphaned children, and women at risk of gender-based violence;

WHEREAS, the City of Clarkston and other Georgia communities have long extended welcome to refugees- advocating on their behalf, hosting community events, and working together to create a home for these new Americans;

WHEREAS, Refugees are workers, students, entrepreneurs, parents, neighbors, and community leaders who thrive in the Clarkston community, contributing more than they consume; and

WHEREAS, Refugees contribute to the Clarkston community and other Georgia communities by starting businesses, paying taxes, and sharing their cultural traditions; and

WHEREAS, Georgians recognize all the benefits that refugees bring to their local communities through their culture, education and experience, and overall economic contributions; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Clarkston, that the City of Clarkston welcomes refugees and declares its support for the resettlement of refugees in the State of Georgia and in the City of Clarkston specifically, no matter their religion, race, nationality, sexual orientation, gender identity, or country of origin, and calls upon other local governments and communities to join the City of Clarkston in supporting a stronger national effort to resettle the world's most vulnerable refugees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the City of Clarkston that the Clarkston City Council hereby calls on the Biden Administration to keep to its commitment to raise the cap on refugee resettlement for Fiscal Year 2021 to 62,500, as it originally committed to in February 2021.

SO RESOLVED, this ____ day of _____, 2021.

**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF CLARKSTON, GEORGIA**

BEVERLY BURKS, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tracy Ashby, City Clerk