



For Immediate Release:

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The Center Hosts Community Event Saturday, August 9th, 2025

The Center (Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees) invites the community to join its celebration of Many Cultures, One Community on Saturday, August 9th, from 12:00 to 4:00pm at Mohawk Valley Community College's (MVCC) Jorgensen Athletic Center, Utica, NY.

The Center is proud to host a vibrant community event honoring the rich cultural diversity that defines Utica—a city shaped by generations of immigrants and refugees who have made it their home. This celebration will bring together residents of all backgrounds through music, dance, food, and storytelling, highlighting the global heritage that strengthens our community.

The Many Cultures, One Community celebration in Utica, NY will begin with a "Walk in Their Words" on the MVCC campus that will provide participants the opportunity to download and listen to refugee and immigrant audio stories and hear the personal experiences and journeys of individuals from many different regions of the world. Registration for the walk is \$25 and participants will receive a t-shirt and the link to download the audio files.

<https://www.thecenterutica.org/whats-happening/manycultures2025/a-walk-in-their-words/>

The event will feature a wide range of activities for all ages, including culturally diverse music and dance performances, a fashion show, children's activities, and food trucks. The event will also include a job fair from 12:00-2:00pm, featuring many local employers. "As the first point of welcome for many newly arrived families, The Center plays a vital role in helping refugees rebuild their lives with dignity and hope," said Executive Director Shelly Callahan. "This event is both a celebration of culture and a statement of unity - we are stronger together." said Shelly Callahan, Executive Director of The Center.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information on sponsorships, becoming a vendor, volunteering or general event details, visit:

<https://www.thecenterutica.org/whats-happening/manycultures2025/>

About The Center:

The Center (Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees), in Utica, NY, is a non-profit organization that provides services to refugees, immigrants, and Limited English Proficient (LEP) individuals. The Center's goal is to help individuals and families achieve independence and self-sufficiency in their new communities. Founded in 1981, The Center has resettled nearly 18,000 refugees in the Mohawk Valley.
