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### **PITTSBURGH CELEBRATES WORLD REFUGEE DAY JUNE 17**

**(Pittsburgh)** – The public is invited to Pittsburgh’s World Refugee Day on Friday, June 17, 2016 from 11 am to 2 pm in Market Square in Downtown Pittsburgh.

The free event will feature local refugees in musical and dance performances, plus children’s activities and cultural crafts and foods.

Acculturation for Justice, Access and Peace Outreach (AJAPO) is leading the celebration planning efforts in partnership with Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Jewish Family and Children’s Service, Northern Area Multi-Service Center, South Hills Interfaith Movement, Young Democrats of Allegheny County, City of Asylum Pittsburgh, CISV Pittsburgh, Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council and American Red Cross of Southwestern PA. The event is being funded by the Urban Affairs Foundation and Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh.

“This is going to be a wonderful celebration of the diverse cultures represented by our local refugee communities,” said Dr. Yinka Agaga-Williams, Executive Director of AJAPO. “It is also a great opportunity for the public to get to know their newest neighbors while experiencing the refugees’ food, music, dance and stories.”

“Catholic Charities is proud to participate in World Refugee Day,” said Susan Rauscher, Executive Director. “As one of the agencies that welcomes and resettles refugees in Pittsburgh, we honor the refugees for their significant contributions to our local culture and economy.”

World Refugee Day was established by the United Nations to honor the spirit, courage, and contributions of refugees worldwide.

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