Dear Friends and Partners of World Relief Durham,

It is hard to believe we are already in the month of May -- the time is flying past us! More than ever, we are thankful for your partnership with us as we provide you tools and coaching to living in holistic relationships and ministry with newcomers of the Triangle.

We all live very busy lives and it can be a challenge to find opportunities to engage in friendships and serve your newcomer friends in the midst of the schedules we all keep. BUT... what if there was a way for you to simultaneously serve and invest in your newcomer friends while...
simply moving in the normal rhythms of your daily life? What if even your career could be a powerful tool to help you be a part of God's big, eternal purposes among our newcomer friends?

I am very pleased to tell you that World Relief has just such an opportunity! In this installment of our newsletter, you will have the opportunity hear about the "first-run" stories of transformational ministry that has been integrated into the normal daily rhythms of life and work of several WRD volunteers. We will share with you similar opportunities to get involved yourself. And as we further roll out this avenue of involvement, there will be increasing opportunities available to you to leverage your life for the gospel's holistic transformation in the lives of newcomers all across the Triangle.

Please also mark your calendars for our World Refugee Day celebration, in partnership with Waypoint Church, on Saturday, June 14. Look for more details on this exciting event below in this newsletter. And as always, it is a privilege to serve together with you.

Because of Jesus,

Andrew Castle
Executive Director
World Relief Durham

STAND WITH US| SAVE THE DATE

World Refugee Day Celebration
Saturday, June 14
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Who:
All newcomers in the Triangle, local Churches and the larger community are invited.

What:
In honor of World Refugee Day, a celebration of the newcomer population and cultures living in the Triangle. There will be food and cultural activities, and we will even attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the longest shish-kebab.

When:
Saturday, June 14 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where:
Oak Creek Village Apartments
4230 Garrett Rd. Durham, N.C.
(In the field area near the laundry facilities)

Why:
In connection with World Refugee Day, this is an opportunity to celebrate our newcomer neighbors and provide an initial introduction to begin new friendships. We will also be celebrating the launch of Waypoint Church, which has a mission of reaching and serving the nations here in the Triangle.

STAND WITH US |
REAL LIVES, REAL CHANGE

For Pat Jenkins Eder, owner of CORE Catering, it has always been about giving back to the community.

"We always receive so much... It's very humbling for me, to have the opportunity to be able to share."

Pat founded CORE Catering in 2010, with a vision for providing locally grown, healthy comfort food, while crossing barriers and connecting with the local community. In 2012, CORE opened the popular Divinity Café at Duke Divinity School, and Pat saw it as "an opportunity to give more."

According to Pat, the question is, "How can we... connect with the people that need -- on all levels?"
While some address need for an emotional or spiritual standpoint, "I'm doing it from the place of food."

CORE has been hiring refugees resettled by World Relief for several years, and Pat says it has been a "stellar experience."
"Everybody deserves an opportunity, [and] we get to learn so much. Our manager here is learning a new Arabic word every day," she laughs. "We're sharing stories... learning about culture. And we have an opportunity to help [newcomers] build."

CORE is providing more than jobs to refugees. Pat tells the story of a former employee and WRD refugee, who started with no English and is now a lead worker at a major company.

"He worked through other things so he could move on. We know this is happening and we encourage it."

Khalid Omer, a refugee employed at the Divinity Café, says he's grateful for his supervisors' grace and willingness to help employees learn.

Discussing his time in the Middle East, Khalid says, "When I talk[ed] with my boss, he looked [at me] like I [was] not a human. Here, it is different."

"Anyone that we've worked with from World Relief has been so kind, so willing to work, so willing to learn," says Pat. "[They have] a desire to be a part of a team, a kindness, experiences of their own that they can share, and a passion to make something of themselves. Why wouldn't you want to hire them?"

World Relief Durham is so thankful for this wonderful, mutually beneficial partnership with Pat and CORE Catering.

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Think you might be interested in leveraging your employment-related resources to empower refugees? Contact Elissa Hill at ehill@wr.org.

**STAND WITH US**

**TAKE ACTION**

As you consider the next steps you can take in empowering our newcomers in employment, we have developed a few action steps that may help get you started:

**Employment Action Steps:**
Consider joining World Relief as an employment volunteer. This opportunity may involve:
- Regularly scheduled times to assist one-on-one with employment homework
- Teaching refugees how to fill out entry-level job applications
- Going through basic interview questions
  Or other job readiness activities

If you are a business owner or business leader in the community, please consider joining with World Relief as a business partner. We would love to talk to you more
about how you can leverage your time, networks or career to serve the newcomer community.

If interested in getting involved as an employment volunteer or a WRD business partner, please contact Elissa Hill, employment specialist, at ehill@wr.org or 919.439.7489.

STAND WITH US| DONATE

As you consider how you can leverage what you have for others, we ask you to take a look at our employment donation needs:

**Employment Donation Opportunity:**

Newcomers need transportation to access job opportunities that are not along bus lines. Please consider donating:

- **Used bicycles** or **sponsoring the purchase of a moped** (typically $600-$1,000).

- **$35 Walmart gift cards**, to purchase boots and slip-resistant shoes for newcomers beginning restaurant, hotel and construction jobs.

- **Interview attire**: Men's black pants and neutral-colored collared shirts (XS, S, M & L), black belts, nice shoes.

Check out our [website](#) to learn about other ongoing and immediate donation needs.

Please contact Kaylee Baker, volunteer coordinator, at kbaker@wr.org if you have any questions or would like to donate.
Will you consider giving to World Relief Durham to help us reach out to the people God has brought to our doorstep?

We are more than just a refugee resettlement agency. We empower the local Church toward reaching all 160,000 newcomers living in the Triangle. Learn why this is our heart and how we work to see our goals accomplished by catching the vision.

Watch this video to catch our vision.

Watch this video to see how the local Church is being empowered to serve the most vulnerable.
Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

--Ephesians 3:20-21