

IMPACT REPORT



2023

CONTENTS

4	A Message from Our Founders
5	A Movement on the Move
6	About One Journey
7	Year In Review
10	One Journey Festival Highlights
14	Geographic Representation of Festival Programming
16	Community Poem
18	Poems from the One Journey Community
19	Our Impact
20	Strategic Objective
27	Looking Forward
28	Join Us
29	Acknowledgements
30	Core Team
31	Appendix
34	Kids Passport





A Message from **Our Founders**

When we launched the One Journey movement six years ago, our goal was to change the way refugees are seen, not just as victims, but as fellow humans with talents and experiences that add to the fabric of our communities and country. Through our efforts, we would amplify refugee voices and bring people together in a spirit of unity, celebration, and belonging. We are happy to report that our positive message is getting out and making an impact. 2022-23 was our most successful year yet.

Attendance doubled at the One Journey Festival, the national celebration of refugee talents and stories. New sponsors and partners came on board. New this year, Sesame Workshop shared its program for displaced families and children and arranged a special appearance by Grover from Sesame Street. In

addition to incredible performers and dancers from around the world, we added interactive community arts and technology activities and raised awareness of climate refugees.

During the year, One Journey went on the road to Boston, New York City, and Philadelphia, and held a Unity Concert in Miami. In March, we were honored to be named an NGO partner by Shakespeare Theater for its Washington, DC premier of *The Jungle*, the powerful multi-media play that immerses audiences in the refugee experience. Our popular community soccer event drew its largest number of participants ever. And for the first time, One Journey raised awareness of the persecution of LGBTQ+ refugees at the Capital Pride Festival in partnership with Rainbow Railroad. It has truly been an amazing year, made possible by

our amazing volunteers, donors, and growing list of generous corporate sponsors: Accenture, Mayer Brown, Amazon, Amazon Web Services, Endeavors, Covington, EnGen, Islamic Relief, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, Sky's The Limit, TD Bank, Welcome.US, and Women For Women International. Thank you! Now let us share our amazing year in this fifth annual Impact Report. Join us as we revisit 12 months of milestones in working for a world that welcomes, values, and supports refugees, always keeping in mind that while we may walk on many paths, we are on one journey of humanity, together.

A Movement on **the Move!**

As 2022 came to an end, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees reported that over 100 million people around the world were displaced from the places they call home. These individuals and families come from places like Ukraine, where ongoing Russian aggression has left over 10 million Ukrainian nationals displaced both at home and abroad. They come from places like Syria, where violence, civil unrest, and natural disasters have forced nearly 13 million Syrians to flee their homes in search of safety elsewhere. They come from places where humans are forced to survive in inhumane conditions, and they come in search of something better for themselves and their families.

As these refugees are forced to leave their communities behind, the goal of One Journey is to ensure that they can move forward with a new community around them, one which is welcoming and supportive, embodying the true spirit of what it means to be human. Our grassroots efforts have united like-minded organizations and individuals through our mutual goal of celebrating and enriching the lives

and stories of our friends from around the globe. Our community encompasses a diverse reflection of the world we live in, with nations and cultures from every corner of the Earth represented both at the One Journey Festival and at our events throughout the year. Anywhere One Journey can be found, you will find smiles on peoples' faces, laughter in their voices, and heartfelt connection in their words.

Though our ever-growing cohort of volunteers come from all walks of life, with their professional backgrounds encompassing a variety of disciplines from arts and entertainment to finance and logistics, the passion they collectively show in pursuit of the One Journey mission is truly a living embodiment of our motto: "Many paths, one journey."





About One Journey

Our Vision

A world where refugees and other displaced people are welcomed, valued, and supported so they and their host communities can thrive together.

Our Mission

To amplify refugee voices and enhance public awareness of refugee talents and contributions. We strive to build enduring connections for refugees and use cultural and technological tools to facilitate human connections between refugees and their host communities.

Our Strategy

To build a diverse coalition of allies to:

// Create visible and positive platforms, both digital and physical, that bring diverse peoples together to encourage compassion, foster communication, and create human connections related to refugee issues.
// Counter nativist stereotypes and shift the narrative about refugees and other displaced people by highlighting their human stories of resilience, talent, and accomplishment; build emotional connections among local and refugee populations by using “the common languages of humanity,” such as music, art, food, and sports.

// Inspire and mobilize people to take action to welcome, assist, and advocate for refugees.

What we do

One Journey Festival.

A flagship festival celebrating refugee talents and contributions through music, dance, art, storytelling, technology, food, sports, and more. This event is replicable and scalable, and the long-term vision is of an enduring annual series held across multiple U.S. and international cities.

Refugee Coalition and Community Building.

Connecting community members with channels to take action through partnerships with service NGOs. The One Journey network extends nationally and globally, now encompassing several thousand members from NGOs, refugee communities, governments, businesses, academia, and faith communities.

Educational Events.

Organizing of educational events throughout the year to raise awareness of the crisis and engage communities on refugee issues. These events remind participants of our shared humanity with those who are displaced.



Year in Review 2022-2023

SEP

Unity Walk - Washington, DC.

Community gathering of interfaith voices and communities to show love and appreciation for folks from all walks of life in the DC area.



Unity Concert

NOV

Unity Concert - Miami.

An evening of multicultural music and celebration presented by One Journey featuring Latin Grammy winner and Grammy nominee Jorge Glem.

Accenture Service Day



Hussein Smko & Project TAG



OCT

Hussein Smko & Project TAG - NYC.

The first Roses In Sand event featured Project TAG and two artists from the MENA region.

Accenture Service Day.

Accenture held its annual Service Day, where employees volunteered to help newly arrived Afghan and Ukrainian refugees.



Holiday Market

DEC

Global Holiday Markets - Washington, DC.

Two incredibly successful markets featuring refugee and immigrant vendors were hosted by One Journey ahead of the holidays.

Year in Review

2022-2023



The Jungle

MAR

Perry World House Panel w/ UPenn - Philadelphia.

A panel featuring an Afghan artist and an American photojournalist discussing the healing potential the arts can have among Afghan refugees as well as the future of the arts within Afghanistan.

Shakespeare Theater Co.'s "The Jungle" - Washington, DC.

One Journey partnered with Good Chance and The Shakespeare Theater Company and to raise awareness of and support for refugees through its production of "The Jungle," which tells the emotional story of a refugee camp which operated in France from 2015-2016.

APR

Sips That Support Fundraiser - Washington, DC.

A wine-tasting fundraiser hosted by One Journey which brought together refugees, volunteers, and supporters of the cause in an effort to build common ground and raise funds and awareness.

Soccer Fest - Washington, DC.

One Journey organized an event for refugees where children could learn the sport of soccer while adults participated in a 7v7 tournament. The event, hosted at the Washington International School, helped form connections between community members from around the DC area.



Soccer Fest



JUN

Capital Pride Festival w/ Rainbow Railroad - Washington, DC.

One Journey and Rainbow Railroad shared a table at the Capital Pride Festival to raise awareness of LGBTQ+ refugees and the challenges they face. The Festival brings DC's LGBTQ+ community together in a spectacular show of love and support for one another.

•June 24•
One Journey Festival
2023

Our Signature Event!

The largest 1J Festival to date took place once again at the Washington National Cathedral, featuring refugee and immigrant artists, artisans, entertainers, and more from across the globe.

Check out our Festival Highlights.

JUL

1J Community Mural at George Washington University - Washington, DC.

George Washington University hosted the first exhibit of the 1J Community Mural. GWU's Art Therapy Clinic led the creation of refugee-themed mandalas at the 1J Festival for public showing.



Festival Highlights



PERFORMERS & SPEAKERS

The Festival Main Stage came alive with a dynamic and captivating group of musicians, dancers, and speakers from refugee and immigrant backgrounds. The event was skillfully hosted by Tommy McFly, a well known TV personality and the ambassador of DC media. The extraordinary performers delighted the audience and provided them with glimpses into the experiences of refugees, showcasing the tremendous value of inclusive communities. Featured acts included Grammy-nominated musician, Cheick Hamala Diabate from Mali; evocative performance by Deepak Ram and Noah Getz; Ukrainian music ensemble, Gerdan; Afghan rock band, Kabul Dreams; the jazzy tunes of Stringwise: Jorge Glem and César

Orozco from Venezuela; the multilingual music of Zakaria.WDZ; and 34 amazing girls hailing from 22 countries who make up the Portland, Maine-based Pihcintu Multinational Girls Chorus. At the Studio Stage, dancers and musicians from Cambodia, Afghanistan, Iraq, Ukraine, Venezuela, and more gave demonstrations and hosted workshops for festival-goers.

Festival-goers also had the opportunity to hear the extraordinary life stories of Nigerian author and activist, Edefe Okporo, and South Sudanese entrepreneur and video game developer, Lual Mayen.



YOGA & MEDITATION

Prior to the start of the festival, the attendees joined mindfulness mentor and corporate wellness coordinator, Vahid Coskun, for yoga and meditation at the Studio Tent, kicking off the festival with the feeling of positivity and community.



SESAME WORKSHOP **NEW!**

This year the One Journey Festival welcomed a special guest, Sesame Street's one and only Grover! Sesame Workshop seeks to provide the necessary tools and resources to support children in reaching their full potential. Through Sesame Workshop's programming, as well as community and national partnerships, they empower children and families to build resilience in the face of adversity and provide tools for children's long-term success.

GLOBAL MARKETPLACE

The Marketplace was a stunning display of artistic skills, creative perspectives, and international products. The array of vendors encompassed refugee artists and craftspeople and also organizations that offer refugee-made or supporting items, all aimed at aiding displaced individuals or communities back home.

INTERNATIONAL FOOD LANE

Our International Food Lane keeps growing, bringing in a splendid variety of cuisine and culture from around the world. By supporting our food trucks, you support a refugee or immigrant vendor and strengthen your understanding of and connection to our diverse community.

TECHNOLOGY FOR HUMANITY **Sponsored by Accenture Federal Services**

At the Technology for Humanity Tent, visitors used 360° virtual reality headsets to travel to refugee camps and settlements in Asia and Africa and to witness climate displacement in Indonesia. Festival attendees also played Salaam, a conflict resolution game, designed by Lual Mayen, a self-taught game developer and a former refugee.

CLIMATE REFUGEE TENT **NEW!** **Sponsored by Mayer Brown**

The Climate Refugee Tent provided visitors an opportunity to learn about the connection between climate change and displacement. It also featured sustainable art activities, including henna art by Afghan artists, Ukrainian flower crown making, and a 'Messages to Planet Earth' Wall where visitors could share why protecting our planet matters to them.

TAKE ACTION TENT **Sponsored by Endeavors**

35 selected partner organizations joined us to inform the festival-goers about their missions and the programs they conduct to welcome, assist, and advocate for refugees. Festival attendees had the opportunity to absorb valuable insights and discover meaningful ways to get involved in supporting refugees on both global and local levels, at the Festival and after they return home.

KIDS CORNER

Full of laughter and fun, the Kids Corner held a Meet-and-Greet with Grover from Sesame Street! The children also learned Afghan children's songs, created and colored crafts, got colorful face paintings, and created banners and got flags, bubbles, and ribbons for the Unity Parade. While here, kids received a One Journey Passport to have stamped around the Festival grounds and returned to the tent to get their prize.

UNITY PARADE

The Unity Parade is a treasured One Journey tradition and Festival high point led by the all-women Afro-Brazilian drum corps, Batalá Washington. The Unity Parade brought together children, families,

performers, volunteers, and festival-goers for a vibrant and colorful celebration of our shared humanity and tribute to refugees around the world. The drums echoed across the grounds, calling everyone to join in!

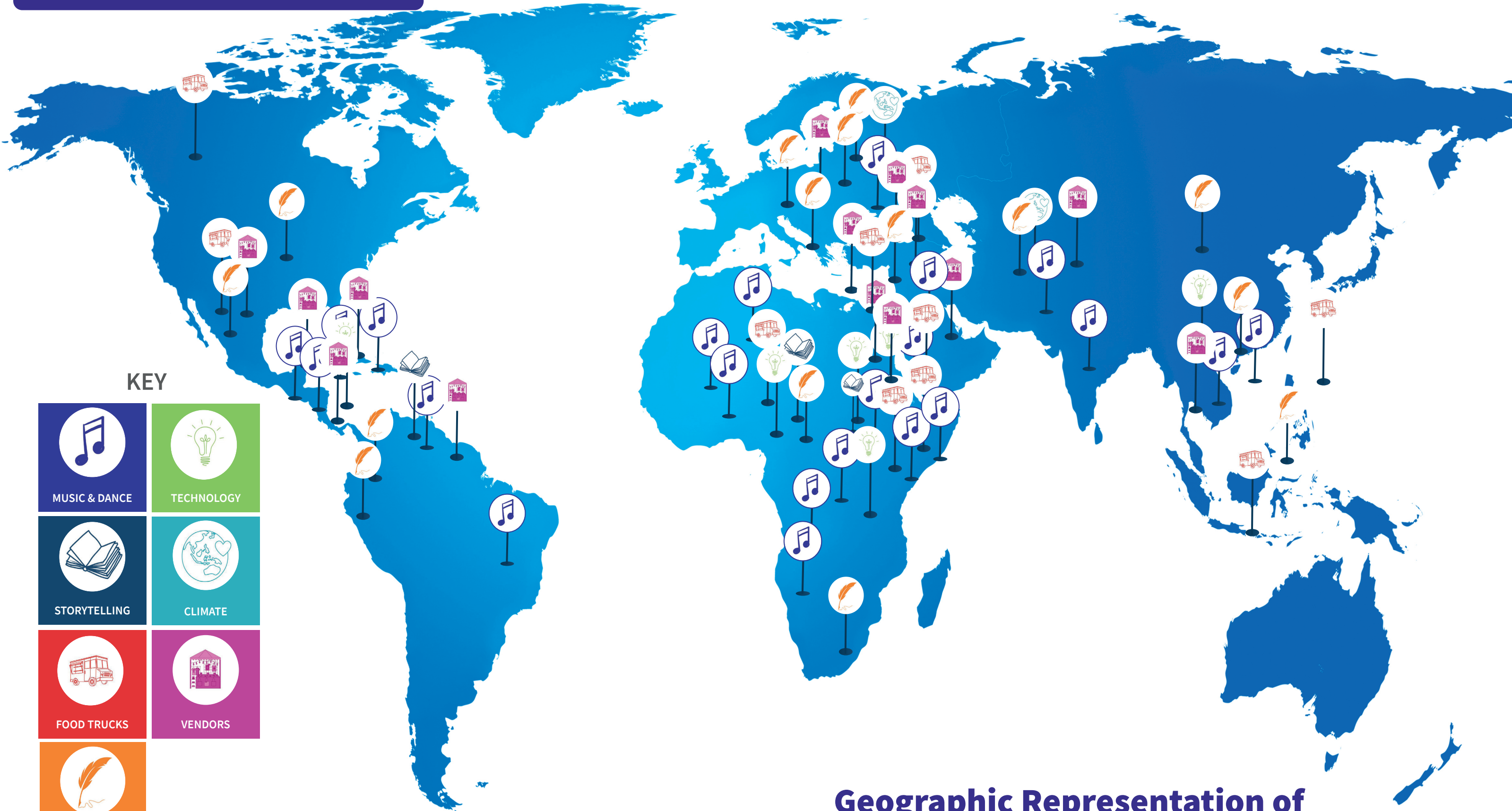
POETRY TENT **NEW!**

Facilitated by the Wick Poetry Center at Kent State University, festival-goers helped create a community poem, celebrating our themes of belonging, connection, and unity. Toward the end of the Festival, the Poetry Center combined the poems written by the festival-goers into a single Community Poem, which was read from the Main Stage.

COMMUNITY MURAL **NEW!**

This interactive art experience showcased the beauty of humanity joining together as one with the real-time creation of a community art mural. Guided by volunteers from the George Washington University Art Therapy Clinic, festival attendees painted their own section of a mandala, a symbol of the universe in its ideal form. In the ancient Sanskrit language of Hinduism and Buddhism, mandala means "circle." In these traditions, its creation signifies the transformation of a universe of suffering to one of joy. The mandalas will provide a meaningful visualization of our motto, "many paths, one journey". The completed murals are currently on display at George Washington University.

A World of Talents



**Geographic Representation of
Festival Programming**



Community Poem!

I am from the brave Vietnamese boat people,
From strong resilient inspiring parents,
Who left everything they knew,
For better opportunities,
I am from my family's stories,
My Mexican American culture,
From Houston and El Paso,
From Pop Musica, Tejando
Corridos, Tumbados, and Rap,
I am from a land that stretches from
High snowy mountains, to deep blue seas
A land pillaged and colonized
A land where the fragrance of
Flowers mix with the pungent smell of spices
India- my land, my home
I am from sunny, windy, stormy, Capetown

Ever-present mountain vistas
Snow-white beaches, crashing waves
Together, we arrive at the cathedral clapping hands
in song
We send our hopes up into a peaceful cloud
My voice comes from the fearless women who raised
me
Who trained me to be courageous, to represent hope
for equality
My voice wants you not to judge my skin color,
My accent, or opinion,
But to be my brother and sister
My voice roars with first gen pride,
The experiences of my parents roll off my tongue
Like a bowling ball knocking down pins

The 2023 Community Poem is a compilation of the many poems created by attendees at the One Journey Festival, facilitated by the Wick Poetry Center at Kent State University.



The sound of my voice moves first to dance
The hearts to leap, the spirits to worship,
A voice that can raise to protest, soften to soothe,
moderate to encourage
There is an unsettling side to my voice
It is one that speaks of my suffering, my loss and
shattered dreams
It speaks of my father's warm hand that I can no
longer kiss
My mother's hugs that I miss so much, my young
kid's longing for his homeland
That he was forced to leave so early
Do you hear my voice?
Do you hear that there is a strong voice in my
silence?
My suffering is my statement
My misery is my voice
Your embrace, your welcome, your kindness, is my

best remedy
Together we can ask for what we need, demand
justice
Teach our stories in the praise of shared humanity
We weave the torn patterns into one fabric
Pulling from all walks of life
Together we dare to love those who are different
from us,
No matter where they are from,
What they look like,
And who they love
Together we rise from our scorched plains to taste
the free air of the sky
We clench our hands in an unbreakable union
We walk in support alongside those who are far
away, remind them we care
Together, we are on One Journey to make the world
a better place



Poems from the *One Journey* *Community*



My voice comes from the fearless women who raised me.

My voice trains me to be courageous, to represent the hope for equality, the hope you will see as a human being.

My voice wants you not to judge my skin color, my accent, or my opinion.

My voice needs you to be my brother and sister, even when people can see how different we look.

Together we dare to love those who are different from us, no matter where they are from, what they look like, and who they love.

Together we celebrate humanity. To see the world through the eyes of another, to share one dream, a world where there is no discrimination, nor war, a world of love.

Together, we get our hands dirty and commit and social justice will not just be a wish.

I am from the lingering smell of chicken paprikás filling up the apartment building making the

neighbors hungry.

I am from my mother's heart seeking answers in literature and theater and museums and art.

I am from the scent of the summer air of the Open Air Theater in Szeged made of fresh pretzels, theater makeup, perfumes the audience wears on special nights like that, and of fireworks.

I am from the Hungarian pride pumping through my DNA.

I am from the city of golden domes and chestnut trees, but at the same time, I am from a village next to a drying-up river and a thriving and never dimming city by the coast.

I am composed of memories and stories. I collect them, hide them, and treasure them in my mind and soul.

I am from guilt and fear and war and love and hope! I am grateful to God and those who watch over me for the life and opportunities I have had the chance to fight for.

Our Impact

Strategic Objective #1

CREATE THE PLATFORM

Create visible and positive platforms, both digital and physical, that bring diverse peoples together to encourage compassion, foster communication, and create human connections related to refugee issues.

One Journey continues to bring people and organizations together by expanding its portfolio of events, extending the reach of our online presence, and fostering supportive connections among NGOs, businesses, faith communities, academic institutions, and individuals. This sets One Journey apart, as many NGOs and service organizations lack either an effective public platform to reach potential supporters or the relationships to build attendance at events.

In 2023, One Journey's public platforms continued to grow, and our relationships only strengthened.

The inclusion of the Climate, Poetry, and Art Mural tents established new platforms and relationships for the festival. Through the events in New York City, Miami, and Philadelphia, we shared our message with an ever-growing audience and continued to create an expansive platform.

Partners and Sponsors

The generous support of our partners and sponsors makes the work of One Journey possible. We are grateful for your steadfast support of the One Journey mission and community.

More than 200 partner organizations across the country participate in and help promote One Journey events. These partnerships are essential to One Journey's mission, creating and maintaining a supportive network dedicated to helping refugees. Last year, their monetary and in-kind contributions, through content, technology, event space, and knowledge were critical in making sure our news and events reached a wider audience. Across the board, our partners were unanimous in their appreciation of our mission.



Strategic Objective #1
CREATE THE PLATFORM

Engagement and Outreach

This year One Journey continued to reach new highs in Engagement and Outreach. Once again thousands of festival-goers returned to the National Cathedral, continuing a reliable upwards trend of attendance.

The continued work from One Journey’s fully-volunteer Communications Team amplifies not only the Festival programming, but our ongoing efforts to expand to more cities and foster the environment for new events.

Our online platforms have been essential in promoting One Journey events and the work of partner organizations, as well as spreading positive messages about refugees. This virtual presence provides a platform for refugees, where we highlight refugee artists, vendors, performers, and more through featured social media and blog posts.



Facebook:
[1 Journey Festival](#)



Instagram:
[1journeyfestival](#)



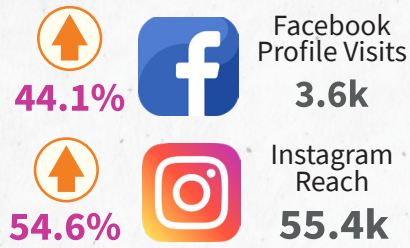
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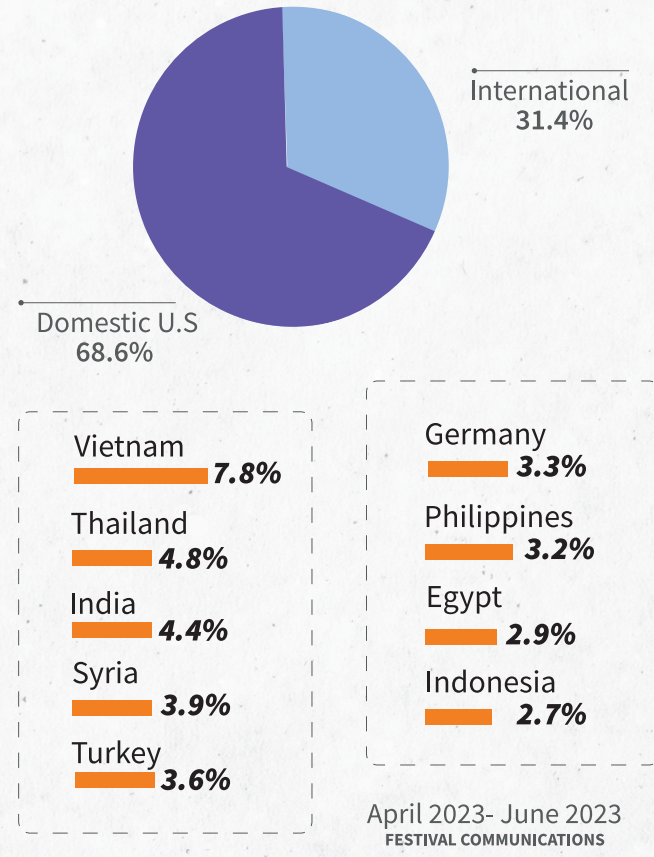
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[One Journey](#)



JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023
SOCIAL MEDIA



Our International Following



Strategic Objective #1
CREATE THE PLATFORM

“Quotes about the
2023 Festival”

“ This festival was a beautiful act of love that confirms my long-held conviction that we are all One; we are all connected. The festival brought the beauties of different cultures and peoples together. I saw how easy it can be to just appreciate the beauties of different cultures from around the world. The common language of music, food, dance, and now increasingly technology is shared by all. On that day, I saw a more colorful, a more accepting, a more loving America. An America that stands true to her ideals of diversity, of inclusion, of co-existence. As a refugee twice in my life, I believe there is no greater joy for a refugee than to feel welcome and embraced. This festival was a fantastic act of kindness to show to the refugees that they are loved by their new communities, and that they can call America their new home, and look forward to a future of promise, of opportunity, and of freedom for themselves and their loved ones. Yes, our Journey is One Festival volunteer ”

“ The most impactful moment was hearing vendors that they enjoyed connecting with other vendors say ”
Festival Attendee
“ Seeing all the organizations working in this field was so inspiring! ”
Festival Attendee

“ You will never know how much this meant to me last year at a very low point in my life, or how much it means now. This Festival has so much more impact beyond a single day. Knowing that there are people on the other side of the world who cared about me without knowing me, who could organize an event like this for people like me, that was a powerful thing that came at a time when I needed it most ”
Afghan Refugee and Festival Volunteer

Strategic Objective #1
CREATE THE PLATFORM

“

As an immigrant person in the US, I very much appreciate how One Journey is highlighting so effectively the experiences of immigrants and refugees. Anatolian Artisans has been working with low income women who left their home towns to find work elsewhere in the country. With the influx of millions of refugees who have fled war-ravaged countries and climate conditions and now residing in desperate conditions in Turkey, we are now working with these communities as well. Selling their handmade crafts is one way of generating income for them and One Journey has been an important platform to achieve this goal. We thank the One Journey team for inviting us to participate in this well organized and run Festival

Anatolian Artisans”

“

You all rock, I love the coordination, the music, the food everything. I want to really appreciate the great works by Wendy and her team!

Take Action Partner”



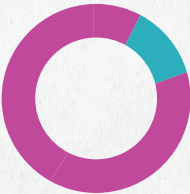
Strategic Objective #2
SHIFT THE NARRATIVE

Shift the narrative about refugees and other displaced people and counter nativist stereotypes by highlighting their human stories of resilience, talent, and accomplishments; build emotional connections among local and refugee populations by using “the common languages of humanity,” such as music, art, food, and sports.

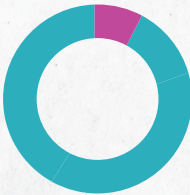
Year after year, the number of refugees around the globe continues to rise, and as a result, narratives that play out across all forms of mass media tend to portray those seeking refuge as burdensome, helpless, and, at times, dangerous. These narratives are perpetuated all around us through cable news, social media, political talking points, and more, and oftentimes directly contribute to violence, prejudice, and persecution against refugees. The fear of “The Other” is pervasive within society, which is why One Journey exists to fight back against these narratives which breed hatred and discontent against our fellow human beings.

Throughout the year, One Journey engages with the community through activism, fundraising, and recreational activity in a way that encapsulates the grassroots essence of the movement. In November of 2022, One Journey took a trip to the beach for our Unity Concert in Miami, spreading our message of mutual support and our celebration of diversity in a new environment. In April, our Soccer Fest brought together adults and youth of the refugee and immigrant communities, as well as those local to DC, to engage in the sport everyone knows and loves. At every event exists another chance for someone to meet folks who might look or sound very different from themselves. Our hope is that the community takes advantage of these opportunities to bridge the gap between cultures, and as a result, becomes a more inclusive and outspoken community.

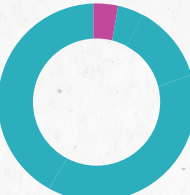
Highlight
Statistics
Based on the 2023
Survey Results



19%
of the responders identified as a formerly displaced person (refugee, special immigrant visa holder, asylee, humanitarian parolee, etc.)



90%
90% of the festival goers surveyed shared that the event positively influenced their view of newcomers



96%
of surveyed volunteers stated that attending the festival positively changed their perception toward refugees in their community

“Quotes about the 2023 Festival”

“I left the festival feeling refreshed, with fresh perspective on the things that truly matter in life, with a sense of gratefulness for everything I’ve been blessed with and new respect and admiration for those refugees working towards their dreams. I felt connected to an entire community as a human after coming to the festival”
Festival Volunteer

“Very powerful community building moment”
Festival Volunteer

“I think the refugee stories were most impactful in humanizing the experience for me”
Festival Attendee

“As an immigrant myself, the Festival means hope for the new refugees looking for a safe haven. I was moved to see so many people working to support and welcome them. Thank you for all your work and dedication!”
Festival attendee

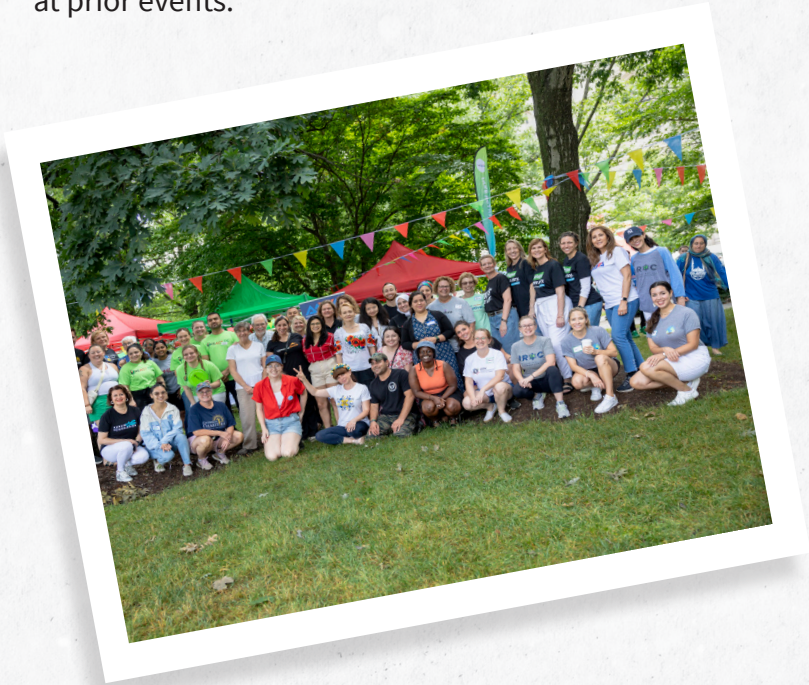
“I just learned about this festival. I know that I will look for it in the future”
Festival attendee

“The Unity Parade is always the high point of sharing the joy of the One Journey Festival. And this year took the Festival in some exciting directions. So many more interactive moments with the audience: dancing throughout the day, the community mural, the community poem, new ways to take action for refugees”
Festival Volunteer



Inspire and mobilize people to take action to welcome, assist, and advocate for refugees.

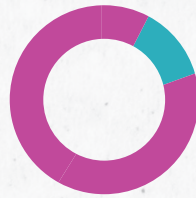
Community members taking action is the most concrete manifestation of One Journey’s impact. This movement seeks to harness the moment as an individual is moved by compassion and connect them with an outlet for action. These outlets are as varied as the One Journey network is broad, from spreading the word to donating money to leveraging unique skills and networks. One Journey itself is a fully volunteer-driven movement. Its core logistical team is made of 30+ members, who have contributed 6,500+ hours to event planning, fundraising, raising funds, and administrative functions. The festival alone drew on the support of 250+ volunteers for day-of execution, totaling more than 700 volunteer hours. These volunteers have reported overwhelmingly positive experiences, many signed up of who signed up after moving experiences at prior events.



One Journey has also harnessed community energy on behalf of direct service organizations. The festival featured more than 30 Take Action partners, which are NGOs working locally, nationally, and internationally to serve refugees and other displaced peoples.

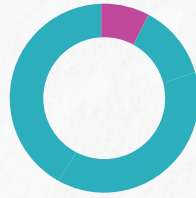
The action taken by One Journey extends far beyond the realms of the festival, with many festival-goers taking action with our NGO partners outside of the Cathedral grounds. In addition, as the movement continues to grow so does our action. Events outside of the festival in DC, and other cities like New York City and Miami represents the continued action One Journey inspires.

Highlight
Statistics
Based on the 2023
Survey Results



75%

of the surveyed volunteers stated that it is extremely important for them to see their employer supporting refugee initiatives such as One Journey



92%

of festival goers surveyed took action to support refugees by connecting with an NGO, purchasing items from a refugee entrepreneur, listening to a refugee story, making a personal connection, or learning more about challenges refugees face

“Quotes about the
2023 Festival”

“

At last year’s Festival Kabul Dreams did a shout out to an Afghan refugee student in hiding in Pakistan, told him to take heart, and they would see him in person this year.

When I spoke to the band members this year, I asked them if they remembered the young man. They replied, “Turn around, that’s him!” Since last year, he had made his way to the U.S., was now attending law school, and was here now at the One Journey Festival meeting his heroes in his favorite band in person”

Festival Volunteer

“

Great job! Was so empowering to see such a great turnout

Festival Volunteer”

“

I work with asylum seekers in Maine as a teacher and it’s nice to have made connections with some organizations to bring home”
Festival attendee

Looking
Forward

We are all on one journey of humanity together. Our message is more urgent now than when we launched One Journey. The global refugee crisis will continue to grow, exacerbated by rising international tensions and climate change. Our world must prepare now for the challenges ahead, applying a paradigm of welcome that incorporates the skills and talents of displaced people into a global economy.

The One Journey movement will play a vital role in this shift as we continue to change the narrative about refugees. This is our goal for 2024 as we take stock of our accomplishments and develop new strategies, while showcasing refugees through our events and programming.

As our reach expands, One Journey is exploring strategies to deliver greater value for our sponsors and partners. We are exploring new content and events, and are examining possibilities for a permanent presence in the Nation’s Capital. **Expect great things in the year ahead!**



Join Us!

Each of our incredible successes have been built by the sponsors, donors, volunteers, and partners who have put their faith in One Journey's mission. The tremendous energy behind this movement reflects the deep need for the amplification of refugee voices and increased public awareness. Groups around the country and the world are already calling for network-building and educational events in their cities.



Donate to us

Every dollar counts! If you're inspired by our message, help us continue to support our communities and grow to new cities.



Volunteer with us

Whether in a coalition city or from afar, help us with event planning, communications, fundraising, and more.



Corporate Sponsorship

Rally the power of your workplace to demonstrate support for refugees and displaced people. To learn more, contact us at 1journeyfestival@gmail.com.



The possibility is enormous. Join the movement to help us sustain this incredible impact and realize One Journey's global potential.

Acknowledgements

One Journey extends heartfelt appreciation to the numerous sponsors, partners, volunteers, and community supporters whose unwavering assistance propelled the achievements, undertakings, and endeavors of One Journey during the remarkable year of 2022–2023. Their invaluable feedback has been an indispensable contribution throughout this journey.

We would also like to express our gratitude to everyone who took part in researching, writing, designing, and producing this report, and to the photographers who captured the spirit and energy of the One Journey movement.



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Lisa Tsang
Patrick McCabe
Steven Jones
Steve Green

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Trend Marketing Digital

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Core Team

BOARD MEMBERS

- Wendy Chan Founder
- Vanda Berninger Founder
- Julia Duncan Operations & Partnerships
- Khadija Sifelhak Finance & Budget
- Kenn Speicher Communications & Advocacy

CORE VOLUNTEERS

- Alix Acker Designer
- Alyssa Swartzter Global Marketplace Co-lead
- Anna Harty Design Lead
- Anna Zhuravlova Summer 2023 Intern
- Ayana Stukes Tech Tent Lead
- Cyndi Costa Sponsorship & Fundraising
- Colleen Averill Global Marketplace Co-lead
- Dana Lea Communications & Press/Media Relations Lead
- Dante DeMarzo Summer 2023 Intern
- Emily Torres Deputy Logistical Director
- Intan Parada International Food Lane
- Isabella DeLuca Strategic Outreach Team Lead
- Jaya Parashar Studio Tent Lead
- Jessica Sansarran Press/Media Relations
- Jonas Tizabi Sports Lead
- Jordyn Gershoni Social Media
- Juliet Jack Comms Team

- Karla Kramer Music and Dance Programming
- Katelyn Fix Volunteer Coordinator & Merchandise Designer
- Katherine Wise Newsletter
- Micayla Costa Strategic Outreach
- Paul Ciampoli Social Media
- Priya Lodico Global Holiday Market
- Sam Appel Summer 2023 Intern
- Shelby Mertens Social Media Management
- Shivani Trivendi Social Media Stories
- Sonya Marsden Kids Tent Programming
- Matt Tully Climate Change Lead



Appendix

SPONSORS & PARTNERS

One Journey is beyond grateful to the many sponsors and partners that made it possible for One Journey to continue to spread its message in the 2022-2023 year.

SPONSORS

- Accenture
- Mayer Brown
- Amazon
- Amazon Web Services, Inc.
- Endeavors
- Covington
- EnGen
- Islamic Relief USA
- Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service
- NOVA Friends of Refugees
- Saint George's Episcopal Church
- Sky's the Limit
- Welcome.US
- Women for Women International

PARTNERS

- Catholic Charities
- Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross
- Hyatt
- GW Art Therapy Clinic, George Washington University
- Marriott
- Mount Olivet United Methodist Church
- Perry World House, University of Pennsylvania
- St. Thomas' Parish Episcopal Church
- Starbucks
- Washington National Cathedral
- Wick Poetry Center at Kent State University
- St. George's Episcopal Church



CLIMATE REFUGEE ACTION TENT

Interfaith Power & Light (DC.MD.NoVA)
Mayer Brown

COMMUNITY ART MURAL

GW Art Therapy Clinic, George Washington University

COMMUNITY POEM

Wick Poetry Center at Kent State University

INTERNATIONAL FOOD LANE

1936 Food
Fava Pot
Halal Grill
HealthHub
Jaliyaa Coffee
Maracas Ice Pop
Sambal Truck
Sweet Chili Asian
Taste of Montreal - Pop-up Poutine

GLOBAL MARKETPLACE

Ahmed Alkarkhi (Artist)
Anatolian Artisans
Arsh Fashion
ARTICLE22 : PEACEBOMB JEWELRY
Artepuy
Aseel
Buldano
Deux Mains
Ethiopian Community Development Council Inc./
African Community Center - DC Metro
From Egypt With Love
Homes Not Borders
International Women’s Democracy Center
Jahan Ara Rafi (Artist)

Kin & Care
Lamimiboutique
Mozaic
Omer Khan Photography
Raw Blossom
REACT DC
Saint Andrews Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and Humanitarian Center
Sarah’s Rugs Handcrafts
Seyyah
Sughra Hussainy
TAI: Taller De Artes Integrales / The New Bouffon Co.
tres hilos accessories

KIDS CORNER

Afghan Children’s Songbook Project
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington
Holy Cross Episcopal Church
Sesame Workshop

SPEAKERS & PERFORMERS

DANCERS

Hudson Ballet Theatre
Hussein Smko & Project TAG
Karina Lutsiva
New Music Theatre and the Afghan Project
Sokeo Ros
Osman funes

INTERFAITH VOICES

Imam Zia
Rabbi Eliana Fischel
Reverend Lisa Ahuja
Reverend Stephanie Vader

MASTER OF CEREMONY

Tommy McFly

MUSICIANS

Batalá Washington
Cheick Hamala Diabate
Deepak Ram and Noah Getz
Gerdan
Kabul Dreams
Pihcintu
Stringwise: Jorge Glem and Cesar Orozco
Zakaria Bireche

SPEAKERS

Wendy Chan
Vanda Berninger

STORYTELLERS

David Camero
Edafe Okporo
Lual Mayen

TAKE ACTION TENT

Aseel App
Endeavors
Episcopal Migration Ministries
Ethiopian Community Development Council Inc./African Community Center - DC Metro
FAMIL
Give to the World
Homes Not Borders
Immigrant and Refugee Outreach Center (IROC)
Islamic Relief USA
Just Neighbors
KAMA DC
Karam Foundation
KindWorks
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS)

Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area
Migration & Refugee Services, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Arlington
Mozaic
No One Left Behind
Northern Virginia Coalition for Refugee Wellness
NOVA Friends of Refugees
REACT DC
Refuge America
Safe Haven Space
Sesame Workshop
Solutions In Hometown Connections
Sky’s the Limit
St. Thomas’ Parish Episcopal Church
The Afghanistan-US DPPC
Their Story is Our Story
United Help Ukraine
Upwardly Global
US Ukrainian Activists, Inc.
Washington English Center
Washington National Cathedral Sanctuary Ministry
Women for Women International
TECHNOLOGY FOR HUMANITY
Accenture Federal Services
Junab Games
Women for Women International
YOGA & MEDITATION
Vahid Coskun

Your name here:

TAKE THE ONE JOURNEY PASSPORT CHALLENGE!

KIDS PASSPORT

Explore some regions of the world with these activities to learn more about refugees and their talents. Complete the tasks and find the passport volunteer to get stamped. When completed bring this passport to the Kid's Korner for a prize!!!

Go to the **VR Tent** and watch a movie. Are any of the movies about Europe?

DID YOU KNOW

There are Agencies like the UN Refugee Agency that protect and assist refugees with life-saving assistance and upholding fundamental human rights?

Can you find Europe on the world map on the back of this passport?

Go to the **Story Telling Tent** and listen to a Story.

GET STAMPED!

Can you find Europe on the world map (back of this passport)?
Go to the Marketplace and find an artist.

EUROPE

Go to the **Main Stage** and watch a musical performance. Are any of the performers from a country in Africa?

DID YOU KNOW

As of 2021 Uganda hosted the largest number of refugees in Africa, over 1.5 million.

Can you find Africa on the world map on the back of this passport?

Go to the **Soccer** area and play!

GET STAMPED!

Can you find Africa on the world map (back of this passport)?

Go to the Main Stage and watch a musical performance.

AFRICA

Go to the **Take Action Tent** and ask someone at the World Central Kitchen table what kids can do.

DID YOU KNOW

That you can help refugees by sharing what you have learned about refugees today with your friends and neighbors?

Can you find The United States on the world map on the back of this passport?

Go to the Kid's Korner and make a Journey Bird.

GET STAMPED!

Can you find The United States on the world map (back of this passport)?
Go to the Take Action tent and find a volunteer for an organization that helps child refugees.

THE UNITED STATE

Go to the **Soccer Ping Pong** area and play or watch a game.

DID YOU KNOW

Nearly 1.2 million Rohingya people from Myanmar are refugees, due to religious persecution, and inhumane treatment in their country?

Can you find Asia on the world map on the back of this passport?

Go to the **Photo Booth** and make take a photo.

GET STAMPED!

Can you find Asia on the world map (back of this passport)?

Take a picture with Grover.

ASIA

Go to the **Main Stage** and watch a dance performance.

DID YOU KNOW

Rising sea levels, due to climate change, creates large numbers of refugees by flooding coastal areas, making towns uninhabitable?
Latin Americans are especially vulnerable because they have so many low-elevation, coastal communities.

Can you find Africa on the world map on the back of this passport?

Go to the **Soccer** area and play!

GET STAMPED!

Can you find Latin America on the world map (back of this passport)?

Go to the Climate Refugee Action tent and find out what kids can do to help save the environment.

LATIN AMERICA

Go to the **Marketplace** and find an artist from the Middle East..

DID YOU KNOW

The UN reports that more than half of the world's 3.7 million children were unable to receive education, which is why so many agencies at the One Journey Festival are working to help refugee kids?

Can you find The Middle East on the world map on the back of this passport?

Go to the **Kid's Korner** and color part of a kite and make a dream streamer.

GET STAMPED!

Can you find The Middle East on the world map (back of this passport)?

Go to the International Food Lane and find a food truck.

THE MIDDLE EAST



IMPACT REPORT 2023