

AGENCY LETTERHEAD

DATE

Ms. Holly Herrera  
Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
U.S. Department of State

Dear Ms. Herrera:

As CITY's Mayor/Council Member, I submit this letter of support for World Relief to open a new affiliate site in LOCATION.

[DESCRIPTION OF CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL OFFICE/AFFILIATE AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS AS APPLICABLE]

After careful consideration, I believe LOCATION is well-suited to not only receive refugees but to help them thrive. [DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL EMPLOYMENT, COMMUNITY SUPPORT, STATE PROGRAMS, AND ANY OTHER FACTORS CONDUCIVE TO SUCCESSFUL RESETTLEMENT]

CITY believes that welcoming refugees takes a collective effort. We take pride in resettling refugees from diverse ethnic and national backgrounds, and we look for opportunities to build longterm community connection and successful integration for our new neighbors. It is clear from World Relief's work in other locations that they will be a strong partner with us in these efforts, and they provide high quality services to help refugees achieve economic self-sufficiency and integration in their local communities. As such, we support their proposal to open a new office in LOCATION.

Sincerely,

**From:** "Billie Hufford" <billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 8 Mar 2023 15:24:46 -0600  
**To:** "Scott Allen" <Scott.Allen@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Chad Hoyord" <Chad.Hoyord@eauclairewi.gov>; "Brendan Osborne" <Brendan.Osborne@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Keith Johnathan" <Keith.Johnathan@eauclairewi.gov>; "Travis Davis" <Travis.Davis@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Libby Richter" <libbyr@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Cortney Sperber" <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Jason Rohloff" <Jason.Rohloff@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Al Bertrang" <Al.Bertrang@eauclairewi.gov>; "Grant.Zastoupil@eauclairecounty.gov" <Grant.Zastoupil@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Jesse Henning" <Jesse.Henning@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Corey Lee" <Corey.Lee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kelly Thompson" <Kelly.Thompson@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Heidi Ender" <Heidi.Ender@eauclairewi.gov>; "Room\_North Conference" <Room\_North\_Conference@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Housing Eau Stat  
**Attachments:** EauStat\_Housing\_DiscussionQuestions\_2023-03-08.pdf, EauStat\_Housing\_Slides\_2023-03-09.pdf, EauStat\_Housing\_TaskList\_2023-03-08.pdf

Good afternoon!

Please see attached for tomorrow's meeting at 10am. I changed the location to the North Conference Room going forward due to the large number of people in this group.

I am planning on moving through the Coordinated Entry, Sojourner House, and Community Haven House data pretty fast to allow time for conversation on some other points and the task list. Please take a look at the task list before the meeting. We would like to add updates to each one as time allows.

PD has been fantastic helping to provide some raw data that we have started creating charts that we can update monthly to help identify trends. If there is anything else that may be useful please let me know and I can work with PD to add that to our monthly update.

Have an amazing day!



Sincerely,

**Billie Hufford** *(She, Her, Hers)*

Project Management Coordinator (Planning & Housing)

(715) 839-4903

[Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 15 Mar 2023 10:01:52 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

Thank you, I will

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**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:00 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/refugee/pdf/fundedagencies-rev0822.pdf>

check out this list of Refugee Resettlement Agencies....

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**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 9:48 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

I'm looking into what agencies are working around Appleton that are related to what we're looking for. One is **World Relief** that I'm very familiar with, they are a huge **Christian** NGO with branches all over the world, They accept strictly Christian employees, their model of working as a very rich agency can't be a model for us I guess? Also, they're closed on Wednesdays. The other one is a **Muslim** organization with a headquarter in **Pakistan** that helps refugees from Muslim countries, If we want to meet with them we have to email them an official request, I've got the email address. They help the refugees in their area to settle. I can't remember any other entities in Appleton that we're interested in learning more about, do you?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**  
**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4903  
E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 08:37:45 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami Mclaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 12:38:20 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

FYI,

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**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>; Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Dear Anoosheh,

I just wanted to let you know that there is also an existing refugee resettlement organization in Eau Claire called Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN). Wnn has been operating under the sponsorship of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan—home office Milwaukee—as a CoSponsorship program. WNN has accepted and settled 7 Afghan men and also supported two Afghan families who came to Eau Claire as a secondary migration. WNN is also moving to become a recognized Refugee Resettlement agency.

Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 12:39:57 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Want to reach out to Bea and Ginny to ask how a World Relief would relate to what they're trying to do?

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**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:38 PM  
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**From:** "Ray French" <ray.french@wedc.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 21:17:51 +0000  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Hedenstrom, Alyssa" <ahedenstrom@cvtc.edu>  
**Cc:** "Dave Armstrong" <bcedc@co.barron.wi.us>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Bring Diversity to EC  
**Attachments:** RWHC TBB & Immigrant Workforce 4.21.2022.pdf, PERM STD.pdf

Good afternoon,

Thanks to everyone for your work on this. I'm sorry for my delay in following up. I just had a chance to go back through my archives of information I've shared the last year with our economic development partners.

I mentioned to Kaylynn at the Chamber, who I hope you've had a chance to connect with, about your interest in the Workforce Talent Pipelines Series we discussed. It sounds like she's talked with Steve Jahn of Momentum West, who could be a partner, and she recommended bringing in "Welcoming New Neighbors" locally. The series we discussed included [International Manpower Connection, Inc.](#) (PERM), [Mission Wisconsin](#) (Veterans), and a group Kaylynn mentioned named Integrated... not sure. **As we discussed, I still think the best chance for success in this in supporting businesses in driving** the work of bringing new people to the region.

The email below this I shared with our regional partners and references the context of the 2022 pdf slide deck attached. **The PERM pdf is an example of what our partners in Amery/Polk County did for an event last June.** The best example of a success story for PERM is Len Fast, Administrator of [Barron Care & Rehab](#).

**Otherwise, the following information was shared with me for contact information and links on accessing various programs. We also talked about Lutheran Social Services being a partner in our region as well.**

Bojana Zori ☒ Martinez

*Director, Bureau of Refugee Programs*

*Wisconsin State Refugee Coordinator*

[dcf.wisconsin.gov](http://dcf.wisconsin.gov) | p:414. 270.4707 m:414. 588.0515

email: [Bojana.ZoricMartinez@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Bojana.ZoricMartinez@wisconsin.gov)

Janice M. Beers

*Policy Advisor for New American Integration*

[dcf.wisconsin.gov](http://dcf.wisconsin.gov) | p. 608.422.7093

m: 608.212.7906

Adam VanNoord

Director, Multicultural Community Center - Wausau

Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc.

[avannoord@ecdcus.org](mailto:avannoord@ecdcus.org) | (715) 907-7089

- USCIS United for Ukraine: <https://www.uscis.gov/ukraine>
- DHS United for Ukraine: <https://www.dhs.gov/ukraine>
- Benefits for Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/orr/fact-sheet/benefits-ukrainian-humanitarian-parolees>
- Welcome.us website: <https://welcome.us/>
- Community Immigration Law Center (offers free legal consultations): <https://www.cilcmadison.org/>
- [Welcome.US | Explainer](#)

#### Highlights of the Ukraine refugee process (from my counterpart in Northern WI)

1. They are refugee status, they are here for two years, basically a temporary status, unless some things change with our immigration process during the two years that will allow them to obtain a green card and/or citizenship they will return to Ukraine at the end of two years. While here they are eligible for benefits, health insurance etc. They can obtain a work permit, this process can take up to 6 weeks.
2. Each refugee needs to have a Sponsor here in the USA. The folks I talked to were not aware of a business being a sponsor. (Employer sponsored program is different) The employer program is a

longer more extensive process. They suggested having an immigration lawyer retained if considering this program. However, some of the links above will provide info.

3. From the time one would become approved to be a sponsor the Ukraine refugee can be here in about 4-6 weeks, so is quite fast.

4. Most of the Ukraine refugees are female. Some are professionals, others are not. There is no guarantee they would be interested in working in manufacturing. It didn't seem like there was a way to screen people to determine their interest in working and what skills they may or may not have.

5. The I-134 is the first form to complete.

I hope all this is helpful. I'm glad to have a group in Eau Claire interested in taking this on. My role going forward can certainly be to share information and connect people who are interested and working on this topic.

Thank you,

Ray

—

Ray French, EDFP

Regional Economic Development Director

He/Him/His

Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Email: [ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)

Phone: 608.210.6791

---

**From:** Ray French

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 9:34 AM

**Subject:** Immigration talent pipelines

Good morning,

There have been a lot of questions on how our region can better access immigrant talent pipelines. My colleague for SW WI has worked in this area a while and shared some resources.

The new resettlement program for the Ukrainians was recently announced: [Welcome.US | Explainer](#). It looks like the US sponsors (family, friends, employers) should just go on the USCIS website and fill out the Affidavit of Support to start the process I-134 [Affidavit of Support \(uscis.gov\)](#).

Attached is a presentation she recently gave to the Rural WI Healthcare Cooperative Association. [It provides a great primer on organizations like Talent Beyond Boundaries and discusses various pathways for opening our communities to refugees. It also references the PERM program in Rice Lake and I'm sure Dave Armstrong would be a happy resource on that.](#)

A recent successful migration story is Puerto Ricans in 2018. You can see videos documenting the ways communities successfully recruited the here:

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=puerto+ricans+recruiting](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=puerto+ricans+recruiting)

Finally, we're in early conversations about a series of roundtables throughout the State this summer on this topic. I hope to have more to share in a few weeks!

Thank you!

Ray

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Ray French, EDFP

Regional Economic Development Director – Region 1

Pronouns: He/Him/His

**Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation**

Email: [Ray.French@wedc.org](mailto:Ray.French@wedc.org)

Ph: 608.210.6791

312 S Barstow St, Suite 2

Eau Claire, WI 54701



Website: <http://InWisconsin.com>

Newsletters: <http://InWisconsin.com/subscribe/>



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**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 21:17:51 +0000  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Hedenstrom, Alyssa" <ahedenstrom@cvtc.edu>  
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Website: <http://InWisconsin.com>

Newsletters: <http://InWisconsin.com/subscribe/>



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 10:48:24 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
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Hi Stephanie,

We're trying to hold an info session about PERM and... in Eau Claire. Chamber and CVTC are board. Do you think we can have someone from EDC to present a similar presentation in the info session? Please see the attached.

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**From:** Ray French <ray.french@wedc.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2023 4:18 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; Hedenstrom, Alyssa <ahedenstrom@cvtc.edu>  
**Cc:** Dave Armstrong <bcedc@co.barron.wi.us>; Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Bring Diversity to EC

Good afternoon,

Thanks to everyone for your work on this. I'm sorry for my delay in following up. I just had a chance to go back through my archives of information I've shared the last year with our economic development partners.

I mentioned to Kaylynn at the Chamber, who I hope you've had a chance to connect with, about your interest in the Workforce Talent Pipelines Series we discussed. It sounds like she's talked with Steve Jahn of Momentum West, who could be a partner, and she recommended bringing in "Welcoming New Neighbors" locally. The series we discussed included [International Manpower Connection, Inc.](#) (PERM), [Mission Wisconsin](#) (Veterans), and a group Kaylynn mentioned named Integrated... not sure. As we discussed, I still think the best chance for success in this in supporting businesses in driving the work of bringing new people to the region.

The email below this I shared with our regional partners and references the context of the 2022 pdf slide deck attached. The PERM pdf is an example of what our partners in Amery/Polk County did for an event last June. The best example of a success story for PERM is Len Fast, Administrator of [Barron Care & Rehab](#).

Otherwise, the following information was shared with me for contact information and links on accessing various programs. We also talked about Lutheran Social Services being a partner in our region as well.

Bojana Zori☒ Martinez

*Director, Bureau of Refugee Programs*

*Wisconsin State Refugee Coordinator*

[dcf.wisconsin.gov](http://dcf.wisconsin.gov) | p:414. 270.4707 m:414. 588.0515

email: [Bojana.ZoricMartinez@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Bojana.ZoricMartinez@wisconsin.gov)

Janice M. Beers

*Policy Advisor for New American Integration*

[dcf.wisconsin.gov](http://dcf.wisconsin.gov) | p. 608.422.7093

m: 608.212.7906

Adam VanNoord

Director, Multicultural Community Center - Wausau

Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc.

[avannoord@ecdCUS.org](mailto:avannoord@ecdCUS.org) | (715) 907-7089

- USCIS United for Ukraine: <https://www.uscis.gov/ukraine>
- DHS United for Ukraine: <https://www.dhs.gov/ukraine>

- Benefits for Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/orr/fact-sheet/benefits-ukrainian-humanitarian-parolees>
- Welcome.us website: <https://welcome.us/>
- Community Immigration Law Center (offers free legal consultations): <https://www.cilcmadison.org/>
- [Welcome.US | Explainer](#)

Highlights of the Ukraine refugee process (from my counterpart in Northern WI)

1. They are refugee status, they are here for two years, basically a temporary status, unless some things change with our immigration process during the two years that will allow them to obtain a green card and/or citizenship they will return to Ukraine at the end of two years. While here they are eligible for benefits, health insurance etc. They can obtain a work permit, this process can take up to 6 weeks.
2. Each refugee needs to have a Sponsor here in the USA. The folks I talked to were not aware of a business being a sponsor. (Employer sponsored program is different) The employer program is a longer more extensive process. They suggested having an immigration lawyer retained if considering this program. However, some of the links above will provide info.
3. From the time one would become approved to be a sponsor the Ukraine refugee can be here in about 4-6 weeks, so is quite fast.
4. Most of the Ukraine refugees are female. Some are professionals, others are not. There is no guarantee they would be interested in working in manufacturing. It didn't seem like there was a way to screen people to determine their interest in working and what skills they may or may not have.
5. The I-134 is the first form to complete.

I hope all this is helpful. I'm glad to have a group in Eau Claire interested in taking this on. My role going forward can certainly be to share information and connect people who are interested and working on this topic.

Thank you,

Ray

—

Ray French, EDFP

Regional Economic Development Director

He/Him/His

**Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation**

Email: [ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)

Phone: 608.210.6791

---

**From:** Ray French

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 9:34 AM

**Subject:** Immigration talent pipelines

Good morning,

There have been a lot of questions on how our region can better access immigrant talent pipelines. My colleague for SW WI has worked in this area a while and shared some resources.

The new resettlement program for the Ukrainians was recently announced: [Welcome.US | Explainer](#). It looks like the US sponsors (family, friends, employers) should just go on the USCIS website and fill out the Affidavit of Support to start the process I-134 [Affidavit of Support \(uscis.gov\)](#).

Attached is a presentation she recently gave to the Rural WI Healthcare Cooperative Association. It provides a great primer on organizations like [Talent Beyond Boundaries](#) and discusses various pathways for opening our communities to refugees. It also references the PERM program in Rice Lake and I'm sure Dave Armstrong would be a happy resource on that.

A recent successful migration story is Puerto Ricans in 2018. You can see videos documenting the ways communities successfully recruited the here:

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=puerto+ricans+recruiting](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=puerto+ricans+recruiting)

Finally, we're in early conversations about a series of roundtables throughout the State this summer on this topic. I hope to have more to share in a few weeks!

Thank you!

Ray

—

Ray French, EDFP

Regional Economic Development Director – Region 1

Pronouns: He/Him/His

Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Email: [Ray.French@wedc.org](mailto:Ray.French@wedc.org)

Ph: 608.210.6791

312 S Barstow St, Suite 2

Eau Claire, WI 54701



Website: <http://InWisconsin.com>

Newsletters: <http://InWisconsin.com/subscribe/>



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 13:10:15 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov" <Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov>; "ron.schmidt@eauclairecounty.gov" <ron.schmidt@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**Attachments:** PRM New Site Development Guide - 2021 Revision - with highlighted sections.docx

FYI, attached is a document created by World Relief resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), as a guide to assess a community's ability to resettle refugees. World Relief will complete the assessment and use it to assist in determining if they are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 18:19:18 -0500  
**To:** "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Learn basic Hmong phrases with Ka (Kab) and Shoua (Sua)

Sure! I thought of you guys this week because we are working with a refugee resettlement agency that may want to locate in EC. If they do, they are currently resettling people and families from the Congo. And people speak French in the Congo! I thought if it all happens, it'd be a fun thing for your family to be involved with.

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**From:** Joshua Miller <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 5:51:42 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Learn basic Hmong phrases with Ka (Kab) and Shoua (Sua)

Stephanie,

Jessica is a language teacher and linguist and would be very interested in attending this lesson on Hmong phrases. Could she be a +1 with me for the session on April 5?

Thanks,  
Joshua

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 1:25:58 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Subject:** Learn basic Hmong phrases with Ka (Kab) and Shoua (Sua)  
**When:** Occurs every Wednesday from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM effective 4/5/2023 until 4/19/2023.  
**Where:** City Hall, North Conference Room

Council Members – You are most welcome to join up with interested staff for these get-togethers!

\*\*\*

**You are invited...**

Have you noticed that we added the Hmong translation of 'Welcome' to the TV monitors in City Hall? Come and learn how to say Welcome (Zoo siab txais tos!) in Hmong.

**From:** "Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service"  
<info@wipps.org>  
**Sent:** Tue, 4 Apr 2023 20:24:46 +0000  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin



## Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

### Three Short Films to be Screened in Central Wisconsin

Short film series, "New Neighbors: Refugee Resettlement and Asylum-Seeking in Central Wisconsin," which showcases the stories of recent newcomers in Central Wisconsin, will be screened at upcoming public events. The three short films feature families from Afghanistan, Nicaragua, and Congo, and their journeys from their homelands to their new homes in Central Wisconsin.

Screenings of the films will take place [April 12, 6:30 p.m.](#), at the Dreyfus University Center Theater, UW Stevens Point, 1015 Reserve St., Stevens Point, and [May 6, 3:00 p.m.](#), at Whitewater Music Hall, 130 1<sup>st</sup> St, Wausau. Both events are free and open to the public, and registration is not required.

Filmmaker Laura Hunt and some of our new neighbors will participate in a Q&A session after the films.

**SHORT FILM SCREENINGS:**  
**NEW NEIGHBORS SERIES:**  
REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT AND  
ASYLUM-SEEKING IN CENTRAL WISCONSIN

...holding signs that said "Baihaqi Family welcome to Wausau."

A growing number of newcomers from around the globe now call Central Wisconsin home. These three short films tell the stories of families from Nicaragua, Afghanistan and Congo, starting with their lives in their homelands up to their arrival and welcome in Central Wisconsin.

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SPONSORS:

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films were created for the [New Neighbors Series](#), a public event series which examines experiences in the homelands of recent newcomers to the Central Wisconsin area, and their experiences here in the U.S.

The New Neighbor Series is a collaboration between the Ethiopian Community Development Council, Rise Up Central Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service, Wisconsin Humanities, and Wisconsin Public Radio.

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 6 Apr 2023 09:17:41 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

YES!

---

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 7:57 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

Maybe we need to see how we can get these films here? Just a thought...

---

**From:** Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service <[info@wipps.org](mailto:info@wipps.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023 3:25 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin



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## Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

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a.vang@eauclairewi.gov. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#). - You can also keep up with WIPPS on Facebook.

**From:** "Julie Bunczak" <jbunczak@uwsa.edu>  
**Sent:** Thu, 6 Apr 2023 16:09:10 +0000  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service" <info@wipps.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

Ka, thanks so much for your interest! I'd be happy to set up a screening in Eau Claire. Can you give me an idea of the setting and audience for which you'd like to show it?

Julie Bunczak (*she/her*)  
Program Manager  
Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service  
University of Wisconsin System  
625 Stewart Ave.  
Wausau, WI 54401  
(715) 600-3224

**WIPPS**

WISCONSIN INSTITUTE for  
PUBLIC POLICY and SERVICE

**UW** UNIVERSITY OF  
WISCONSIN SYSTEM

All In Wisconsin  

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 9:39 AM  
**To:** Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service <info@wipps.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

**\*External Email: Use caution responding, opening attachments, or clicking on links.\***

Hello,

Eau Claire would be interested in seeing how we can get something like this set up here. What do we need to do?

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**  
**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S. Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)  
<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



---

**From:** Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service <info@wipps.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023 3:25 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin



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## Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

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a.vang@eauclairewi.gov. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#). - You can also keep up with WIPPS on Facebook.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 6 Apr 2023 12:13:03 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

I think Micon downtown...

---

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 11:55 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

If we were to do film screening, where would be a good place and any idea how many to plan for? I reached out to them and they would be happy to bring the film to EC.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 9:18 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

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**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 7:57 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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**Sent:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023 3:25 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin



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# Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

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**From:** "Mowry"  
**Sent:** Fri, 7 Apr 2023 16:14:03 +0000  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

I would be happy to join the panel!

We hope to do some traveling this summer, but Martha is recovering from knee surgery so we do not yet have dates. Right now traveling any distance in a vehicle is painful.

Best,

Don Mowry

---

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 7, 2023 10:44 AM  
**To:** Mowry, Donald D. <dmowry@uwec.edu>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

You don't often get email from ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi Don,  
Hope things are going well for you.  
I'm looking to do a screening of these 3 short films and would like to see if you would be interested and available to be part of a panel after the film and share your experiences in helping resettle refugees/immigrants.

I don't have dates yet, but looking at a Thursday eve (5:30 pm start time) for May or June.

Would you be chance have contact info for John Lor? I would like to invite him to be on the panel too.

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**  
**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S. Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-839-4942  
[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)  
<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



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**From:** Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service <[info@wipps.org](mailto:info@wipps.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023 3:25 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

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## Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

**Three Short Films to be Screened in Central Wisconsin**

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**From:** "Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service"  
<info@wipps.org>  
**Sent:** Tue, 11 Apr 2023 18:31:42 +0000  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin



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## Tomorrow: Refugee Resettlement Short Film Screening

### Three Short Films to be Screened in Central Wisconsin

"New Neighbors: Refugee Resettlement and Asylum-Seeking in Central Wisconsin," a short film series which showcases the stories of recent newcomers in Central Wisconsin, will be screened at two upcoming public events.

Screenings of the films will take place [April 12, 6:30 p.m.](#), at the Dreyfus University Center Theater, UW Stevens Point, 1015 Reserve St., Stevens Point, and [May 6, 3:00 p.m.](#), at Whitewater Music Hall, 130 1<sup>st</sup> St., Wausau. Both events are free and open to the public, and registration is not required.

The three short films profile families from Afghanistan, Nicaragua, and Congo, and their journeys from their homelands to their new homes in Central Wisconsin.

SHORT FILM SCREENINGS:  
**NEW NEIGHBORS SERIES:  
REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT AND  
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...holding signs that said "Baihaqi Family welcome to Wausau."

A growing number of newcomers from around the globe now call Central Wisconsin home. These three short films tell the stories of families from Nicaragua, Afghanistan and Congo, starting with their lives in their homelands up to their arrival and welcome in Central Wisconsin.

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Filmmaker Laura Hunt and some of our New Neighbors will participate in a Q&A session after the films.

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The films were created for the [New Neighbors Series](#), a public event series which examines the experiences of recent newcomers to the Central Wisconsin area, and their experiences here in the U.S.

The New Neighbor Series is a collaboration between the Ethiopian Community Development Council, Rise Up Central Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service, Wisconsin Humanities, and Wisconsin Public Radio.

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**From:** "Julie Bunczak" <jbunczak@uwsa.edu>  
**Sent:** Fri, 14 Apr 2023 01:50:02 +0000  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

Ka, sorry for my delayed response. Yes, this sounds manageable. Might there be travel reimbursement available for the film maker? She lives east of Wausau.

Could we look at dates after May 6? We had great attendance and engagement at our first event last night and the second showing is May 6. I know the film maker's schedule between those two events is kind of crazy.

Do you have new arrivals in Eau Claire? It might also be good to have someone from the refugee resettlement agency.

Julie Bunczak (*she/her*)  
Program Manager  
Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service  
University of Wisconsin System  
625 Stewart Ave.  
Wausau, WI 54401  
(715) 600-3224



All In Wisconsin  

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 7, 2023 10:47 AM  
**To:** Julie Bunczak <jbunczak@uwsa.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

**\*External Email: Use caution responding, opening attachments, or clicking on links.\***

Setting: possibly a small movie theater or public library.  
Audience: community members

I'm looking at doing this on a Thursday eve (5:30pm start time) w/ a local panel to share their experiences and if it works, film maker too for May or June.

Would this be possible? I'm looking into availability of venues and local panel members.

Ka

---

**From:** Julie Bunczak <[jbunczak@uwsa.edu](mailto:jbunczak@uwsa.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 11:09 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service <[info@wipps.org](mailto:info@wipps.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

Ka, thanks so much for your interest! I'd be happy to set up a screening in Eau Claire. Can you give me an idea of the setting and audience for which you'd like to show it?

Julie Bunczak (*she/her*)  
Program Manager  
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**UW** UNIVERSITY OF  
WISCONSIN SYSTEM

**All In Wisconsin**  

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 9:39 AM  
**To:** Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service <[info@wipps.org](mailto:info@wipps.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

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Hello,  
Eau Claire would be interested in seeing how we can get something like this set up here. What do we need to do?

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire  
203 S. Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)  
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**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin



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## **Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin**

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SHORT FILM SCREENINGS:

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...holding signs that said “Baihaqi Family welcome to Wausau.”

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 14 Apr 2023 12:22:06 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Compliment

Awesome! Thank you for passing that along, Emily.

---

**From:** Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 11:35 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Elizabeth Geise <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Compliment

Hi Everyone,

My parents were just at a Zoom meeting with the organization that is working with refugee resettlement. They told me about how effusive and enthusiastic the folks from that organization were about the Eau Claire city staff and health department staff they had met with. I have no idea about what decision will be made, but I wanted to share about the terrific impression you all make and express my appreciation for the skill, care and dedication you bring.

thanks,

Emily

**From:** "Julie Bunczak" <jbunczak@uwsa.edu>  
**Sent:** Tue, 9 May 2023 14:49:28 +0000  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@Eau ClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

Ka, we've held two public screenings so far, in Stevens Point and Wausau, and they were huge successes, with more than 100 attendees to each. The videos are very shortly going to be available on YouTube, so the possibility will be there for you to show the films and have a panel of local people for the post-screening discussion.

Let me know your thoughts.

Best,

Julie Bunczak (*she/her*)  
Program Manager  
Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service  
University of Wisconsin System  
625 Stewart Ave.  
Wausau, WI 54401  
(715) 600-3224



All In Wisconsin  

**From:** Julie Bunczak <jbunczak@uwsa.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 8:50 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@Eau ClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

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**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire  
203 S. Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
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**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin



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## Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

### Three Short Films to be Screened in Central Wisconsin

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a.vang@eauclairewi.gov. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#). - You can also keep up with WIPPS on [Facebook](#).

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 19 Sep 2023 07:11:26 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

FYI,

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 6:27 PM  
**To:** Elizabeth Geise <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Hello Lieske,

Annoosheh forwarded your email and I appreciate your interest in preparing for the arrival of refugees to the Chippewa Valley in the near future. Our team in the Fox Valley is wrapping up fiscal year 2023 in the midst of welcoming a few more individuals and families while also preparing to open our Chippewa Valley office in the next few weeks.

We are on the cusp of finalizing office space and in the process of making offers for several staff positions. We hope most of these details are in place by the middle of October. In addition, we have tentatively scheduled a "partner meeting" for later October and plan to send invites next week which you will receive. With all of these details in place, our best estimate for first arrivals would be late November and could consist of individuals or families. The total number of refugees we have been approved to welcome to the Chippewa Valley for FY2024 is 75 people.

Brittany Fry reached out earlier this summer asking for information regarding Public Health's responsibility in refugee resettlement and following was the response provided by our State Refugee Health Coordinator, Savitri Tsering:

*Hello,*

*I work as the State Refugee Health Coordinator (SRHC) and can address concerns related to refugees coming into your community. I know World Relief Fox Valley (WRFV) will be opening a satellite office in Eau Claire this fall. For refugee services we recommend that the local health department (LHD) be part of the network that works with the resettlement agency (RA) and provides information and updates as needed. In general, it is not expected that LHDs do any more for refugees than they would for others living in their community. You will be viewed as an agency in the know about area health/medical providers.*

*As you are aware there are sponsored humanitarian parolees that are coming into the US that need TB attestation. If they are not eligible for Medicaid (depending on where they are from, they may or may not be eligible), the TB dispensary can cover their TB related screening services.*

*Ways that health departments have helped make connection with the refugee community is in providing education and updates for programs they have such as home visiting, WIC, communicable disease follow-up, child car safety, Well Women programs, etc. – your LHD may or may not have some of those services but the point is, what you offer the general public, in turn offer to the refugee community and make sure you have a seat at the table for understanding and connecting with those doing refugee resettlement in your community.*

*Taking the view broader to all immigrant populations the same will be true – what do you provide to your general population, make sure [your local connection to Covering WI](#) is strong so that full knowledge of healthcare eligibility is there, know the parameters of what services you can provide regardless of documentation status.*

Lieske, I hope this information is helpful. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. We hope to meet you in the near future and look forward to developing a strong partnership and welcoming network for the Chippewa Valley newcomers!

Thank you,

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 8:32 AM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>

**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Thanks for the update Anoosheh.

Someone from our team will be happy to be part of the conversation.

I know that housing also will be an important issue. Not sure if anyone is actively addressing that if a large group of people are coming.

Do you know if this is likely individuals or families? That would help us in thinking who best on our end to engage.

Thanks.

Lieske

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 8:26 AM  
**To:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Good morning Lieske,

Tami will provide you more details this week. They're going to have a partnership meeting the middle of October and in the process of finalizing those plans.

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 11:23 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Greetings.

I wanted to quickly connect to see if you have any updates for us related to the proposed resettlement efforts. I know that depending on what moves forward, there may be considerable involvement of staff and resources across our agencies. I want to be sure we are thinking about that so we have planned strategically.

Let me know what you can share.

Thanks much.

Lieske

*Lieske (Elizabeth) Giese, RN, MSPH* | Health Officer - Director

[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)

P: (715) 839-4718 F: (715) 839-1674 Cell: (715) 514-7881

720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703



[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

**For more immediate response, please contact us at [ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov).**

***If there is a public health emergency outside of normal business hours, please contact NON-emergency dispatch at (715) 839-4972 and they will connect you with a public health official.***

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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 3 Oct 2023 10:34:27 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** How I answered the questions

Ka's professional skills mix, including her passion for social causes, organizational prowess, interpersonal skills, adaptability, and problem-solving abilities, makes her an outstanding candidate for this role. Her dedication to making a positive impact and her ability to lead and manage in diverse environments are qualities that would greatly benefit any organization striving to create a better world.

As an EDI Coordinator, Ka demonstrates an exceptional level of cultural sensitivity in her role. Her deep understanding and respect for diverse backgrounds and perspectives is evident in her interactions and initiatives. She actively promotes an inclusive environment by fostering open dialogue and ensuring that all voices are heard and valued. Ka is not only aware of cultural differences but also actively seeks to learn and educate others about them, contributing to a more inclusive workplace. Her approach to EDI initiatives is grounded in cultural humility, showing a willingness to listen, learn, and adapt.

Yes, I highly recommend Ka for the position of Site Manager at World Relief. Ka brings a wealth of experience and qualifications that make her an exceptional candidate for this role. Having worked as an EDI (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) Coordinator, Ka has a deep understanding of the importance of cultural sensitivity, empathy, and inclusivity. She has successfully fostered inclusive environments in previous roles, which aligns perfectly with the diverse and culturally rich nature of refugee resettlement work. Moreover, Ka's experience working with university students and her background with a Ph.D. in Leadership, Policy, and Administration make her well-equipped to manage and lead teams effectively. Her academic expertise in leadership and administration, combined with practical experience, will enable her to oversee the various aspects of resettlement with a strategic and compassionate approach. Ka is not only dedicated to promoting equity and diversity but also possesses strong communication, organizational, and problem-solving skills. These qualities are essential for managing complex resettlement programs and coordinating with multiple stakeholders, including government agencies, NGOs, and volunteers. In summary, Ka is a highly qualified and dedicated individual with the right blend of skills, experience, and empathy to excel in the role of Site Manager at your refugee resettlement agency. I have no doubt that she will contribute significantly to the success of your organization and the well-being of the refugees you serve.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Marisa Stanley" <marisa.stanley@eau Clairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 6 Oct 2023 14:14:21 +0000  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eau Clairerewi.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: You are invited...learn common Hmong phrases

That's amazing! Congrats! I'm excited to work with you in your new role ☺

**Marisa Stanley, MPH** | *Assistant Director*  
Pronouns: she/her/hers  
[Marisa.stanley@eau Clairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.stanley@eau Clairecounty.gov)  
(P) 715-839-4726 (F) 715-839-1674  
720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703  
[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

---

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@Eau ClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 4:38 PM  
**To:** Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eau Clairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: You are invited...learn common Hmong phrases



Not far, might be closer to you. I'll be working with World Relief and refugee resettlement. Their office is located in the workforce development building on Madison street.

Edna will do great!  
Ka

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eau Clairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eau Clairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 4:02:47 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[ka.vang@eau Clairerewi.gov](mailto:ka.vang@eau Clairerewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: You are invited...learn common Hmong phrases

Hi Ka,

I will talk with Edna and let you know. Sorry to hear you are leaving. Can I ask where you are going?

Hope all is well,  
Marisa

**Marisa Stanley, MPH** | *Assistant Director*  
Pronouns: she/her/hers  
[Marisa.stanley@eau Clairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.stanley@eau Clairecounty.gov)

Marisa,

I would be happy to come and do this. Can I ask if I can work with Edna on this? Are there specific phrases the health department would like to learn?

Also, unfortunately none of these dates work for me. For this year, these Thursdays conflict with Leadership EC dates ☐ Are there other dates that would work and capture the majority of staff?

Ka

---

**From:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: You are invited...learn common Hmong phrases

Good morning, Ka,

I'm following up on the opportunity below to possibly have you come teach us some Hmong phrases at the health department. We have all staff meetings monthly, so would like to try and schedule then so the most people are able to attend. Our upcoming meetings are Thurs Oct 12<sup>th</sup> from 1-2p, Thurs November 9<sup>th</sup> from 1-2p, or Thurs December 14<sup>th</sup> from 1-2p. Would any of those days work for you?

Thank you!

Marisa

**Marisa Stanley, MPH** | *Assistant Director*  
Pronouns: she/her/hers  
[Marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)  
(P) 715-839-4726 (F) 715-839-1674  
720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703



[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

---

**From:** Tegan Ruland <[Tegan.Ruland@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Tegan.Ruland@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 28, 2023 10:32 AM  
**To:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: You are invited...learn common Hmong phrases

Is this something we could consider having at an all-staff meeting?

**Tegan Ruland, SHRM-CP** | *Operations/Clinical Services Division Manager*  
Pronouns: she/her/hers

[tegan.ruland@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:tegan.ruland@eauclairecounty.gov)

P: (715) 839-4889 C: (715) 829-0484 F: (715) 839-1674

720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703



Eau Claire City-County  
**Health Department**

[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2023 4:00 PM

**To:** Health-Health Dept Supervisors <[Healthhealthdeptsupervisors@co.eau-claire.wi.us](mailto:Healthhealthdeptsupervisors@co.eau-claire.wi.us)>

**Subject:** FW: You are invited...learn common Hmong phrases

Hi.

We have this opportunity. Ka is also willing to come to all staff meeting. I am happy sending this out to everyone in the department but wonder about what you would prefer for your staff – share or wait until Ka can come to all staff.....

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2023 2:49 PM

**To:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>

**Subject:** You are invited...learn common Hmong phrases

Feel free to forward this on

## **You are invited...**

Have you noticed that we added the Hmong translation of 'Welcome' to the TV monitors in City Hall? Come and learn how to say Welcome (Zoo siab txais tos!) in Hmong.

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 9 Oct 2023 15:28:27 +0000  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Bcc:** "matt.rokus@eauclairewi.gov" <matt.rokus@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov" <billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov" <aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting -  
please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 9 Oct 2023 10:35:01 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Yes I have ☐

---

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 9, 2023 10:33 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Hope you registered to attend ☐

---

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[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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**From:** "Pa Thao" <pa@bbwpcalition.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 9 Oct 2023 14:25:30 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: FW: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!  
**Attachments:** image001.png, image001.png

Thank you.

On Mon, Oct 9, 2023 at 10:32 AM Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

I'm not sure if you received this invite. Please see if you can attend and forward to anyone in your org that would benefit from attending.

Thanks,

Ka

---

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

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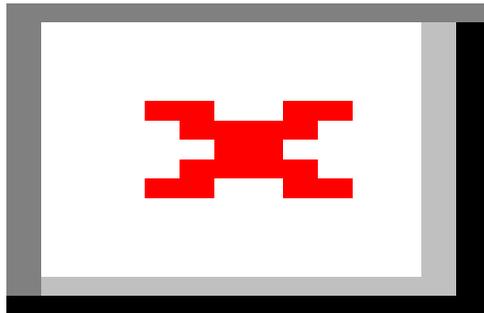
Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

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TAMI MCLAUGHLIN

Office Director

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

--

Sincerely,



*Pa Thao, msw*  
SHE|HERS|PAJ  
*Co-founder & Executive Director*

pa@bbwpcalition.org  
Call/Text: (800) 343-9337 ext. 1  
24/7 Helpline: (877) 740-4292  
@pathaoec

800 Wisconsin St, D04, Suite 103  
Eau Claire, WI 54703  
[www.bbbwpcalition.org](http://www.bbbwpcalition.org)

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/pathaoec/>



Visit our website at [www.bbwpcoalition.org](http://www.bbwpcoalition.org)

*Championing Advocates Empowering Communities*

**We are an IRS 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Nonprofit organization. Our mission is to build the capacities of Black & Brown advocates and their communities to end violence against womyn, queer and trans folx and young people.**

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**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 10:04:22 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Hi Ka,

I wanted to reach out because I've received some communication (in addition to the public comment we heard last night) with concerns about the refugee resettlement that tapped into existing narratives about immigration. I think there may be some fear-driven conversations happening in the community and while I imagine World Relief has experience building relationships and breaking down barriers of fear in communities, I just wanted to make sure I raised the alert.

Thanks  
Emily

PS Thanks for this invitation - unfortunately I have work commitments at that time.

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 8:55:33 AM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

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World Relief Wisconsin

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Please attend our

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**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

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[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 14:55:15 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Draft Blurp

Please edit/add/subtract however!

\*\*\*

We are saying farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. Ka has done so much for us in the time she has been here, and we are very sad to see her go. That said, we are excited about the position she is shifting into. She will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. Ka has said that she feels it's her life mission to work with refugees. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship. While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited a BIPOC Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy.

**From:** "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 22:18:12 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Thanks Ka!

Unfortunately I am not able to make it because I will be in Green Bay for the League of Wisconsin Municipalities Annual Conference!

Jeremy Gragert  
Eau Claire City Council member - District 3  
**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 8:55:33 AM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

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### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:48:29 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Not a sad good bye  
**Attachments:** image003.png, image006.jpg

You will be excellent in this new role but I'm sad to see you leaving the city where your work on EDI has been so needed! However I can support you let me know and thanks for all you do !

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 13, 2023, at 2:40 PM, Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) *Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023*

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network

<image003.png>

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23: <https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>

<image006.jpg>



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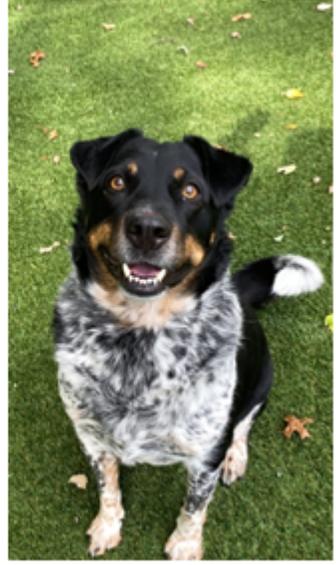
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L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)



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**CVTC BLOG ARTICLES**



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
EMINE AKIN TUNALI



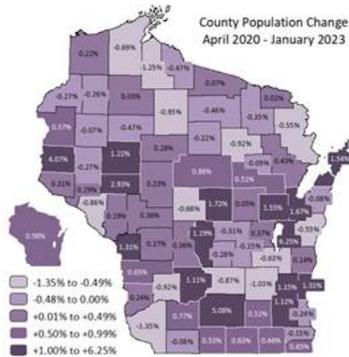
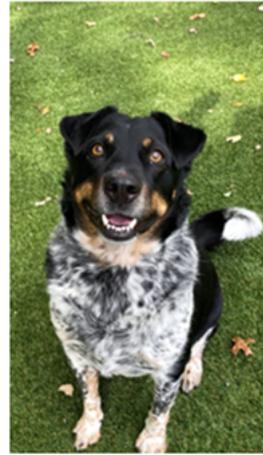
VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
OUMOUM TANGARA



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
KEUM HEE (ROSA) CHOI

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Wisconsin's Most Populous Cities (over 40,000 residents)					
City Name	County	Final Est. 2023	Census 2020	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Appleton	Multiple Counties	75,700	75,644	56	0.07%
Brookfield	Waukesha	41,121	41,464	-343	-0.83%
Eau Claire	Multiple Counties	71,304	69,421	1,883	2.71%
Fond du Lac	Fond du Lac	44,152	44,678	-526	-1.18%
Green Bay	Brown	106,597	107,395	-798	-0.74%
Janesville	Rock	66,202	65,615	587	0.89%
Kenosha	Kenosha	100,185	99,986	199	0.20%
La Crosse	La Crosse	51,978	52,680	-702	-1.33%
Madison	Dane	286,785	274,686	12,099	4.40%
Milwaukee	Multiple Counties	575,722	577,922	-2,200	-0.38%
New Berlin	Waukesha	40,135	40,451	-316	-0.78%
Ozaukee	Winnebago	66,966	66,816	170	0.25%
Racine	Racine	76,853	77,816	-963	-1.24%
Sheboygan	Sheboygan	49,748	49,929	-181	-0.36%
Waukesha	Waukesha	71,094	71,158	-64	-0.09%
Wausau	Marathon	40,188	39,994	194	0.49%
Wauwatosa	Milwaukee	48,836	48,387	449	0.93%
West Allis	Milwaukee	59,714	60,325	-611	-1.01%

**From:** "Kate Felton" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 15:56:59 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Not a sad good bye

Hi Ka,

So sad to see you go! But wishing you luck in your new project. Such important work and I feel so good for our community know that you're leading the charge!

**KATE FELTON** (formerly Kate Beaton)  
Eau Claire City Council, Member At-Large  
Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com  
Phone: 715-252-2544

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 2:40:29 PM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

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[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) *Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023*  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 16:19:11 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Not a sad good bye

Thanks for all your work, Ka! Will miss you but look forward to the good work you will do at World Relief.

Ua Tsaug,

Emily

**From:** Ka Vang

**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 2:40:29 PM

**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones

**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

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203 S. Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 15 Oct 2023 15:41:24 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Not a sad good bye

Thanks for your time with us, Ka!

And it sounds like there will be many other opportunities to work with you in your new role! Very exciting. ☺

I will be out of town at the League of Wisconsin Municipalities on October 18th, and on October 23rd I have to work right up until the City Council meeting.

Please let me know how I can be in the loop otherwise.

Thanks,

Jeremy Gragert

Eau Claire City Council member - District 3

**From:** Ka Vang

**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 2:40:29 PM

**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones

**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

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**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Lucas"  
**Sent:** Mon, 16 Oct 2023 21:09:02 +0000  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: New EDI Coordinator Position

Ah, okay! That makes a lot more sense J Congratulations on your new position!

Would tomorrow afternoon, 3pm, at SHIFT work for you?

Anna



**Anna Lucas (she/her/hers)**

HEDI Coordinator | [Office of Health Equity, Diversity & Inclusion](#) (HEDI)

Marshfield Clinic Health System

**Office:** 715-858-4426 | **Ext:** 7-4426 | **Email:** [lucas.anna@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:lucas.anna@marshfieldclinic.org)



[Learn about pronouns](#)



[Hear my name](#)

---

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 16, 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** Lucas, Anna P <[lucas.anna@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:lucas.anna@marshfieldclinic.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] New EDI Coordinator Position

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the Marshfield Clinic Health System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Anna,  
Yes it was great to finally meet in person!

This is actually my position. I've left this position and have started a new position w world relief to do refugee resettlement work.

Am happy to meet and answer any questions you may have. My schedule s pretty open. Let me know when works for you. Can meet in person or via zoom.

Ka

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---

**From:** Lucas, Anna P <[lucas.anna@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:lucas.anna@marshfieldclinic.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 16, 2023 3:42:57 PM  
**To:** [ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov) <[ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] New EDI Coordinator Position

Hi Ka,

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I am reaching out because I was sent the new EDI Coordinator job posting over the weekend and encouraged to apply. I know that this is the role that you currently hold at the city and was wondering if it would be possible for us to connect to discuss the opportunity.

Let me know if you have any availability this week to meet, and if you have a preference for virtual or in-person.

Thank you!  
Anna



**Anna Lucas (she/her/hers)**

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Marshfield Clinic Health System

Office: 715-858-4426 | Ext: 7-4426 | Email: [lucas.anna@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:lucas.anna@marshfieldclinic.org)



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**From:** "Lucas"  
**Sent:** Tue, 17 Oct 2023 16:38:18 +0000  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: New EDI Coordinator Position

Great! See you then J



**Anna Lucas (she/her/hers)**

HEDI Coordinator | [Office of Health Equity, Diversity & Inclusion](#) (HEDI)  
Marshfield Clinic Health System

**Office:** 715-858-4426 | **Ext:** 7-4426 | **Email:** [lucas.anna@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:lucas.anna@marshfieldclinic.org)



[Learn about pronouns](#)



[Hear my name](#)

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**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 9:47 AM  
**To:** Lucas, Anna P <[lucas.anna@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:lucas.anna@marshfieldclinic.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: New EDI Coordinator Position

Yes see you at 3 today

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**Sent:** Monday, October 16, 2023 4:09:02 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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[Hear my name](#)

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**Sent:** Monday, October 16, 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** Lucas, Anna P <[lucas.anna@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:lucas.anna@marshfieldclinic.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] New EDI Coordinator Position

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**Sent:** Monday, October 16, 2023 3:42:57 PM  
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**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 13:45:18 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Not a sad good bye

Thank you Ka, for all of the marvelous, focused work that you have done in this community to make us more aware, connected and appreciative of one another. I am grateful to have come alongside for this brief time to know you a bit better and appreciate all that you do. I will see you around town!

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
715-271-2489

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 2:40:29 PM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

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City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:40:03 -0500  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Hi Matt,

Hello from Green Bay. I wanted to forward this meeting information about an event tonight. As you can see below, a group opposed to World Relief's resettlement of refugees in Eau Claire will be meeting VFW from 7-9 pm.

Given the emotionally charged tenor of some of the comments we've received on this topic, I'm a bit concerned.

Tonight, some advocates who support refugee settlement in Eau Claire, volunteers from the Welcoming New Neighbors Group, plan to attend the meeting at the VFW. Naturally there will be disagreement, but hopefully it is a productive, de-escalating conversation.

My questions are:

- 1 - Public safety. Would a police presence be advisable at the event tonight, and/or at the World Relief info event next week, or a future council public hearing? Is a public safety strategy something that needs to be considered on this topic?
2. Outreach. Would ECPD be a good, de-escalating "messenger" to the public in clarifying that people do not need to be afraid?

Thanks,  
Emily

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents. I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305

1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:05:21 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Information on World Relief

FYI, □

---

**From:** Kate Felton <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief

Hey Stephanie,

Just wanted to leave you a word of appreciation for your work to welcome World Relief, thereby welcoming new neighbors to our city. We have been getting some emails about this, and though of course not everyone in our community will support these actions, the resounding message I've gotten over my 8 years in service is that our community wants to lead with compassion, kindness, and generosity. I fully support the work you're doing here and I have good reason to believe that the majority of our council and our community support this work too.

Thank you! Keep up this good work!

**KATE FELTON** (formerly Kate Beaton)  
Eau Claire City Council, Member At-Large  
[Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com](mailto:Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com)  
Phone: 715-252-2544

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:09:31 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg; Steve Nick; Nicholas Koerner; Tess Morgan; Anoosheh Hamzehee; Doug Hoffer; Elizabeth Geise; Angela Weideman; Kathryn Schauf; Nancy Coffey; Matt Rokus  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 8 Feb 2023 13:16:59 -0600  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch"  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

Eau Claire is not on list of Refugee Resettlement Agency...  
<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/refugee/pdf/fundedagencies-rev0822.pdf>

---

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2023 1:15 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

On the refugee programs in WI:  
<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/refugee/researchers/programs>

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2023 12:22 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang  
<[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

Recording:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/zKm4tA2F5CDNrRhXM8u4Lgp9QWPLroD1f9-D6LhkgIX6VT0Sa1b5QQGLpOMoqEW0.XkuqqPC27zKn58Ue>

**Passcode:** PERMwi1#

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2023 12:15 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang  
<[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

FYI...

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2022 3:40 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

I thought there was a recording, but I'm not sure... You could email Aaron White and/or Kaylynnn or Ray to see if they know of one.

**From:** Kaylynn Winegar <[winegar@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:winegar@eauclairechamber.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 30, 2022 8:14 AM  
**To:** Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Ray French <[ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Luke Hanson <[luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com](mailto:luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com)>; [steve@momentumwest.org](mailto:steve@momentumwest.org); Jon Menz <[jmenz@wdbwcw.org](mailto:jmenz@wdbwcw.org)>; minor (<[minor@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:minor@eauclairechamber.org)> <[minor@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:minor@eauclairechamber.org)>); Samantha Kraegenbrink <[Samantha.Kraegenbrink@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Samantha.Kraegenbrink@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

Hello everyone,

Apologies for the late response we've been hosting a Chamber conference the last week.

We are interested in meeting, thanks Aaron for bringing up our previous work. We have also been in contact with a group called Welcoming New Neighbors that is associated with Lutheran Social Services. They have been specifically working to bring and acclimating some Afghanistan refugees (individuals and families) in the past year tackling exactly when Aaron mentioned, housing, transportation and basic needs.

I look forward to learning more.

Kaylynn Winegar  
Pronouns: She/Her ([Learn more about pronouns](#))  
Vice President, Workforce Initiatives  
Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce  
101 N. Farwell Street, Ste. 101  
Eau Claire, WI 54703  
Direct Line: (715) 858-0615  
[winegar@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:winegar@eauclairechamber.org)  
CHECK OUT THE NEW WEBSITE:  
<https://www.eauclairechamber.org>  
"Our Community is Our Business"

On Fri, Sep 23, 2022 at 2:41 PM Aaron White <[Aaron.White@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Aaron.White@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Count me in for the meeting. Just so everyone is aware, there is another staffing group bringing in workers from Puerto Rico, current used heavily by Ashley Furniture in Arcadia/Whitehall. They have been doing this for about a year. Kaylynn and I have spoken with them a couple of times. Biggest challenge they have is finding landlords that will rent to someone with no housing references/history, etc.

**Aaron J. White, MBA**  
*Economic Development Manager*  
715-839-4914—main desk

715-839-9047—direct line  
[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)  
<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>  
<https://www.eauclaireddevelopment.com/>  
203 S. Farwell St, Eau Claire, WI 54701



\*\*\* Your Economic Development team and the Downtown Eau Claire, Inc. staff are working on efforts to find resources for our community during this time.

For updated information on upcoming business resources and support programs related to COVID-19 financial impacts, go to our web sites:  
<https://www.eauclaireddevelopment.com/doing-business/financial-assistance/> or  
<https://www.downtowneauclaire.org/coronavirus-aid-and-support/> and be sure to continue supporting our local businesses.

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**From:** Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 23, 2022 2:33 PM  
**To:** Ray French <[ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Luke Hanson <[luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com](mailto:luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com)>; Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; [steve@momentumwest.org](mailto:steve@momentumwest.org); 'Jon Menz' <[jmenz@wdbwcv.org](mailto:jmenz@wdbwcv.org)>; Kaylynn Winegar <[winegar@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:winegar@eauclairechamber.org)>; minor (<[minor@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:minor@eauclairechamber.org)>) <[minor@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:minor@eauclairechamber.org)>  
**Cc:** Samantha Kraegenbrink <[Samantha.Kraegenbrink@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Samantha.Kraegenbrink@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

Samantha Kraegenbrink can be our lead to pull together this group for planning, and we can host on WebEX.

Hoping that the Chamber will have the business contacts that we will want to invite.

---

**From:** Ray French <[ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 23, 2022 1:31 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)>; Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Luke Hanson <[luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com](mailto:luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com)>; Aaron White <[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)>; [steve@momentumwest.org](mailto:steve@momentumwest.org); 'Jon Menz' <[jmenz@wdbwcv.org](mailto:jmenz@wdbwcv.org)>; Kaylynn Winegar <[winegar@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:winegar@eauclairechamber.org)>; minor (<[minor@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:minor@eauclairechamber.org)>) <[minor@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:minor@eauclairechamber.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Hi all – looping the Chamber in on this too. I also had shared the webinar recording with Kaylynn. Below is what I received back from Mitos as the best step for getting the information to our businesses.

I can set up a meeting to plan out the webinar with Mitos. Can someone take the lead to be our “host” for it? We’ll want to discuss target businesses and marketing the webinar. Attached are the flyers for the previous one. For those that haven’t watched it, a meeting would be a good time to get any of our questions answered. Let me know who wants “in” and we can schedule a conversation.

Thank you,  
Ray

**From:** Mitos Bitong [mitosbitong@intlmanpower.com](mailto:mitosbitong@intlmanpower.com)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 9:03 PM  
**To:** Ray French [ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)  
**Subject:** Re: PERM for Western Wisconsin

Hello Ray,

Thank you for your email. We could do a webinar with a Question & Answer Session. I normally invite Len Fast, Administrator of Barron Care & Rehab because he gives first hand information on his great experience with our IMC foreign workers. Providers can relate to him especially because he is from Wisconsin as well.

My husband Albert and I just came back from a trip to Israel and Dubai where most of our Filipino foreign workers are. We were there to visit our Offices, Recruiters and applicants.

I look forward to hearing back from you.

**Thank you,**  
**Mitos Bitong**  
**Recruitment Director**

***International Manpower Connection, Inc.***

5850 Canoga Ave, Ste. 400

Woodland Hills, CA 91367 **U.S.A.**

**Tel. 818-922-0522 / 818-486-2971**

**Website: [www.intlmanpowerconnections.com](http://www.intlmanpowerconnections.com)**

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 11, 2022 2:27 PM  
**To:** Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Ray French <[ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)>; Luke Hanson <[luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com](mailto:luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com)>; Aaron White <[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)>; [steve@momentumwest.org](mailto:steve@momentumwest.org); 'Jon Menz' <[jmenz@wdbwcv.org](mailto:jmenz@wdbwcv.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

It seems like perhaps we should set up a meeting with the recruitment director, Mitos? I’m all for that!

---

**From:** Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 1, 2022 1:56 PM  
**To:** Ray French <[ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Luke Hanson <[luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com](mailto:luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com)>; Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; [steve@momentumwest.org](mailto:steve@momentumwest.org); 'Jon Menz' <[jmenz@wdbwcw.org](mailto:jmenz@wdbwcw.org)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

All -

I believe this would be a program that would benefit the Chippewa Valley – particularly with our hub of health care and the need for nurses. What are the steps to getting this going and who do we need on point to lead the charge? There may also be employers in manufacturing who need the workforce.

Kathryn

---

**From:** Ray French <[ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 1:52 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)>; Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Luke Hanson <[luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com](mailto:luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com)>; Aaron White <[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)>; [steve@momentumwest.org](mailto:steve@momentumwest.org); 'Jon Menz' <[jmenz@wdbwcw.org](mailto:jmenz@wdbwcw.org)>  
**Subject:** FW: PERM Webinar Recording

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Good afternoon!

Attached is the PowerPoint from the PERM workforce webinar this morning and a link to the recording is below. The first half hour is the more formal presentation with another 20 minutes of questions.

Thank you,  
Ray

—  
Ray French, EDFP  
Regional Economic Development Director  
He/Him/His

**Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation**

Email: [ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)

Phone: 608.210.6791

Eau Claire, WI 54701



Websites: [InWisconsin.com](http://InWisconsin.com) | [wedc.org](http://wedc.org)

Newsletters: [InWisconsin.com/subscribe](http://InWisconsin.com/subscribe)



---

**From:** Mari Kay-Nabozny <[mari@nwwib.com](mailto:mari@nwwib.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 1:03 PM  
**To:** Mari Kay-Nabozny <[mari@nwwib.com](mailto:mari@nwwib.com)>  
**Subject:** PERM Webinar Recording

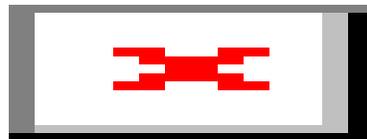
Hello everyone,

Thank you for joining us today for the PERM presentation. Below you can find the link to the webinar recording and the passcode to view it. I have also attached the Powerpoint presentation that Mitos provided and her contact information is on the last slide. We truly appreciate you joining us today. We will be hosting an employer roundtable about workforce challenges and solutions in October and we will ensure you receive that information as well. Thank you and have a great day!

<https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/zKm4tA2F5CDNrRhXM8u4Lgp9QWPLroD1f9-D6LhkgIX6VToSa1b5QOGLpOMoqEW0.XkuqqPC27zKn58Ue>

**Passcode: PERMwi1#**

Mari



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**"Treat every opportunity like a great opportunity, and you may find a few of them to be just that."**

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**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 15 Mar 2023 10:00:01 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch"  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/refugee/pdf/fundedagencies-rev0822.pdf>

check out this list of Refugee Resettlement Agencies....

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 9:48 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

I'm looking into what agencies are working around Appleton that are related to what we're looking for.  
One is **World Relief** that I'm very familiar with, they are a huge **Christian** NGO with branches all over the world, They accept strictly Christian employees, their model of working as a very rich agency can't be a model for us I guess? Also, they're closed on Wednesdays. The other one is a **Muslim** organization with a headquarter in **Pakistan** that helps refugees from Muslim countries, If we want to meet with them we have to email them an official request, I've got the email address. They help the refugees in their area to settle. I can't remember any other entities in Appleton that we're interested in learning more about, do you?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**  
**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4903  
E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)  
203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701





**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 09:22:42 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Bring Diversity to EC  
**Attachments:** RWHC TBB & Immigrant Workforce 4.21.2022.pdf, PERM STD.pdf

This is great! With this feel like half our job is done! What do you need from me?

Ka

---

**From:** Ray French <ray.french@wedc.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2023 4:18 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; Hedenstrom, Alyssa <ahedenstrom@cvtc.edu>  
**Cc:** Dave Armstrong <bcedc@co.barron.wi.us>; Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Bring Diversity to EC

Good afternoon,

Thanks to everyone for your work on this. I'm sorry for my delay in following up. I just had a chance to go back through my archives of information I've shared the last year with our economic development partners.

I mentioned to Kaylynn at the Chamber, who I hope you've had a chance to connect with, about your interest in the Workforce Talent Pipelines Series we discussed. It sounds like she's talked with Steve Jahn of Momentum West, who could be a partner, and she recommended bringing in "Welcoming New Neighbors" locally. The series we discussed included [International Manpower Connection, Inc.](#) (PERM), [Mission Wisconsin](#) (Veterans), and a group Kaylynn mentioned named Integrated... not sure. As we

discussed, I still think the best chance for success in this in supporting businesses in driving the work of bringing new people to the region.

The email below this I shared with our regional partners and references the context of the 2022 pdf slide deck attached. The PERM pdf is an example of what our partners in Amery/Polk County did for an event last June. The best example of a success story for PERM is Len Fast, Administrator of [Barron Care & Rehab](#).

Otherwise, the following information was shared with me for contact information and links on accessing various programs. We also talked about Lutheran Social Services being a partner in our region as well.

Bojana Zori☒ Martinez  
*Director, Bureau of Refugee Programs*  
*Wisconsin State Refugee Coordinator*  
[dcf.wisconsin.gov](http://dcf.wisconsin.gov) | p:414. 270.4707 m:414. 588.0515  
email: [Bojana.ZoricMartinez@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Bojana.ZoricMartinez@wisconsin.gov)

Janice M. Beers  
*Policy Advisor for New American Integration*  
[dcf.wisconsin.gov](http://dcf.wisconsin.gov) | p. 608.422.7093  
m: 608.212.7906

Adam VanNoord  
Director, Multicultural Community Center - Wausau  
Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc.  
[avannoord@ecdcus.org](mailto:avannoord@ecdcus.org) | (715) 907-7089

- USCIS United for Ukraine: <https://www.uscis.gov/ukraine>
- DHS United for Ukraine: <https://www.dhs.gov/ukraine>
- Benefits for Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/orr/fact-sheet/benefits-ukrainian-humanitarian-parolees>
- Welcome.us website: <https://welcome.us/>
- Community Immigration Law Center (offers free legal consultations): <https://www.cilcmadison.org/>

- [Welcome.US | Explainer](#)

Highlights of the Ukraine refugee process (from my counterpart in Northern WI)

1. They are refugee status, they are here for two years, basically a temporary status, unless some things change with our immigration process during the two years that will allow them to obtain a green card and/or citizenship they will return to Ukraine at the end of two years. While here they are eligible for benefits, health insurance etc. They can obtain a work permit, this process can take up to 6 weeks.
2. Each refugee needs to have a Sponsor here in the USA. The folks I talked to were not aware of a business being a sponsor. (Employer sponsored program is different) The employer program is a longer more extensive process. They suggested having an immigration lawyer retained if considering this program. However, some of the links above will provide info.
3. From the time one would become approved to be a sponsor the Ukraine refugee can be here in about 4-6 weeks, so is quite fast.
4. Most of the Ukraine refugees are female. Some are professionals, others are not. There is no guarantee they would be interested in working in manufacturing. It didn't seem like there was a way to screen people to determine their interest in working and what skills they may or may not have.
5. The I-134 is the first form to complete.

I hope all this is helpful. I'm glad to have a group in Eau Claire interested in taking this on. My role going forward can certainly be to share information and connect people who are interested and working on this topic.

Thank you,

Ray

—

Ray French, EDFP

Regional Economic Development Director

He/Him/His

**Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation**

Email: [ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)

Phone: 608.210.6791

---

**From:** Ray French

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 9:34 AM

**Subject:** Immigration talent pipelines

Good morning,

There have been a lot of questions on how our region can better access immigrant talent pipelines. My colleague for SW WI has worked in this area a while and shared some resources.

The new resettlement program for the Ukrainians was recently announced: [Welcome.US | Explainer](#). It looks like the US sponsors (family, friends, employers) should just go on the USCIS website and fill out the Affidavit of Support to start the process I-134 [Affidavit of Support \(uscis.gov\)](#).

Attached is a presentation she recently gave to the Rural WI Healthcare Cooperative Association. It provides a great primer on organizations like [Talent Beyond Boundaries](#) and discusses various pathways for opening our communities to refugees. It also references the PERM program in Rice Lake and I'm sure Dave Armstrong would be a happy resource on that.

A recent successful migration story is Puerto Ricans in 2018. You can see videos documenting the ways communities successfully recruited the here:

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=puerto+ricans+recruiting](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=puerto+ricans+recruiting)

Finally, we're in early conversations about a series of roundtables throughout the State this summer on this topic. I hope to have more to share in a few weeks!

Thank you!

Ray

—

Ray French, EDFP

Regional Economic Development Director – Region 1

Pronouns: He/Him/His

Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Email: [Ray.French@wedc.org](mailto:Ray.French@wedc.org)

Ph: 608.210.6791

312 S Barstow St, Suite 2

Eau Claire, WI 54701



Website: <http://InWisconsin.com>

Newsletters: <http://InWisconsin.com/subscribe/>



**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 4 Apr 2023 15:24:51 -0500  
**To:** "Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service"  
<info@wipps.org>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee  
Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

Thank you for your message. I am out of the office until April 5, and will reply to your message then.

Thank you,  
Ka Vang

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 5 Apr 2023 07:57:03 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement  
Stories in Central Wisconsin

Maybe we need to see how we can get these films here? Just a thought...

---

**From:** Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service <info@wipps.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023 3:25 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central  
Wisconsin



A solid red rectangular banner containing the text "BUILDING COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY" in white, all-caps, sans-serif font, centered within the banner.

## Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

**Three Short Films to be Screened in Central Wisconsin**

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registration is not required.

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SHORT FILM SCREENINGS:

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a.vang@eauclairewi.gov. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#). - You can also keep up with WIPPS on Facebook.

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 6 Apr 2023 09:39:08 -0500  
**To:** "Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service"  
<info@wipps.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

Hello,  
Eau Claire would be interested in seeing how we can get something like this set up here. What do we need to do?

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**  
Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S. Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-839-4942  
[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)  
<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



---

**From:** Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service <info@wipps.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023 3:25 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin



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**Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories  
in Central Wisconsin**

## Three Short Films to be Screened in Central Wisconsin

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**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 6 Apr 2023 11:54:52 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement  
Stories in Central Wisconsin

If we were to do film screening, where would be a good place and any idea how many to plan for? I reached out to them and they would be happy to bring the film to EC.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 9:18 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central  
Wisconsin

YES!

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 7:57 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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Wisconsin



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## Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

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a.vang@eauclairewi.gov. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#). - You can also keep up with WIPPS on Facebook.

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 7 Apr 2023 10:43:42 -0500  
**To:** "dmowry@uwec.edu" <dmowry@uwec.edu>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

Hi Don,  
Hope things are going well for you.  
I'm looking to do a screening of these 3 short films and would like to see if you would be interested and available to be part of a panel after the film and share your experiences in helping resettle refugees/immigrants.

I don't have dates yet, but looking at a Thursday eve (5:30 pm start time) for May or June.

Would you be chance have contact info for John Lor? I would like to invite him to be on the panel too.

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**  
**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S. Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-839-4942  
[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)  
<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



---

**From:** Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service <[info@wipps.org](mailto:info@wipps.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023 3:25 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

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ECDC Empowering refugees and immigrants since 1985  
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**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 7 Apr 2023 10:47:27 -0500  
**To:** "Julie Bunczak" <jbunczak@uwsa.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

Setting: possibly a small movie theater or public library.  
Audience: community members

I'm looking at doing this on a Thursday eve (5:30pm start time) w/ a local panel to share their experiences and if it works, film maker too for May or June.

Would this be possible? I'm looking into availability of venues and local panel members.

Ka

---

**From:** Julie Bunczak <jbunczak@uwsa.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 11:09 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service <info@wipps.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

Ka, thanks so much for your interest! I'd be happy to set up a screening in Eau Claire. Can you give me an idea of the setting and audience for which you'd like to show it?

Julie Bunczak (*she/her*)

Program Manager

Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service

University of Wisconsin System

625 Stewart Ave.

Wausau, WI 54401

(715) 600-3224





All In Wisconsin  

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 9:39 AM  
**To:** Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service <[info@wipps.org](mailto:info@wipps.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

**\*External Email: Use caution responding, opening attachments, or clicking on links.\***

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Eau Claire would be interested in seeing how we can get something like this set up here. What do we need to do?

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**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**  
**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S. Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-839-4942  
[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)  
<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



---

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**Sent:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023 3:25 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

## Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

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**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 3 Oct 2023 10:54:22 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: How I answered the questions

Wow I want to meet this person ☐  
Thanks for your kind words

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 10:34:27 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** How I answered the questions

Ka's professional skills mix, including her passion for social causes, organizational prowess, interpersonal skills, adaptability, and problem-solving abilities, makes her an outstanding candidate for this role. Her dedication to making a positive impact and her ability to lead and manage in diverse environments are qualities that would greatly benefit any organization striving to create a better world.

As an EDI Coordinator, Ka demonstrates an exceptional level of cultural sensitivity in her role. Her deep understanding and respect for diverse backgrounds and perspectives is evident in her interactions and initiatives. She actively promotes an inclusive environment by fostering open dialogue and ensuring that all voices are heard and valued. Ka is not only aware of cultural differences but also actively seeks to learn and educate others about them, contributing to a more inclusive workplace. Her approach to EDI initiatives is grounded in cultural humility, showing a willingness to listen, learn, and adapt.

Yes, I highly recommend Ka for the position of Site Manager at World Relief. Ka brings a wealth of experience and qualifications that make her an exceptional candidate for this role. Having worked as an EDI (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) Coordinator, Ka has a deep understanding of the importance of cultural sensitivity, empathy, and inclusivity. She has successfully fostered inclusive environments in previous roles, which aligns perfectly with the diverse and culturally rich nature of refugee resettlement work. Moreover, Ka's experience working with university students and her background with a Ph.D. in Leadership, Policy, and Administration make her well-equipped to manage and lead teams effectively. Her academic expertise in leadership and administration, combined with practical experience, will enable her to oversee the various aspects of resettlement with a strategic and compassionate approach. Ka is not only dedicated to promoting equity and diversity but also possesses strong communication, organizational, and problem-solving skills. These qualities are essential for managing complex resettlement programs and coordinating with multiple

stakeholders, including government agencies, NGOs, and volunteers. In summary, Ka is a highly qualified and dedicated individual with the right blend of skills, experience, and empathy to excel in the role of Site Manager at your refugee resettlement agency. I have no doubt that she will contribute significantly to the success of your organization and the well-being of the refugees you serve.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 9 Oct 2023 10:31:02 -0500  
**To:** "Caitlin lee" <leemai@uwec.edu>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Caitlin,  
I'm not sure if you received this invite. Please see if you can attend and forward to anyone in your org that would benefit from attending.

Thanks,  
Ka

---

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) *Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023*  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 9 Oct 2023 10:32:04 -0500  
**To:** "True Vue" <truevue@ecahmaa.org>; "Pa Thao" <pa@bbwpcoalition.org>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

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Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) *Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023*

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 9 Oct 2023 10:33:26 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Hope you registered to attend ☐

---

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**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 10:43:40 -0500  
**To:** "kavang37@yahoo.com" <kavang37@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

---

**From:** Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 10:04 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Hi Ka,

I wanted to reach out because I've received some communication (in addition to the public comment we heard last night) with concerns about the refugee resettlement that tapped into existing narratives about immigration. I think there may be some fear-driven conversations happening in the community and while I imagine World Relief has experience building relationships and breaking down barriers of fear in communities, I just wanted to make sure I raised the alert.

Thanks

Emily

PS Thanks for this invitation - unfortunately I have work commitments at that time.

---

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 8:55:33 AM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 10:43:55 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Thanks Emily.

---

**From:** Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 10:04 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 16:08:37 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Blurb

Here's the edit version. Looks good. Thanks.

We are saying farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. Ka has done so much for us in the time she has been here, and we are very sad to see her go. That said, we are excited about the position she is shifting into. She will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship. While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, CVTC, other community organizations, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited an EDI Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 2:55 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Draft Blurb

Please edit/add/subtract however!

\*\*\*

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**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 11:38:10 -0500  
**To:** "kavang37@yahoo.com" <kavang37@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** edi podcast

<https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/appleton-engaged/episodes/Episode-17-E-Ben-Grisby-Jody-Harrell---Celebrate-Diversity-Fox-Cities-e2a86ls>

WR refugee resettlement podcast?. Use Spotify as platform as its free

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

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Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Jessica Schoen" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 10:51:56 -0500  
**To:** "Kathy Kivlin" <kathykivlin4@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Syrian Refugees

Good morning Kathy,

Thank you for reaching out to me with your concerns. I attended an informational meeting with World Relief last week. I can offer a few points of clarification (below) based on the information available to me presently. I am happy to hear that you plan to attend the meeting tomorrow evening and am hopeful it will be a productive and positive meeting for all who participate.

- You reference information that was provided at the meeting on Thursday evening at the VFW. I was not in attendance at this meeting and am unfamiliar with who presented and how accurate the information may have been.
- World Relief is one of 10 resettlement agencies that assist with refugee resettlement efforts in the United States. World Relief has 20 different offices in the United States (the nearest being in the Fox Valley area in Wisconsin which opened in 2012).
- World Relief has been in contact with City staff including the City Manager regarding this matter. World Relief will gather quarterly with resettlement partners which will include local government, employers, volunteer groups, law enforcement, school districts, etc.

Please let me know if you have any other questions. Thank you,

**Jess Schoen**

City Council Member, District 1  
Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com  
(715) 255-0297  
**From:** Kathy Kivlin <kathykivlin4@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 8:51:11 PM  
**To:** Jessica Schoen  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Syrian Refugees

Ms. Schoen,

I am extremely concerned about the Syrian Refugees who may be coming to the Chippewa Valley. The informational meeting held at VFW, Starr Ave. Thursday evening was extremely disconcerting for a number of reasons, mainly because this seemed to be done under the cover of darkness, with many discrepancies. The taxpayers in the Chippewa Valley were not given a heads up that this was taking place, therefore no one had an opportunity to voice their MANY concerns. Do you remember whom you represent?

Attendees at the Thursday meeting were told that this was coordinated by the Sheriff. This was a lie as the Sheriff knows nothing about this!!

What is going on??!

I expect every City Council/County Board member to be present at the Library, 6 PM, 10/23. Remember whom you represent.

Regards,

Kathleen Kivlin

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 6 Feb 2023 14:13:58 -0600  
**To:** "DMOWRY@uwec.edu" <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>  
**Subject:** Bring Diversity to Eau Claire

Hello,

My name is Anoosheh and I work with the City of Eau Claire, City Manager's office. As far as I know you work with Welcoming New Neighbors-NW WI Refugee Resettlement group and we would appreciate if you join us for a brainstorming session at the city hall about bringing diversity to Eau Claire. Below is some info. about what we're looking at. I'm sending an invite to a meeting right after this email, I thought I give you some explanation as who we are and what the meeting is about beforehand.

We are looking at making Eau Claire a more diverse city for several reasons including the following:

**Cultural enrichment** – Learning about other cultures helps us to understand other viewpoints and ideas and in doing so enriches our lives. For instance, Albuquerque in New Mexico is home to numerous Native American tribes and Mexican settlers, providing a first-hand opportunity to learn about these cultures. The diversity of the city has created a vibrant community and a booming [Albuquerque real estate](#) market as people from all over the country flock to the multicultural city.

**Greater creativity** – Having a variety of cultures and backgrounds allow for different perspectives and new ideas. This diversity of thoughts and opinions promotes creativity and innovation. Hence, cities with a diverse population tend to be more innovative than homogeneous ones. Hubs of creativity in the US such as San Francisco and New York are typically some of the most diverse. From the arts to technology, diversity is driving change and inspiration across industries.

**Better lifestyle** – With people from different backgrounds come a myriad of different traditions, cuisine, and art. Some of the most diverse cities in the US, including Los Angeles and New Orleans, are known for their range of world-class restaurants featuring food from cultures all around the world. There are also countless art galleries, museums, and festivals to explore and get involved in. This greatly enhances your range of experiences and subsequent quality of life.

**Stronger community ties** – Communities that are diverse and inclusive are more likely to form bonds and create a sense of belonging for all residents. With a greater sense of appreciation for other cultures, there is less conflict between different groups and communities and stronger neighborhoods with [less violent crime](#). Of course, this comes with the caveat that efforts are made within the community to foster inclusivity, tolerance, and mutual appreciation.

**Greater civic engagement** – Civic engagement refers to the willingness of citizens to get involved in their communities to strengthen them and make them a better place for everyone to live and work. As people learn more about the importance of diversity and the acceptance of other cultures, they can become more engaged in their communities and work towards making positive changes that will benefit everyone. This can include volunteering or voting for progressive and inclusive legislation.

**Economic growth** – Diverse communities drive economic growth through increased business opportunities and increased consumer spending power. Many businesses have begun to realize that attracting a diverse workforce leads to higher productivity levels and increased revenue. It also creates a dynamic culture in which employees learn from each other and build on their strengths to create better products. This drives greater success for the economy on the whole.

(for more material on this subject please

To make Eau Claire more diverse we're looking at different options such as:

**Get more immigrant/refugee friendly-** In order to attract immigrants and refugees from other states and cities to Eau Claire we need to :

- Invest in minorities
- Allow cultural expression and inclusivity
- Offer language services
- Adopt policies that support inclusion

**Bring in foreign labor-** The detailed process can be found in the link below

[Foreign Labor | U.S. Department of Labor \(dol.gov\)](https://www.dol.gov)

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 15 Mar 2023 10:01:52 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

Thank you, I will

---

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:00 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/refugee/pdf/fundedagencies-rev0822.pdf>

check out this list of Refugee Resettlement Agencies....

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 9:48 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

I'm looking into what agencies are working around Appleton that are related to what we're looking for. One is **World Relief** that I'm very familiar with, they are a huge **Christian** NGO with branches all over the world, They accept strictly Christian employees, their model of working as a very rich agency can't be a model for us I guess? Also, they're closed on Wednesdays. The other one is a **Muslim** organization with a headquarter in **Pakistan** that helps refugees from Muslim countries, If we want to meet with them we have to email them an official request, I've got the email address. They help the refugees in their area to settle. I can't remember any other entities in Appleton that we're interested in learning more about, do you?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**  
**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4903  
E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 15 Mar 2023 10:35:56 -0500  
**To:** "lkeesler@fsc-corp.org" <lkeesler@fsc-corp.org>  
**Subject:** Refugee resettlement

Good morning Lea,

My name is Anoosheh and I'm reaching out from the City of Eau Claire trying to get familiar with your activities in helping refugees. Would you be available for a quick phone call or do you have any information you can share with us, or even better would you be available to meet with us in Appleton April 24<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>? We'll be there for a conference.

Thank you☐

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 15 Mar 2023 10:49:07 -0500  
**To:** "AVanNoord@ecdcus.org" <AVanNoord@ecdcus.org>  
**Subject:** Refugee Resettlement

Good morning Adam,

My name is Anoosheh and I'm reaching out from the City of Eau Claire trying to get familiar with your activities in helping refugees. Would you be available for a quick phone call or do you have any information you can share with us, or even better would you be available to meet with us in Wausau April 24<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>? We'll be on our way to and from Appleton for Wisconsin Diversity conference.

thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 20 Mar 2023 15:25:20 -0500  
**To:** "Lea Keesler" <lkeesler@fsc-corp.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

Hi Lea,

We won't make it to Appleton before 4:00 PM on 4/24, we'll be free on the 25<sup>th</sup> after 5:00 though and on 26<sup>th</sup> after 1:30 pm. Would any of those work for you by any chance?

Thank you  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Lea Keesler <lkeesler@fsc-corp.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2023 3:04 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

Hi Anoosheh,

Thank you for reaching out. I would be available on 4/24. Is there a time that works for you? Anywhere between 8am-2pm works for me.

Thanks

**Lea Keesler**

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

**Forward Service Corporation**

1050 Midway Road | Menasha, WI 54952

2201 Oregon Street | Oshkosh, WI 54902

P: 920-886-7107 E: [lkeesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:lkeesler@fsc-corp.org) W: [www.fsc-corp.org](http://www.fsc-corp.org)

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---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:36 AM  
**To:** Lea Keesler <[lkeesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:lkeesler@fsc-corp.org)>  
**Subject:** Refugee resettlement

Good morning Lea,

My name is Anoosheh and I'm reaching out from the City of Eau Claire trying to get familiar with your activities in helping refugees. Would you be available for a quick phone call or do you have any information you can share with us, or even better would you be available to meet with us in Appleton April 24<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>? We'll be there for a conference.

Thank you ☐

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 21 Mar 2023 08:00:37 -0500  
**To:** "Lea Keesler" <lkeesler@fsc-corp.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

Good morning!  
Yes please ☺

---

**From:** Lea Keesler <lkeesler@fsc-corp.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2023 9:28 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

Hello,

I could do the 26<sup>th</sup> at 2pm if that works for you. ☺

Thanks

**Lea Keesler**

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

**Forward Service Corporation**

1050 Midway Road | Menasha, WI 54952

2201 Oregon Street | Oshkosh, WI 54902

**P:** 920-886-7107 **E:** [lkeesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:lkeesler@fsc-corp.org) **W:** [www.fsc-corp.org](http://www.fsc-corp.org)

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2023 3:25 PM  
**To:** Lea Keesler <[lkeesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:lkeesler@fsc-corp.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

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Anoosheh

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**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2023 3:04 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:36 AM  
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**Subject:** Refugee resettlement

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Thank you ☺

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 21 Mar 2023 08:41:22 -0500  
**To:** "Lea Keesler" <lkeesler@fsc-corp.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

We're attending the Diversity conference at 333 W College Ave, Appleton, WI 54911, apparently your Menasha location is closer, right?

---

**From:** Lea Keesler <lkeesler@fsc-corp.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2023 8:36 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

Awesome. Would you like to meet at our office in Menasha?

Thanks

**Lea Keesler**

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

**Forward Service Corporation**

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2201 Oregon Street | Oshkosh, WI 54902

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---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2023 8:01 AM  
**To:** Lea Keesler <[lkeesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:lkeesler@fsc-corp.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

Good morning!

Yes please ☐

---

**From:** Lea Keesler <[lkeesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:lkeesler@fsc-corp.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2023 9:28 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

Hello,

I could do the 26<sup>th</sup> at 2pm if that works for you. ☐

Thanks

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2023 3:25 PM

**To:** Lea Keesler <[keesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:keesler@fsc-corp.org)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

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and on 26<sup>th</sup> after 1:30 pm. Would any of those work for you by any chance?

Thank you

Anoosheh

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**From:** Lea Keesler <[keesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:keesler@fsc-corp.org)>

**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2023 3:04 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

Hi Anoosheh,

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Thanks

**Lea Keesler**

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:36 AM

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**Subject:** Refugee resettlement

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Thank you ☐

### Anoosheh Hamzehee

Associate Analyst

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

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203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



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compliance and other essential capabilities. Mimecast helps protect large and small organizations from malicious activity, human error and technology failure; and to lead the movement toward building a more resilient world. To find out more, visit our website.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 22 Mar 2023 09:22:53 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Invite or Not?  
**Importance:** High

Good morning Stephanie,

I hope you're enjoying your trip ☺  
I talked to World relief director in Fox Valley.  
She's coming to Eau Claire to visit with us and all the key players.  
Is it ok to invite Katheryn and Lieske, Holley, Deb and Don too?  
Do you think we should have Billie too because she has housing questions for us as well or you will take care of them?

This is the email I'm going to send and I've already booked it on your schedule

"World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. TAMI MCLAUGHLIN is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire to meet with us and do an assessment. I appreciate if you can attend please."

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 08:37:38 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "Room\_CH\_Rivers" <Room\_CH\_Rivers@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Canceled: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**Importance:** High

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 08:37:45 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami Mclaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 09:11:13 -0500  
**To:** "Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov"  
<Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov>; "ron.schmidt@eauclairecounty.gov"  
<ron.schmidt@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; 'Kathryn Schauf'; 'Hassemer, Holly'; 'Mowry, Donald D.'; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

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Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 12:38:20 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

FYI,

---

**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>; Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Dear Anoosheh,

I just wanted to let you know that there is also an existing refugee resettlement organization in Eau Claire called Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN). Wnn has been operating under the sponsorship of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan—home office Milwaukee—as a CoSponsorship program. WNN has accepted and settled 7 Afghan men and also supported two Afghan families who came to Eau Claire as a secondary migration. WNN is also moving to become a recognized Refugee Resettlement agency.

Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 12:52:59 -0500  
**To:** "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>  
**Cc:** "Bea Evans" <beaevans2@gmail.com>; "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Thank you Don! Hello Bea and Ginny! I wish I knew this earlier, I was under the impression that Welcoming neighborhood is volunteer based. Has that changed? How a World relief agency in town would relate with what you're doing? I used to work for DHS and have met a few of the WNN members and also all the 7 Afghan refugees who were settled then. Are all or some of the Afghan refugees still living in Eau Claire? I am aware that World Relief will contact Lutheran Social Services before doing the assessment for Eau Claire.

Thank you  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>; Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

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Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

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**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
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Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 15:03:24 -0500  
**To:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Bea Evans" <beaevans2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hi Ginny,

Yes to both, we can meet before April 5<sup>th</sup> and you're welcome to join us for that meeting

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 2:59 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Mowry, Donald D. <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hello Anoosheh,

Yes Welcoming New Neighbors is still a volunteer driven organization. From our Afghan welcoming experience, we are exploring expanding to become a 501c3 in support of new immigrants and of those already here.

It is exciting to hear that World Relief is considering EC. All kinds of questions come to mind however and I would like to hear more of the back story of how EC got to be considered as a possible future resettlement location? Would you be available to meet with a few of WNN volunteers prior to April 5 or could a few of us attend that meeting?

Looking forward to working together to become a truly welcoming community.  
Ginny Close

On Thu, Mar 23, 2023, 12:53 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Thank you Don! Hello Bea and Ginny! I wish I knew this earlier, I was under the impression that Welcoming neighborhood is volunteer based. Has that changed? How a World relief agency in town would relate with what you're doing? I used to work for DHS and have met a few of the WNN members and also all the 7 Afghan refugees who were settled then. Are all or some of the Afghan refugees still living in Eau Claire? I am aware that World Relief will contact Lutheran Social Services before doing the assessment for Eau Claire.

Thank you  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>; Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Dear Anoosheh,

I just wanted to let you know that there is also an existing refugee resettlement organization in Eau Claire called Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN). Wnn has been operating under the sponsorship of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan—home office Milwaukee—as a CoSponsorship program. WNN has accepted and settled 7 Afghan men and also supported two Afghan families who came to Eau Claire as a secondary migration. WNN is also moving to become a recognized Refugee Resettlement agency.

Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise

**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates.

Tami Mclaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.

I'm

schedulin

g the meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 08:11:27 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** PRM New Site Development Guide - 2021 Revision - with highlighted sections.docx

Good morning Stephanie,  
I think it's a good idea to share the attached with the stake holders before the meeting, your thoughts please?

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 7:29 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Hello Anoosheh,

I enjoyed our discussion yesterday regarding World Relief establishing a refugee resettlement site in Eau Claire. Will look forward to continuing the conversation with a wider network of community stakeholders on Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> and am very thankful for your willingness to coordinate this meeting.

Attached is a document created by our resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), as a guide to assess a community's ability to resettle refugees. World Relief will complete the assessment and use to assist in determining if we are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire. This would be followed by submitting a proposal to PRM as ultimately it is their decision to approve new sites. As I mentioned, we are also assessing the community of La Crosse and would most likely only support opening one new office next year.

Please feel free to send the guide to your stakeholders. Attachments Two and Three on pages 19 – 25 contain specific questions related to the assessment, and we will use the Evaluation Matrix to begin our conversation. My goal would be to have the assessment completed by the end of April and will plan to make one or two additional trips to Eau Claire.

Regarding housing questions, we would expect to resettle no more than a total of 75 people the first year. (most likely arriving after January 1, 2024). We are currently resettling mainly Congolese in the Fox Valley; singles to families as large as 9 people so renting 1 – 4 bedroom housing, ranging from \$650 - \$1400. Housing is a challenge in all of our communities so will be a priority in the assessment!

Hope this information is helpful as we begin this process. Please feel free to reach out with questions....resettlement is a collaborative and community response and we look forward to developing a strong partnership.

Thank you for your help and I look forward to meeting you soon.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 9:34 AM

**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Subject:** April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Good morning Tami,

I have invited Health Director, County Director and the city manager, Human Services Director, our housing project coordinator, ELL program Manager from CVTC, and a few more to the meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00. Most of them will be here☐

Our housing project manager asked me a couple of questions to get ready for the meeting, I thought I'll forward them to you:

“Do we have any preliminary information on needs from a community to host this program? How much housing would a program like this need available?  
If housing is needed, what price points? It would be helpful to know what criteria they look at in order to be able to be prepared to answer questions during the meeting. “

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 12:42:00 -0500  
**To:** "Lea Keesler" <lkeesler@fsc-corp.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

Hi Lea,  
Yes please, we will be there ☺

---

**From:** Lea Keesler <lkeesler@fsc-corp.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2023 12:40 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

Hi Annosheh,

If you are good with coming to our office in Menasha that might work great. Let me know if that does not work though.

Our address is 1050 Midway Road. We are in the same building as Subway.

Thanks

**Lea Keesler**

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

**Forward Service Corporation**

1050 Midway Road | Menasha, WI 54952

2201 Oregon Street | Oshkosh, WI 54902

P: 920-886-7107 E: [lkeesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:lkeesler@fsc-corp.org) W: [www.fsc-corp.org](http://www.fsc-corp.org)

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---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2023 8:41 AM  
**To:** Lea Keesler <[lkeesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:lkeesler@fsc-corp.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

We're attending the Diversity conference at 333 W College Ave, Appleton, WI 54911, apparently your Menasha location is closer, right?

---

**From:** Lea Keesler <[lkeesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:lkeesler@fsc-corp.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2023 8:36 AM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

Awesome. Would you like to meet at our office in Menasha?

Thanks

**Lea Keesler**

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

**Forward Service Corporation**

1050 Midway Road | Menasha, WI 54952

2201 Oregon Street | Oshkosh, WI 54902

**P:** 920-886-7107 **E:** [keesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:keesler@fsc-corp.org) **W:** [www.fsc-corp.org](http://www.fsc-corp.org)

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---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2023 8:01 AM

**To:** Lea Keesler <[keesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:keesler@fsc-corp.org)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

Good morning!

Yes please ☐

---

**From:** Lea Keesler <[keesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:keesler@fsc-corp.org)>

**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2023 9:28 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

Hello,

I could do the 26<sup>th</sup> at 2pm if that works for you. ☐

Thanks

**Lea Keesler**

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

**Forward Service Corporation**

1050 Midway Road | Menasha, WI 54952

2201 Oregon Street | Oshkosh, WI 54902

**P:** 920-886-7107 **E:** [keesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:keesler@fsc-corp.org) **W:** [www.fsc-corp.org](http://www.fsc-corp.org)

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---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2023 3:25 PM

**To:** Lea Keesler <[lkeesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:lkeesler@fsc-corp.org)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

Hi Lea,

We won't make it to Appleton before 4:00 PM on 4/24, we'll be free on the 25<sup>th</sup> after 5:00 though and on 26<sup>th</sup> after 1:30 pm. Would any of those work for you by any chance?

Thank you  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Lea Keesler <[lkeesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:lkeesler@fsc-corp.org)>

**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2023 3:04 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Refugee resettlement

Hi Anoosheh,

Thank you for reaching out. I would be available on 4/24. Is there a time that works for you? Anywhere between 8am-2pm works for me.

Thanks

**Lea Keesler**

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

**Forward Service Corporation**

1050 Midway Road | Menasha, WI 54952

2201 Oregon Street | Oshkosh, WI 54902

**P:** 920-886-7107 **E:** [lkeesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:lkeesler@fsc-corp.org) **W:** [www.fsc-corp.org](http://www.fsc-corp.org)

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:36 AM  
**To:** Lea Keesler <[leesler@fsc-corp.org](mailto:leesler@fsc-corp.org)>  
**Subject:** Refugee resettlement

Good morning Lea,

My name is Anoosheh and I'm reaching out from the City of Eau Claire trying to get familiar with your activities in helping refugees. Would you be available for a quick phone call or do you have any information you can share with us, or even better would you be available to meet with us in Appleton April 24<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>? We'll be there for a conference.

Thank you☐

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**  
**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4903  
E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)  
203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 12:55:44 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2023 11:32 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Mowry, Donald D. <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning Anoosheh,

Thank you for being so welcoming!! ☺ If it would work for you, a few of us would like to meet with you prior to the 5th, perhaps next week? We would especially like to tell you our Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN) 'story'. Also, we would like to share what we have learned, connections we have made, and other immigrant support efforts already at work of which you may or may not already be aware. Learning more of the City of Eau Claire perspective and the World Relief connection would be of great value as WNN envisions our community becoming an even more immigrant welcoming one, working in partnership with those seeking that same outcome.

Anoosheh, in order to proceed with setting up a meeting, could you please give us a couple of choices of days, times, and a meeting place that would work for you? There is such great interest within our Steering Committee, that I would estimate 4-5 of us wanting to join you.

Happy Friday,  
Ginny Close  
WNN Steering Committee Member

On Thu, Mar 23, 2023 at 3:03 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Ginny,

Yes to both, we can meet before April 5<sup>th</sup> and you're welcome to join us for that meeting☺

**From:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 2:59 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>; Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hello Anoosheh,

Yes Welcoming New Neighbors is still a volunteer driven organization. From our Afghan welcoming experience, we are exploring expanding to become a 501c3 in support of new immigrants and of those already here.

It is exciting to hear that World Relief is considering EC. All kinds of questions come to mind however and I would like to hear more of the back story of how EC got to be considered as a possible future resettlement location? Would you be available to meet with a few of WNN volunteers prior to April 5 or could a few of us attend that meeting?

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Thank you  
Anoosheh

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**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>; Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Dear Anoosheh,

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Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise

**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

sche

during the meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 14:26:37 -0500  
**To:** "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2023 8:46 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee; Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Cc:** Aaron White  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
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Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 08:55:29 -0500  
**To:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Bea Evans" <beaevans2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning Ginny,

How about Wednesday or Thursday afternoon here at the city hall? ☐

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2023 11:32 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Mowry, Donald D. <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

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**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 2:59 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>; Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>  
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<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

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**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>; Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Dear Anoosheh,

I just wanted to let you know that there is also an existing refugee resettlement organization in Eau Claire called Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN). Wnn has been operating under the sponsorship of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan—home office Milwaukee—as a CoSponsorship program. WNN has accepted and settled 7 Afghan men and also supported two Afghan families who came to Eau Claire as a secondary migration. WNN is also moving to become a recognized Refugee Resettlement agency.

Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise

**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

sche

during the meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 10:48:24 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Bring Diversity to EC  
**Attachments:** RWHC TBB & Immigrant Workforce 4.21.2022.pdf, PERM STD.pdf

Hi Stephanie,

We're trying to hold an info session about PERM and... in Eau Claire. Chamber and CVTC are board. Do you think we can have someone from EDC to present a similar presentation in the info session? Please see the attached.

---

**From:** Ray French <ray.french@wedc.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2023 4:18 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; Hedenstrom, Alyssa <ahedenstrom@cvtc.edu>  
**Cc:** Dave Armstrong <bcedc@co.barron.wi.us>; Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Bring Diversity to EC

Good afternoon,

Thanks to everyone for your work on this. I'm sorry for my delay in following up. I just had a chance to go back through my archives of information I've shared the last year with our economic development partners.

I mentioned to Kaylynn at the Chamber, who I hope you've had a chance to connect with, about your interest in the Workforce Talent Pipelines Series we discussed. It sounds like she's talked with Steve Jahn of Momentum West, who could be a partner, and she recommended bringing in "Welcoming New Neighbors" locally. The series we discussed included [International Manpower Connection, Inc.](#) (PERM), [Mission Wisconsin](#) (Veterans), and a group Kaylynn mentioned named Integrated... not sure. As we discussed, I still think the best chance for success in this in supporting businesses in driving the work of bringing new people to the region.

The email below this I shared with our regional partners and references the context of the 2022 pdf slide deck attached. The PERM pdf is an example of what our partners in Amery/Polk County did for an event last June. The best example of a success story for PERM is Len Fast, Administrator of [Barron Care & Rehab](#).

Otherwise, the following information was shared with me for contact information and links on accessing various programs. We also talked about Lutheran Social Services being a partner in our region as well.

Bojana Zori☒ Martinez

*Director, Bureau of Refugee Programs*

*Wisconsin State Refugee Coordinator*

[dcf.wisconsin.gov](http://dcf.wisconsin.gov) | p:414. 270.4707 m:414. 588.0515

email: [Bojana.ZoricMartinez@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Bojana.ZoricMartinez@wisconsin.gov)

Janice M. Beers

*Policy Advisor for New American Integration*

[dcf.wisconsin.gov](http://dcf.wisconsin.gov) | p. 608.422.7093

m: 608.212.7906

Adam VanNoord

Director, Multicultural Community Center - Wausau

Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc.

[avannoord@ecdCUS.org](mailto:avannoord@ecdCUS.org) | (715) 907-7089

- USCIS United for Ukraine: <https://www.uscis.gov/ukraine>
- DHS United for Ukraine: <https://www.dhs.gov/ukraine>

- Benefits for Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/orr/fact-sheet/benefits-ukrainian-humanitarian-parolees>
- Welcome.us website: <https://welcome.us/>
- Community Immigration Law Center (offers free legal consultations): <https://www.cilcmadison.org/>
- [Welcome.US | Explainer](#)

Highlights of the Ukraine refugee process (from my counterpart in Northern WI)

1. They are refugee status, they are here for two years, basically a temporary status, unless some things change with our immigration process during the two years that will allow them to obtain a green card and/or citizenship they will return to Ukraine at the end of two years. While here they are eligible for benefits, health insurance etc. They can obtain a work permit, this process can take up to 6 weeks.
2. Each refugee needs to have a Sponsor here in the USA. The folks I talked to were not aware of a business being a sponsor. (Employer sponsored program is different) The employer program is a longer more extensive process. They suggested having an immigration lawyer retained if considering this program. However, some of the links above will provide info.
3. From the time one would become approved to be a sponsor the Ukraine refugee can be here in about 4-6 weeks, so is quite fast.
4. Most of the Ukraine refugees are female. Some are professionals, others are not. There is no guarantee they would be interested in working in manufacturing. It didn't seem like there was a way to screen people to determine their interest in working and what skills they may or may not have.
5. The I-134 is the first form to complete.

I hope all this is helpful. I'm glad to have a group in Eau Claire interested in taking this on. My role going forward can certainly be to share information and connect people who are interested and working on this topic.

Thank you,

Ray

—

Ray French, EDFP

Regional Economic Development Director

He/Him/His

Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Email: [ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)

Phone: 608.210.6791

---

**From:** Ray French

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 9:34 AM

**Subject:** Immigration talent pipelines

Good morning,

There have been a lot of questions on how our region can better access immigrant talent pipelines. My colleague for SW WI has worked in this area a while and shared some resources.

The new resettlement program for the Ukrainians was recently announced: [Welcome.US | Explainer](#). It looks like the US sponsors (family, friends, employers) should just go on the USCIS website and fill out the Affidavit of Support to start the process I-134 [Affidavit of Support \(uscis.gov\)](#).

Attached is a presentation she recently gave to the Rural WI Healthcare Cooperative Association. It provides a great primer on organizations like [Talent Beyond Boundaries](#) and discusses various pathways for opening our communities to refugees. It also references the PERM program in Rice Lake and I'm sure Dave Armstrong would be a happy resource on that.

A recent successful migration story is Puerto Ricans in 2018. You can see videos documenting the ways communities successfully recruited the here:

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=puerto+ricans+recruiting](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=puerto+ricans+recruiting)

Finally, we're in early conversations about a series of roundtables throughout the State this summer on this topic. I hope to have more to share in a few weeks!

Thank you!

Ray

—

Ray French, EDFP

Regional Economic Development Director – Region 1

Pronouns: He/Him/His

Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Email: [Ray.French@wedc.org](mailto:Ray.French@wedc.org)

Ph: 608.210.6791

312 S Barstow St, Suite 2

Eau Claire, WI 54701



Website: <http://InWisconsin.com>

Newsletters: <http://InWisconsin.com/subscribe/>



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 11:35:55 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Hi Tami,

Recently a regional housing study was done and presented here in Eau Claire. I thought that might be a good source for the housing questions. Please see the link below.

[EauClaireOpenHousePosters.pdf | Powered by Box](#)

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 7:29 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Hello Anoosheh,

I enjoyed our discussion yesterday regarding World Relief establishing a refugee resettlement site in Eau Claire. Will look forward to continuing the conversation with a wider network of community stakeholders on Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> and am very thankful for your willingness to coordinate this meeting.

Attached is a document created by our resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), as a guide to assess a community's ability to resettle refugees. World Relief will complete the assessment and use to assist in determining if we are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire. This would be followed by submitting a proposal to PRM as ultimately it is their decision to approve new sites. As I mentioned, we are also assessing the community of La Crosse and would most likely only support opening one new office next year.

Please feel free to send the guide to your stakeholders. Attachments Two and Three on pages 19 – 25 contain specific questions related to the assessment, and we will use the Evaluation Matrix to begin our conversation. My goal would be to have the assessment completed by the end of April and will plan to make one or two additional trips to Eau Claire.

Regarding housing questions, we would expect to resettle no more than a total of 75 people the first year. (most likely arriving after January 1, 2024). We are currently resettling mainly Congolese in the Fox Valley; singles to families as large as 9 people so renting 1 – 4 bedroom housing, ranging from \$650 - \$1400. Housing is a challenge in all of our communities so will be a priority in the assessment!

Hope this information is helpful as we begin this process. Please feel free to reach out with questions....resettlement is a collaborative and community response and we look forward to developing a strong partnership.

Thank you for your help and I look forward to meeting you soon.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Anooosheh Hamzehee <[Anooosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Anooosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 9:34 AM

**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Subject:** April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Good morning Tami,

I have invited Health Director, County Director and the city manager, Human Services Director, our housing project coordinator, ELL program Manager from CVTC, and a few more to the meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00. Most of them will be here☐

Our housing project manager asked me a couple of questions to get ready for the meeting, I thought I'll forward them to you:

“Do we have any preliminary information on needs from a community to host this program? How much housing would a program like this need available?  
If housing is needed, what price points? It would be helpful to know what criteria they look at in order to be able to be prepared to answer questions during the meeting. “

**Anooosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anooosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anooosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 13:10:15 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov" <Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov>; "ron.schmidt@eauclairecounty.gov" <ron.schmidt@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**Attachments:** PRM New Site Development Guide - 2021 Revision - with highlighted sections.docx

FYI, attached is a document created by World Relief resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), as a guide to assess a community's ability to resettle refugees. World Relief will complete the assessment and use it to assist in determining if they are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 28 Mar 2023 13:01:43 -0500  
**To:** "Ned Noel" <Ned.Noel@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**Attachments:** PRM New Site Development Guide - 2021 Revision - with highlighted sections.docx

FYI, attached is a document created by World Relief resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), as a guide to assess a community's ability to resettle refugees. World Relief will complete the assessment and use it to assist in determining if they are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 10:25:49 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: update for council

We are exploring the feasibility of expanding the City's capacity to welcome immigrants and refugees. Our dual objectives are to address employee shortages and to cultivate a vibrant, multi-cultural community. One potential avenue is the prospect of World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency establishing a new office in Wisconsin. We are thrilled to be one of two candidates under consideration, and Tami McLaughlin, Director of World Relief Fox Valley, will visit Eau Claire in April to conduct an assessment. Additionally, we are actively exploring ways to boost the local workforce by utilizing PERM (employment) visas. To this end, we have engaged with the Chamber, CVTC, and ECD and are in the process of planning an information session for Eau Claire's businesses and employers.

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 8:46 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** update for council

Hi – Can you prepare a paragraph update for the City Council newsletter on the PERM/Refugee efforts?

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 10:44:21 -0500  
**To:** "Becca Coleman" <becca.coleman@eauclaire-wi.microsoftonline.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting  
**Attachments:** RWHC TBB & Immigrant Workforce 4.2 1.2022.pdf, PERM STD.pdf

Good morning Becca,

We'll have a discussion today and if you can't make it, I'll brief you of the outcomes and we'll hopefully meet next week?

We're pressed out for time, our goal is to establish a date for the upcoming info session by April 6, and we aim to schedule it for May.

Do you know who from EDC might be able and willing to present and take part in the panel? I have attached the sample of what we're thinking might be good to present.

Thank you ☐

---

**From:** Becca Coleman <becca.coleman@eauclaire-wi.microsoftonline.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 8:56 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting

Good Morning Anoosheh,

Today will not work for me, but I have lots of flexibility next week. Let me know what can work best.

Thanks,

Becca Coleman, Project Manager, Eau Claire Area Economic Development .  
[Eauclaire-wi.com](http://Eauclaire-wi.com) . 715-471-6142

---

**From:** [Anoosheh Hamzehee](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:28 PM  
**To:** [Hassemer, Holly](#)  
**Cc:** [Kaylynn Winegar](#); [Becca Coleman](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting

I'll block my schedule for tomorrow, 4-4:30 for now, hopefully we'll hear from Kaylynn and Becca soon.

---

**From:** Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:24 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Kaylynn Winegar <[winegar@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:winegar@eauclairechamber.org)>; Becca Coleman <[becca.coleman@eauclaire-wi.microsoftonline.com](mailto:becca.coleman@eauclaire-wi.microsoftonline.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting

I am available after 3:30 tomorrow.

On Mar 30, 2023, at 4:11 PM, Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I can meet anytime tomorrow after 10:00

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2023 3:39 PM  
**To:** 'Hassemer, Holly' <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>; Kaylynn Winegar <[winegar@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:winegar@eauclairechamber.org)>; Becca Coleman <[becca.coleman@eauclaire-wi.microsoftonline.com](mailto:becca.coleman@eauclaire-wi.microsoftonline.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Bring Diversity to EC

I'm sorry, I changed my mind about just sending the pdf and decided to meet and talk but obviously forgot to delete the initial version of my email. It's been an extremely busy day for me .

Can we all meet virtually preferably today or tomorrow?

---

**From:** Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2023 3:34 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Bring Diversity to EC

I think the pdf is missing. ☐

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2023 3:33 PM  
**To:** Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>; Kaylynn Winegar <[winegar@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:winegar@eauclairechamber.org)>; Becca Coleman <[becca.coleman@eauclaire-wi.microsoftonline.com](mailto:becca.coleman@eauclaire-wi.microsoftonline.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Bring Diversity to EC

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hi everyone!

I suggest a quick virtual meeting , today or tomorrow ?

---

**From:** Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2023 2:36 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Kaylynn Winegar <[winegar@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:winegar@eauclairechamber.org)>; Becca Coleman <[becca.coleman@eauclaire-wi.microsoftonline.com](mailto:becca.coleman@eauclaire-wi.microsoftonline.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Bring Diversity to EC

Hi Anoosheh,

From a space and co-sponsoring perspective, CVTC can be a partner on this event. I shared this event idea with the other deans at CVTC, and many thought employers in their sectors would be interested.

Before we do any date-setting, I think we need to identify who will present information. We would need to work around this person's/group's schedule. And we should probably have at least 1-2 members of a panel on board before setting a date and publicizing.

I have included Kaylynn and Becca Coleman from the EDC on this email as it sounds like they had been exploring a similar event last fall.

All, what are your thoughts on the feasibility of this immigrant workforce information session coming together in time to promote for a May event? If not May, when? The space is the easiest part!

Holly

Holly Hassemer  
Pronouns: she/her/hers  
Dean of Academic Development and Services  
Chippewa Valley Technical College  
715-831-7331

Like Adult Ed & College Prep

[<image001.png>](#)

Join the Academic Service FB Group

[<image001.png>](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 8:21 AM

**To:** Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>

**Subject:** RE: Bring Diversity to EC

**Importance:** High

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good morning Holly,

Just reaching out to make sure you have received the following email?

Have a great day!

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2023 3:04 PM

**To:** 'Hassemer, Holly' <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Bring Diversity to EC

Hi Holly,

We met with Kaylynn from Chamber of Commerce today. We talked about PERM visa

and bringing workforce to Eau Claire from other countries, she is on board. We thought

a good next step is to set a date for an info session for employers probably in May at

CVTC, we'll provide the Slides for a presentation, we'll need a presenter and a panel.

Chamber would contact employers and we'll need to arrange for some refreshments,

Chamber said if CVTC can't do it, they might be able to take care of it.

The annual HR meeting will be on April 6<sup>th</sup>, Kayleen mentioned that if we can set the date for the info session by then, she will be able to bring it up in that meeting which will be very helpful. Your thoughts please?

Thank you,  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2023 11:06 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; [ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org); Hedenstrom, Alyssa <[ahedenstrom@cvtc.edu](mailto:ahedenstrom@cvtc.edu)>; Dave Armstrong <[bcedc@co.barron.wi.us](mailto:bcedc@co.barron.wi.us)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Bring Diversity to EC

Hello all,

Sorry I missed the meeting last week. Alyssa represented CVTC and shared your conversation with me. I'm happy to continue CVTC's involvement in this exploration. I understand there was interest in hosting an event to bring employers and other together to discuss opportunities related to immigrant workers. CVTC would love to be a partner in this with both space and logistics. Anoosheh—feel free to reach out to me directly for further conversation.

I'll have to leave it to others to share PERM stories. We certainly have other immigrant learning and career success stories to share, though! ☐

Holly

Holly Hassemer  
Pronouns: she/her/hers  
Dean of Academic Development and Services  
Chippewa Valley Technical College  
715-831-7331

Like Adult Ed & College Prep  
[<image001.png>](#)

Join the Academic Service FB Group  
[<image001.png>](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2023 10:38 AM  
**To:** [ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org); Hedenstrom, Alyssa <[ahedenstrom@cvtc.edu](mailto:ahedenstrom@cvtc.edu)>;  
Dave Armstrong <[bcedc@co.barron.wi.us](mailto:bcedc@co.barron.wi.us)>; Hassemer, Holly  
<[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>  
**Subject:** Bring Diversity to EC

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good morning,

Following our previous meeting and discussion, I'm following up with you to see if you have any success stories with PERM and any other available info. you're willing to share please. We're trying to meet with Chamber of C. soon; we thought we might share some of the success stories with them.

Thank you

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701

<image002.jpg>

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 15:35:12 -0500  
**To:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Diane House" <house.dianerev@gmail.com>; "Joyce Anderson" <joyce4334@gmail.com>; "Anderson, David" <prdavea@gmail.com>; "Greg Barnes" <gregleebarne@gmail.com>; "Sharon Evans" <evanssk@hotmail.com>; "Mowry, Donald D." <dmowry@uwec.edu>; "Martha Munger" <moonlightfav@aol.com>; "Cheryl Lochner Wright" <c\_lochnerwright@yahoo.com>; "Abdullah Ameen" <abdullah.ameenn@gmail.com>; "Bea Evans" <beaevans2@gmail.com>; "Michelle Harris" <michelle.harris@ecahmaa.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Our conversation yesterday

Hi Ginny,

We really enjoyed talking with you yesterday and are looking forward to meeting the whole team and "Dreaming" together ☺

Anoosheh

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 9:00 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Diane House <house.dianerev@gmail.com>; Joyce Anderson <joyce4334@gmail.com>; Anderson, David <prdavea@gmail.com>; Greg Barnes <gregleebarne@gmail.com>; Sharon Evans <evanssk@hotmail.com>; Mowry, Donald D. <dmowry@uwec.edu>; Martha Munger <moonlightfav@aol.com>; Cheryl Lochner Wright <c\_lochnerwright@yahoo.com>; Abdullah Ameen <abdullah.ameenn@gmail.com>; Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>; Michelle Harris <michelle.harris@ecahmaa.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Our conversation yesterday

Dear Anoosheh and Stephanie,

Thank you so much for hosting our conversation yesterday. Hopefully your takeaway, as was mine, was knowing how passionate we are about becoming a more diverse and welcoming community. Having a refugee resettlement agency locally would definitely work towards that.

In planning for the April 5th meeting, please confirm that the full Welcoming New Neighbors Steering Committee members are invited. That could be as many as 8-10 folks depending on other prior commitments.

Looking forward to seeing you again and continuing to 'dream' together!

Ginny Close,  
Welcoming New Neighbors

PS Besides giving credit to Walt Disney, yesterday, here is another appropriate quote. "If you can dream it, then you can achieve it. You will get all you want in life if you help enough other people get what they want. - Zig Ziglar.

--

Ginny Close  
[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)  
715-577-8336

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 08:58:33 -0500  
**To:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>; "Kathy Florin" <kathymflorin@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** "Dwayne Voegeli" <winonasanctuary@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Reconnecting

Good morning Kathy, Ginny, and Dwayne,

Thank you for keeping me in the loop, I'm learning ☺

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 1, 2023 10:37 AM  
**To:** Kathy Florin <kathymflorin@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Dwayne Voegeli <winonasanctuary@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Reconnecting

Thanks Kathy! All great info. I did not mention it but Anoosheh had reached out to refugee resettlement agencies closest to EC and heard from Fox Valley World Relief that, quite coincidentally, they may be interested in a sub office in Eau Claire. This area is not close enough per federal requirements to resettle folks here. It took almost an 'Act of Congress' to allow Afghan resettlement. I assume Winona had the same challenge and sponsored Afghans through the Sponsor Circle program because of those same restrictions placed on the Agencies in Minnesota. It is MOST disturbing that Agencies cannot cross state lines!! Enough griping!!!

Hi again to Dwayne!! Are you two the movers and shakers of the Winona Sheltering Network? I envision that as a hub of a wheel and each of your groups are spokes? Although not yet as well organized, I think of Welcoming New Neighbors as becoming a kind of hub here. I assume Dwayne (Congrats on County Board!!) is in touch with Greg Barnes regarding the Honduran asylum families, Not wanting to steal Greg's thunder, but our Honduran family finally got work permits after almost 2 years.

So many questions come to mind that for sure, let's try to figure out how to update each other.

Happy Day!  
Ginny

On Sat, Apr 1, 2023 at 10:09 AM Kathy Florin <[kathymflorin@gmail.com](mailto:kathymflorin@gmail.com)> wrote:

Good morning everyone,

Ginny, it's nice to hear from you again and I do remember you! Thanks for reaching out.

Anoosheh, it's nice to meet over email.

I'm also including Dwayne Voegeli in this email. He was the main dreamer and mover on purchasing two homes in Winona for newcomers. He has also recently become a member of the Winona County Board.

Yes, the houses are intended as longer-term transitional housing and are less than a block from one another. Currently, there is a Honduran family living in one and an Afghan family living in the other one.

Dwayne can correct me if I'm wrong but....

The [Winona Sheltering Network](#) (WASN is under the 501c3 of the Winona Sheltering Network) took a loan out on the first house and through fundraising just recently paid it off (!!)

A landlord in town purchased the second house and we are doing a contract for deed with him.

This has been a solution for us with the challenges of adequate and affordable housing, flexible leases, not a need for background checks / credit scores, etc.

Dwayne would know more specific information though.

That's great about your Afghan community growing! We currently have 16 individuals in town and are also working on TPS applications and renewal of work authorizations so there's no gaps. The paperwork seems to never end. ☹

All of our Asylum seekers have had interviews but have not heard back anything yet (and two were more than 150 days ago). None of our SIV cases have had their interviews yet, but their paperwork has been submitted. ☹

I'd love to keep in touch! I enjoy learning about creative solutions that other communities are implementing to help support newcomers, growing the web of support and connections, and in general connecting with people doing work that inspires me.

With warmth,  
Kathy

On Fri, Mar 31, 2023 at 4:01 PM Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi Kathy,  
Remember me? Gosh 'how time flies' has a new meaning these days!! Now that our Afghan neighbors in the Eau Claire area are more settled, we of Welcoming New Neighbors are re-inventing ourselves to broaden our mission of welcoming to all newly arriving as well as to those already here.

Kathy, I vaguely remember someone (you?) mentioning that the Winona network had purchased transitional housing. That idea came up yesterday in a meeting with our Eau Claire City Manager Staff. I am wondering if you could connect us with the appropriate

person who can tell us more of the process for that? I am copying Anooosheh as one of the 'Movers & Shakers' in Eau Claire. :))

For your information, our Afghan population has increased to 19 or so individuals having discovered a family of 8 living in Spring Valley. No one has been granted asylum yet although many are well past the 150 day mark since they went to Chicago hearings. Now applications for Temporary Protective Status and renewed work permits are being submitted to avoid any gaps once their 24 mt parolee period is up.

Would love to hear from you.  
Ginny  
Welcoming New Neighbors

--

Ginny Close  
[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)  
715-577-8336

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 09:58:29 -0500  
**To:** "Diane Cable" <Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hi Diane,

I can meet anytime today between 2:00 and 4:00

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Diane Cable <Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hi Anoosheh,

At this time I am not able to attend this meeting, as I have a couple of conflicts. I would like to have a better understanding of the meeting, so I can determine who from the Department might be able to attend. Please let me know if you have a few minutes to connect this afternoon.

Thank you

Diane

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)> **On Behalf Of** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 8:26 AM  
**To:** Diane Cable  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Are you able to attend this meeting?

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:41 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee; Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry Donald; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Giese  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami Mclaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.

I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 14 Apr 2023 11:15:38 -0500  
**To:** "Melissa Dexter" <mdexter@ecasd.us>; "Dang Yang" <dyang1@ecasd.us>; "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Hello Melissa and Dang,

Tami will be in Eau Claire with 2 of her colleagues on Wednesday April 19<sup>th</sup>, after 9:30 AM. I think if Kaying and Dang can meet in person with Tami any time after 9:30, would be great. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



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**From:** Melissa Dexter <mdexter@ecasd.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:43 AM  
**To:** Dang Yang <dyang1@ecasd.us>; Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Thank you, Dang! I would be happy to assist with coordinating a meeting--whether it be virtual or in person.

There are some moving pieces in Kaying's schedule over the next couple of weeks--I should know more about these factors by the end of the day today.

If there are good days/times, generally speaking, that work for all of you, please let me know and I will consider those first when looking at scheduling.

**Melissa Dexter**

Executive Assistant | Student Services  
Eau Claire Area School District  
500 Main Street | Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Phone: 715-852-3045|[www.ecasd.us](http://www.ecasd.us)

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**From:** Dang Yang <[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:27 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu)  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)>; Melissa Dexter <[mdexter@ecasd.us](mailto:mdexter@ecasd.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Tami,

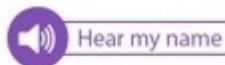
I would be happy to connect and meet with you to discuss this important topic to help you learn more about the Eau Claire Area School District. I am including Melissa Dexter, Dr. Xiong's Executive Assistant to help with scheduling. Once Melissa has the chance to review Dr. Xiong's calendar, would you like her to setup a virtual meeting link for us or would your preference be to meet in person in Eau Claire? I am open to either possibility.

Thank you so much for the outreach. I am eager to connect and learn more about the work you're leading to support refugee families.

Sincerely,



**Dang Yang** (he/him/his)



Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion  
Eau Claire Area School District  
500 Main Street | Eau Claire, WI 54701  
[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us) | 715-852-3069 | [www.ecasd.us](http://www.ecasd.us)

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Dang Yang <[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)>; [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu)  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

You don't often get email from [tmclaughlin@wr.org](mailto:tmclaughlin@wr.org). [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Dr. Xiong and Mr. Yang,

Annosheh Hamzehee recommended reaching out to you. I am the Office Director of World Relief Fox Valley, the refugee resettlement agency in the Appleton and Oshkosh area. Our agency is considering opening an office in Eau Claire and in the midst of completing an assessment of the community before making a final decision. Thus far we have a very favorable impression of the Eau Claire community but would like to learn more about the Eau Claire public school district. Would either of both of you be available to meet with myself and two colleagues next Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> for one hour? We would be available any time after 9:30am

Looking forward to hearing from you and hopefully meeting you both!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 11:00:02 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief meeting with Chief Rokus (April 19th)

World Relief, a refugee resettlement agency, is considering Eau Claire as a potential location to establish a refugee settlement office. The agency has conducted initial interviews with relevant individuals. As part of the assessment process, the director of the agency based in Appleton, Tami Laughlin, wishes to speak with the Eau Claire police chief. The following is a list of questions that will be discussed during the meeting.

Any anti-immigrant sentiments expressed in the community? If so, how are sentiments managed?

How are immigrants groups isolated or integrated into the community?

Does local law enforcement have a community or cultural liaison?

Any foreseeable barriers from public safety perspective to resettlement in community

Any resources available for language barriers?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 11:16:24 -0500  
**To:** "Dang Yang" <dyang1@ecasd.us>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Good morning Dang,

Would you be available to meet with Tami on Wednesday April 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am? If yes, would you meet her at the district office , 500 Main Street? I'm assisting in coordinating her meetings for her.

Thank you

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



---

**From:** Dang Yang <dyang1@ecasd.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:27 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; kxiong@ecasd.edu  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Melissa Dexter <mdexter@ecasd.us>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Tami,

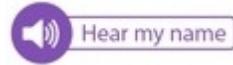
I would be happy to connect and meet with you to discuss this important topic to help you learn more about the Eau Claire Area School District. I am including Melissa Dexter, Dr. Xiong's Executive Assistant to help with scheduling. Once Melissa has the chance to review Dr. Xiong's calendar, would you like her to setup a virtual meeting link for us or would your preference be to meet in person in Eau Claire? I am open to either possibility.

Thank you so much for the outreach. I am eager to connect and learn more about the work you're leading to support refugee families.

Sincerely,



**Dang Yang** ([he/him/his](#))



Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion  
Eau Claire Area School District  
500 Main Street | Eau Claire, WI 54701  
[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us) | 715-852-3069 | [www.ecasd.us](http://www.ecasd.us)

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Dang Yang <[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)>; [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu)  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

You don't often get email from [tmclaughlin@wr.org](mailto:tmclaughlin@wr.org). [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Dr. Xiong and Mr. Yang,

Annosheh Hamzehee recommended reaching out to you. I am the Office Director of World Relief Fox Valley, the refugee resettlement agency in the Appleton and Oshkosh area. Our agency is considering opening an office in Eau Claire and in the midst of completing an assessment of the community before making a final decision. Thus far we have a very favorable impression of the Eau Claire community but would like to learn more about the Eau Claire public school district. Would either of you be available to meet with myself and two colleagues next Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> for one hour? We would be available any time after 9:30am

Looking forward to hearing from you and hopefully meeting you both!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**ALERT:** This email came from outside ECASD. Use caution when replying, clicking on any links, or opening attachments.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 20 Apr 2023 15:49:48 -0500  
**To:** "James Rashid" <JRashid@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Connect on Monday

Hi James,

It was nice meeting you too. This is how our schedule looks like next week:

Monday:

12:00 -4:00 in Wausau, probably around 5:30 we'll be in Appleton ( we can't meet after 5:30, can we?)

Tuesday:

8:00-5:30 Conference ( we can miss one session and be at World Relief at 1:00?)

Wednesday:

7:30- 1:30 Conference, 2:00 visit Forward service Corp in Menasha ( we can meet with you after?)

We would appreciate if you can walk us through the process of refugee resettlement, I have worked with UNHCR, so have some idea how it works but both of us would like to get a better picture please. If we meet during the day we would love to take a tour of your office too if possible. I don't have any specific question in mind to ask at this time ☐

Please let me know which day and time works better for you.

Thank you,  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** James Rashid <JRashid@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 2:31 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Connect on Monday

Hi Annosheh,

Nice meeting you yesterday and hearing about Eau Claire's eagerness to launch resettlement efforts. I am looking forward to connecting with you while you're in Appleton on Monday. Can you confirm a good time to meet? I was planning to host you at our office. Our address is below:

510 E Wisconsin Ave  
Appleton, WI 54911

Could you also provide a few questions or topics you'd like me to cover for you and your colleague when you visit?

Thanks,

**JAMES RASHID**

Refugee Programs Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | f: 920.301.7275

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 21 Apr 2023 10:35:11 -0500  
**To:** "James Rashid" <JRashid@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Connect on Monday

Hi James,

We'll try to be there on Wednesday at 3:00. Thank you! ☐

---

**From:** James Rashid <JRashid@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 8:50 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Connect on Monday

Hi Anoosheh, thanks for your response. Let's meet after your Forward Service meeting on Wednesday so you can see the office and meet anyone who's around. Do you think that'll be around 3:00 or 3:30 pm? Here's my cell if you need to connect more quickly next Wednesday: 920-851-6399.

Looking forward to it!

## JAMES RASHID

Refugee Programs Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | f: 920.301.7275

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 3:49 PM  
**To:** James Rashid <[JRashid@wr.org](mailto:JRashid@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Connect on Monday

Hi James,

It was nice meeting you too. This is how our schedule looks like next week:

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12:00 -4:00 in Wausau, probably around 5:30 we'll be in Appleton ( we can't meet after 5:30, can we?)

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Please let me know which day and time works better for you.

Thank you,  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** James Rashid <[JRashid@wr.org](mailto:JRashid@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 2:31 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Connect on Monday

Hi Annosheh,

Nice meeting you yesterday and hearing about Eau Claire's eagerness to launch resettlement efforts. I am looking forward to connecting with you while you're in Appleton on Monday. Can you confirm a good time to meet? I was planning to host you at our office. Our address is below:

510 E Wisconsin Ave  
Appleton, WI 54911

Could you also provide a few questions or topics you'd like me to cover for you and your colleague when you visit?

Thanks,

**JAMES RASHID**

Refugee Programs Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | f: 920.301.7275

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 24 Apr 2023 17:03:19 -0500  
**To:** "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] refugee resettlement update?

Hi Holly,  
Yes we have heard a lot of good things ☺ , in a few days we will know for sure ☺

---

**From:** Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2023 9:26 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] refugee resettlement update?

Hi Anoosheh,

Have you heard anything from World Relief about the results of the site visit? I'm curious and excited!

Thanks,  
Holly

Holly Hassemer  
Pronouns: she/her/hers  
Dean of Academic Development and Services  
Chippewa Valley Technical College  
715-831-7331

Like Adult Ed & College Prep 

Join the Academic Service FB Group 

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 12:03:50 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Local Governance Letter of Support Template.docx

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 12:03:05 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Good morning Tami,

It's weird, her email address is correct, I'll make sure she has received it.

CVTC (Holley Hassemmer) has also announced their interest in providing a letter of support if you need it at all.

This is Chief Rokus's email: [Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)

Please let me know if there's anything else I can help with.

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:50 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Good Morning, Anoosheh!

Hope you had a nice Mother's Day weekend!

I've copied you on a request to Stephanie for a support letter but it was returned to me. Could you verify the address? Also, am sending a request to Chief Rokus but do not have his email. Would you share his address with me?

I am sending requests to Nancy Weltzin, Marisa Stanley and Deng Yang along with our State Refugee Coordinator and State Refugee Health Coordinator. I don't expect any issues and will include with our proposal which should be completed by the end of May.

Will keep you posted on progress!

As always, appreciate your assistance and support!

Tami

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** [Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov).

**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 13:18:22 -0500  
**To:** "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
"Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Local Public Health Letter of Support Template (1).docx

Just to make sure you have received this email

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov. <marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Marisa,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

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World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 13:20:29 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

You have put a dot after gov, probably that's why. I forwarded your email to Elizabeth Giese( Health Director) and Marisa( the deputy Health Director).

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you! I'll send a request to Holly.  
I'm also receiving a notice that Marisa Stanley at Public Health's address is not valid. Will send and copy you!  
Thanks!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:03 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Good morning Tami,

It's weird, her email address is correct, I'll make sure she has received it.

CVTC (Holley Hassemmer)has also announced their interest in providing a letter of support if you need it at all.

This is Chief Rokus's email: [Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)

Please let me know if there's anything else I can help with.

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:50 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Good Morning, Anoosheh!

Hope you had a nice Mother's Day weekend!

I've copied you on a request to Stephanie for a support letter but it was returned to me. Could you verify the address? Also, am sending a request to Chief Rokus but do not have his email. Would you share his address with me?

I am sending requests to Nancy Weltzin, Marisa Stanley and Deng Yang along with our State Refugee Coordinator and State Refugee Health Coordinator. I don't expect any issues and will include with our proposal which should be completed by the end of May.

Will keep you posted on progress!

As always, appreciate your assistance and support!

Tami

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** [Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov).  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 13:36:29 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Local Public Health Letter of Support Template (1).docx

FYI,

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:18 PM  
**To:** Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; Elizabeth Geise <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you have received this email

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** [marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov). <[marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Marisa,

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**  
Office Director  
World Relief Fox Valley  
[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 08:03:57 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

FYI, email below from Lieske

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 8:26 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you Anoosheh.  
We will review and be in touch with Tami.  
Do note that this is the type of additional tax levy supported effort from our agency that is so critical that we will have to sort out how to navigate.  
Lieske

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:18 PM  
**To:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you have received this email

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** [marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov). <[marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Marisa,

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 08:38:09 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Letter of support.docx

Good morning,  
Draft letter is attached.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Not sure why it would've bounced... Do you want to draft the letter for me to sign?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 7 Jul 2023 10:56:29 -0500  
**To:** "Danya Morman" <Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Task List  
**Attachments:** TaskListEmple.xlsx

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 7 Jul 2023 13:55:11 -0500  
**To:** "Travis Davis" <Travis.Davis@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Task List  
**Attachments:** TaskListEmple.xlsx

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 7 Jul 2023 15:03:29 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami,

Hope you are doing fine. How is World Relief Eau Claire project going?  
Have you heard back from the HQ yet? Have you started looking for a place/hiring?

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:13 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you!

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 8 Jul 2023 13:15:26 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 5:33:45 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Anoosheh,

Good to hear from you! We don't expect to receive final approve for the resettlement site until late August but are going to begin recruiting for the site director (position should be posted by the following week). I will also begin looking for office space. Do you have any recommendations regarding location? A top priority is accessibility to public transportation.

Will stay in touch as starting to move forward!

Thanks!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 3:03 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami,

Hope you are doing fine. How is World Relief Eau Claire project going?  
Have you heard back from the HQ yet? Have you started looking for a place/hiring?

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:13 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you!

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 29 Aug 2023 10:27:13 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** HR Eaustat  
**Attachments:** HRTask Lists.xlsx

Do you want to highlight the tasks from the task list that we want to focus on this coming session?

Do you want these to be discussed/included in the next HR Eaustat? Add/delete?

- Supervisor training
- New employee bus tour(how it went?)
- Employer of choice RFP
- Fire consultant study, next steps?
- Staff survey

Policies:

Nepotism

vacation

%increase with classification

performance appraisal

Future:

Parity across city Health, Library

Education incentive

Chemical screening(do we need it?)

Marijuana screen with legalization of M in MN

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 19 Sep 2023 07:11:26 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

FYI,

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 6:27 PM  
**To:** Elizabeth Geise <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Hello Lieske,

Annoosheh forwarded your email and I appreciate your interest in preparing for the arrival of refugees to the Chippewa Valley in the near future. Our team in the Fox Valley is wrapping up fiscal year 2023 in the midst of welcoming a few more individuals and families while also preparing to open our Chippewa Valley office in the next few weeks.

We are on the cusp of finalizing office space and in the process of making offers for several staff positions. We hope most of these details are in place by the middle of October. In addition, we have tentatively scheduled a "partner meeting" for later October and plan to send invites next week which you will receive. With all of these details in place, our best estimate for first arrivals would be late November and could consist of individuals or families. The total number of refugees we have been approved to welcome to the Chippewa Valley for FY2024 is 75 people.

Brittany Fry reached out earlier this summer asking for information regarding Public Health's responsibility in refugee resettlement and following was the response provided by our State Refugee Health Coordinator, Savitri Tsering:

*Hello,*

*I work as the State Refugee Health Coordinator (SRHC) and can address concerns related to refugees coming into your community. I know World Relief Fox Valley (WRFV) will be opening a satellite office in Eau Claire this fall. For refugee services we recommend that the local health department (LHD) be part of the network that works with the resettlement agency (RA) and provides information and updates as needed. In general, it is not expected that LHDs do any more for refugees than they would for others living in their community. You will be viewed as an agency in the know about area health/medical providers.*

*As you are aware there are sponsored humanitarian parolees that are coming into the US that need TB attestation. If they are not eligible for Medicaid (depending on where they are from, they may or may not be eligible), the TB dispensary can cover their TB related screening services.*

*Ways that health departments have helped make connection with the refugee community is in providing education and updates for programs they have such as home visiting, WIC, communicable disease follow-up, child car safety, Well Women programs, etc. – your LHD may or may not have some of those services but the point is, what you offer the general public, in turn offer to the refugee community and make sure you have a seat at the table for understanding and connecting with those doing refugee resettlement in your community.*

*Taking the view broader to all immigrant populations the same will be true – what do you provide to your general population, make sure [your local connection to Covering WI](#) is strong so that full knowledge of healthcare eligibility is there, know the parameters of what services you can provide regardless of documentation status.*

Lieske, I hope this information is helpful. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. We hope to meet you in the near future and look forward to developing a strong partnership and welcoming network for the Chippewa Valley newcomers!

Thank you,

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 8:32 AM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>

**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Thanks for the update Anoosheh.

Someone from our team will be happy to be part of the conversation.

I know that housing also will be an important issue. Not sure if anyone is actively addressing that if a large group of people are coming.

Do you know if this is likely individuals or families? That would help us in thinking who best on our end to engage.

Thanks.

Lieske

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 8:26 AM  
**To:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Good morning Lieske,

Tami will provide you more details this week. They're going to have a partnership meeting the middle of October and in the process of finalizing those plans.

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 11:23 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Greetings.

I wanted to quickly connect to see if you have any updates for us related to the proposed resettlement efforts. I know that depending on what moves forward, there may be considerable involvement of staff and resources across our agencies. I want to be sure we are thinking about that so we have planned strategically.

Let me know what you can share.

Thanks much.

Lieske

*Lieske (Elizabeth) Giese, RN, MSPH* | Health Officer - Director

[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)

P: (715) 839-4718 F: (715) 839-1674 Cell: (715) 514-7881

720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703



[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

**For more immediate response, please contact us at [ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov).**

***If there is a public health emergency outside of normal business hours, please contact NON-emergency dispatch at (715) 839-4972 and they will connect you with a public health official.***

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 26 Sep 2023 12:50:02 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Tasks  
**Attachments:** 2023TaskList.xlsx

I will use this picture, this is not what I see under task list

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 26, 2023 12:46 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Tasks

I marked the ones I thought were worth talking about and grouped them by topic...

<b>Task</b>	<b>Discuss?</b>	<b>Person</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Source</b>
Consider strategies to provide health insurance for part-time streets and parks workers, per request of employees.	1	Colleen Schian	In Progress	1/29/23	EauStat
Look into what can be done about the Park Crew tablets, which Park staff report are outdated and failing. Update 8/14/23: Will these be replaced as part of the Asset Management software project?	1	Bob Nelson	In Progress	1/10/23	EauStat
Per employee request, take a look at scheduled days for Parks – have to work holidays with no special pay	1	Colleen Schian	In Progress	1/10/23	EauStat
Per employee suggestion, consider offering unemployment for seven month seasonal employees.	1	Colleen Schian	In Progress	1/29/23	EauStat
Per employees at CS, look at call-in pay and shift differential	1	Colleen Schian	In Progress	1/10/23	EauStat
Can IT help Community Services staff access a computer? A challenge is with the requirement to change our password on the City network. Update 8/14/23: May need to wait until Office 365 is implemented.	1	Bob Nelson	On Hold	1/10/23	EauStat
Consider options for Tree Preservation ordinance. Update 8/14/23: Council Members have required work session. Will also be considered as part of zoning overhaul. Update 9/26: Matt is applying for the proposed grant for a project related to Asset Management.	2	Steve Plaza	In Progress	1/28/23	EauStat
Determine location for parks storage, as employees indicated that parks items are scattered in different locations.	2	Steve Plaza	In Progress	1/29/23	EauStat
Determine new location for brush site.	2	Aaron White	In Progress	10/1/22	EauStat
Monitor resident satisfaction and communication regarding allowable items to leave at graves.	2	Travis Davis	In Progress	10/1/22	EauStat
Promote pollinator efforts. Update 1/25/23: Council has passed No Mow May ordinance, and Jonah Task Force has received funding to help promote/implement.	2	Ned Noel	In Progress	1/25/23	2023 Goals
Look into consolidating mowing into one division	2	Steve Plaza	Ongoing	9/18/23	EauStat
Address wage for tree apprentice	2	Steve Plaza	Ongoing	9/18/23	EauStat
Increase cost per gallon of compost	2	Steve Plaza	Ongoing	9/18/23	EauStat
Figure out a way to scan cemetery documents	2	Steve Plaza	Ongoing	9/18/23	EauStat
Consider alternative to ActiveNet - Maybe a separate system for pavillions and Rec sign up.	2	Steve Plaza	Ongoing	9/18/23	EauStat
Consider setting up brush site enterprise fund.	2	Steve Plaza	Ongoing	9/18/23	EauStat
Charge County for veteran cemetery plots.	2	Steve Plaza	Ongoing	9/18/23	EauStat
Make sure weekend burials OT is covered by rates.	2	Steve Plaza	Ongoing	9/18/23	EauStat
Carry out visioning process for EC facilities and programming (including Half Moon)	2	Steve Plaza	Ongoing	9/18/23	EauStat

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 26, 2023 12:44 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Tasks

Do you want to highlight any thing? It's 39 tasks right now for Parks.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 26, 2023 12:39 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Tasks

Yup!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 26, 2023 12:36 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Tasks

In the master task list?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 26, 2023 12:35 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Tasks

I updated the Parks Tasks with ones I think are worth discussing...

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 3 Oct 2023 10:34:27 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** How I answered the questions

Ka's professional skills mix, including her passion for social causes, organizational prowess, interpersonal skills, adaptability, and problem-solving abilities, makes her an outstanding candidate for this role. Her dedication to making a positive impact and her ability to lead and manage in diverse environments are qualities that would greatly benefit any organization striving to create a better world.

As an EDI Coordinator, Ka demonstrates an exceptional level of cultural sensitivity in her role. Her deep understanding and respect for diverse backgrounds and perspectives is evident in her interactions and initiatives. She actively promotes an inclusive environment by fostering open dialogue and ensuring that all voices are heard and valued. Ka is not only aware of cultural differences but also actively seeks to learn and educate others about them, contributing to a more inclusive workplace. Her approach to EDI initiatives is grounded in cultural humility, showing a willingness to listen, learn, and adapt.

Yes, I highly recommend Ka for the position of Site Manager at World Relief. Ka brings a wealth of experience and qualifications that make her an exceptional candidate for this role. Having worked as an EDI (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) Coordinator, Ka has a deep understanding of the importance of cultural sensitivity, empathy, and inclusivity. She has successfully fostered inclusive environments in previous roles, which aligns perfectly with the diverse and culturally rich nature of refugee resettlement work. Moreover, Ka's experience working with university students and her background with a Ph.D. in Leadership, Policy, and Administration make her well-equipped to manage and lead teams effectively. Her academic expertise in leadership and administration, combined with practical experience, will enable her to oversee the various aspects of resettlement with a strategic and compassionate approach. Ka is not only dedicated to promoting equity and diversity but also possesses strong communication, organizational, and problem-solving skills. These qualities are essential for managing complex resettlement programs and coordinating with multiple stakeholders, including government agencies, NGOs, and volunteers. In summary, Ka is a highly qualified and dedicated individual with the right blend of skills, experience, and empathy to excel in the role of Site Manager at your refugee resettlement agency. I have no doubt that she will contribute significantly to the success of your organization and the well-being of the refugees you serve.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 9 Oct 2023 10:35:01 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Yes I have ☐

---

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 9, 2023 10:33 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Hope you registered to attend ☐

---

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 9 Oct 2023 10:40:25 -0500  
**To:** "Courtney Olsom" <olsom@eauclairechamber.org>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

In case you haven't received this email already and you're interested.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 9, 2023 10:28 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

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[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023  
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400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:03:29 -0500  
**To:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Here it is ☐

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2023 10:02 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; 'TMcLaughlin@wr.org' <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – Attached please find a letter of support. So happy to be able to send it!

Let us know if there's anything else we can do on our end.

Stephanie

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 10:42:21 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Refugee resettlement Q&A 1st draft  
**Attachments:** Refugee Resettlement Q.docx

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 11:42:26 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Refugee resettlement Q&A 2nd draft  
**Attachments:** Refugee Resettlement Q.docx

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 11:42:00 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Refugee resettlement Q&A 2nd draft  
**Attachments:** Refugee Resettlement Q.docx

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:03:45 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] FAQ  
**Attachments:** FAQ on Refugee Resettlement Chippewa Valley.pdf

---

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 9:51 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FAQ

Attached is the FAQ WR will have available as handout at the meeting tonight.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:16:30 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Refugee resettlement 3rd draft  
**Attachments:** Refugee Resettlement Q.docx

I'm assuming we won't need this today, but probably down the road?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Katherine Schneider"  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:53:26 +0000  
**To:** "'Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com'"  
<Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?  
Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning <jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie <gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad <John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield <mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider <katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel <tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk <kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson <missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

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I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

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confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:39:00 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus"  
<Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
Claire

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

Chief Rokus, do you have thoughts on safety? Dave may have more insight on this situation as well...

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
Claire

I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?

Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm 1 <meyersdm 1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning <jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie <gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad <John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield <mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider <katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel <tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk <kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson <missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county

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What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

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Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting,  
October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 14:31:21 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Hi - I learned that Tami McLaughlin from World Relief will attend tonight to dispel inaccuracies and Dave has been conferring with the ECPD

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 1:57:05 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Thanks Stephanie:

I have two Events I am attending tonight, so I am not able to make it.

I think the biggest concern I keep hearing is that refugees coming to the community will not be vetted. That is certainly not true. I do think strongly, pushing back on that and making sure people know the truth will help.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 19, 2023, at 12:39 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

Chief Rokus, do you have thoughts on safety? Dave may have more insight on this situation as well...

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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?  
Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM

**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Larry Hoekstra  
<Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook  
<dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson  
<steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk  
<Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren  
<Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey  
<nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto  
<nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy  
<Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell  
<connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar  
<nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch  
<David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue  
<Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning  
<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine  
Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin  
Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather  
DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi  
Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami  
Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle  
Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy  
Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in  
Eau Claire

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

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715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT-Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

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**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

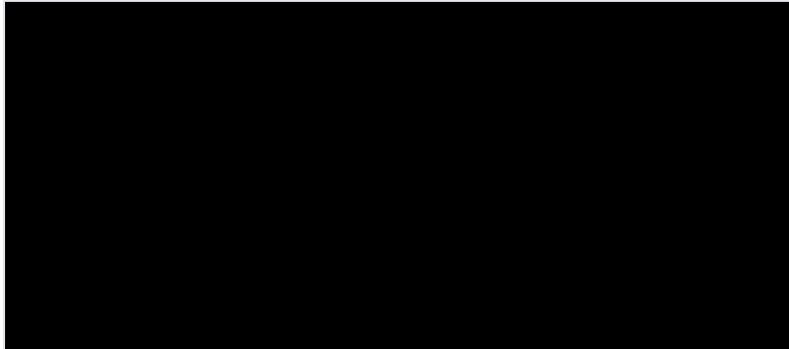
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 01:01:09 +0000  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

Andrew, thanks for your response.

The refugee resettlement program is a State Department program and the local government absolutely has a say in this. There are three signatories on the abstract, the feds, the state and the local government. I do not consider the city manager to represent the local government. I consider you to represent the local government because you were elected. The private Christian group is doing work on behalf of the State Department.

This issue has nothing to do with refugees, it has everything to do with process. If they have been working on this for a year and most people don't know anything about it, that is a problem.

Thanks for getting back to me.

'Scott

On Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 06:33:38 PM CDT, Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com> wrote:

Thanks Scott:

I'll check with our attorney to be clear but I'm fairly certain the Council has know jurisdiction over the matter of this private faith based entity. I could be wrong but I'll check.

I'll also check if the City manager signed anything but I can tell you now I highly doubt it. My guess is that this private faith based group did planning like any other private group would leading up to their opening and could make public entities aware, and it seems from your email some communication had happened.

My biggest concern around this is that there seems to be a lot of misinformation being put out about the vetting process these folks go through so whatever we can do to dispel that and to address the fear that some of our community feels about this we should work to do it. I know I will. New refugees over the years, be they European, south East Asian, middle eastern, etc, often face high levels of backlash and fear when they first arrive. It's a sad truth about some folks and how change is hard. But ultimately they make our community stronger and history tells that story over and over again in America.

Thanks again and if I hear back that the council has any sort of purview on this or that the manager somehow green lit this in any way, I will circle back to let you know. I'll also check if the communication by this entity was sufficient according to US Code you cite.

Best  
Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 21, 2023, at 5:20 PM, Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com> wrote:

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Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

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[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



**World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down  
Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:48:29 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Not a sad good bye  
**Attachments:** image003.png, image006.jpg

You will be excellent in this new role but I'm sad to see you leaving the city where your work on EDI has been so needed! However I can support you let me know and thanks for all you do !

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 13, 2023, at 2:40 PM, Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) *Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023*

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network

<image003.png>

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23: <https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>

<image006.jpg>



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)



**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 11:49:32 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM

**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning <jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie <gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad <John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield <mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider <katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel <tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk <kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson <missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>

**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)

1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

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**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 11:55:10 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

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Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

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<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary  
<robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka  
<heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch  
<Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson  
<Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>

**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue  
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7:00-9:00 p.m.

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**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 13:57:05 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Thanks Stephanie:

I have two Events I am attending tonight, so I am not able to make it.

I think the biggest concern I keep hearing is that refugees coming to the community will not be vetted. That is certainly not true. I do think strongly, pushing back on that and making sure people know the truth will help.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 19, 2023, at 12:39 PM, Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

Chief Rokus, do you have thoughts on safety? Dave may have more insight on this situation as well...

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT

**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee  
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**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
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<connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar  
<nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch

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Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin  
Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather  
DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi  
Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami  
Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle  
Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy  
Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>

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**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 18:33:28 -0500  
**To:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

Thanks Scott:

I'll check with our attorney to be clear but I'm fairly certain the Council has know jurisdiction over the matter of this private faith based entity. I could be wrong but I'll check.

I'll also check if the City manager signed anything but I can tell you now I highly doubt it. My guess is that this private faith based group did planning like any other private group would leading up to their opening and could make public entities aware, and it seems from your email some communication had happened.

My biggest concern around this is that there seems to be a lot of misinformation being put out about the vetting process these folks go through so whatever we can do to dispel that and to address the fear that some of our community feels about this we should work to do it. I know I will. New refugees over the years, be they European, south East Asian, middle eastern, etc, often face high levels of backlash and fear when they first arrive. It's a sad truth about some folks and how change is hard. But ultimately they make our community stronger and history tells that story over and over again in America.

Thanks again and if I hear back that the council has any sort of purview on this or that the manager somehow green lit this in any way, I will circle back to let you know. I'll also check if the communication by this entity was sufficient according to US Code you cite.

Best  
Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 21, 2023, at 5:20 PM, Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com> wrote:

### Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of

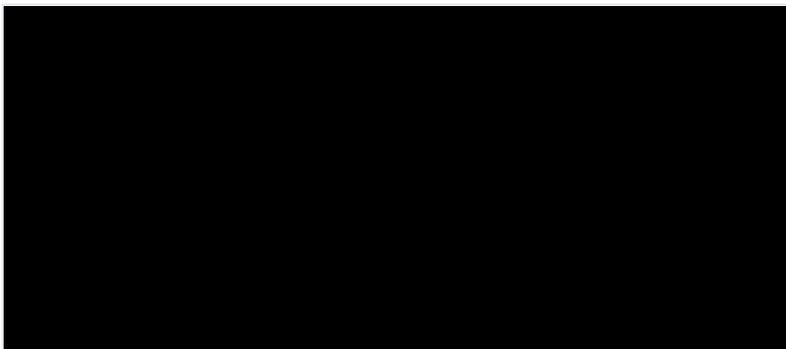
our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible  
for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 21:05:10 -0500  
**To:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

Thanks Scott.

That's helpful context. That helps me as I dig in to fine out more info.

Best  
Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 21, 2023, at 8:01 PM, Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
wrote:

Andrew, thanks for your response.

The refugee resettlement program is a State Department program and the local government absolutely has a say in this. There are three signatories on the abstract, the feds, the state and the local government. I do not consider the city manager to represent the local government. I consider you to represent the local government because you were elected. The private Christian group is doing work on behalf of the State Department.

This issue has nothing to do with refugees, it has everything to do with process. If they have been working on this for a year and most people don't know anything about it, that is a problem.

Thanks for getting back to me.

Scott

On Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 06:33:38 PM CDT, Andrew Werthmann  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com> wrote:

Thanks Scott:

I'll check with our attorney to be clear but I'm fairly certain the Council has know jurisdiction over the matter of this private faith based entity. I could be wrong but I'll check.

I'll also check if the City manager signed anything but I can tell you now I highly doubt it. My guess is that this private faith based group did planning like any other private group would leading up to their opening and could make public entities aware, and it seems from your email some communication had happened.

My biggest concern around this is that there seems to be a lot of misinformation being put out about the vetting process these folks go through so whatever we can do to dispel that and to address the fear that some of our community feels about this we should work to do it. I know I will. New refugees over the years, be they European, south East Asian, middle eastern, etc, often face high levels of backlash and fear when they first arrive. It's a sad truth about some folks and how change is hard. But ultimately they make our community stronger and history tells that story over and over again in America.

Thanks again and if I hear back that the council has any sort of purview on this or that the manager somehow green lit this in any way, I will circle back to let you know. I'll also check if the communication by this entity was sufficient according to US Code you cite.

Best  
Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

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wrote:

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(2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

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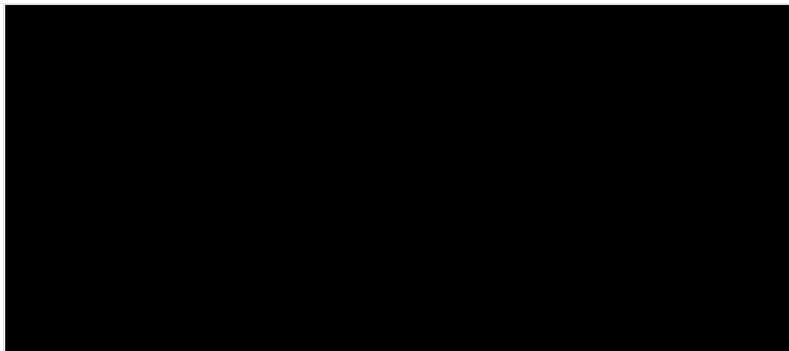
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The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

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Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 22:46:16 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg, 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf, image001.jpg

Thank you Stephanie for sending this context and background. We are getting some emails about it ... mostly it's people trying to figure out whether the city council had a role in this in terms of local "sign-off."

Best  
Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 22, 2023, at 6:09 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that

be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

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Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

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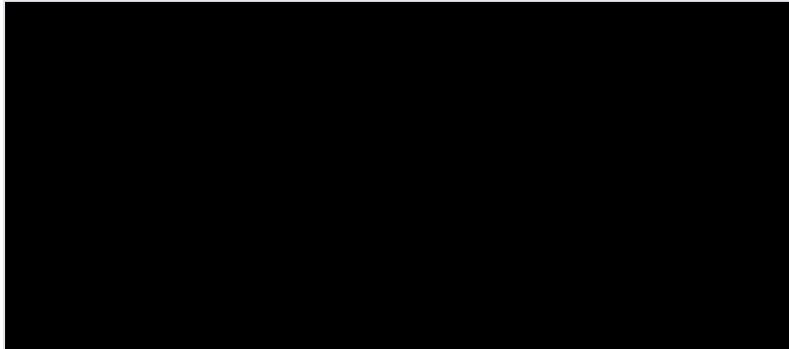
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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 14 Apr 2023 11:34:58 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Compliment

Hi Everyone,

My parents were just at a Zoom meeting with the organization that is working with refugee resettlement. They told me about how effusive and enthusiastic the folks from that organization were about the Eau Claire city staff and health department staff they had met with. I have no idea about what decision will be made, but I wanted to share about the terrific impression you all make and express my appreciation for the skill, care and dedication you bring.

thanks,  
Emily

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 10:04:22 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Hi Ka,

I wanted to reach out because I've received some communication (in addition to the public comment we heard last night) with concerns about the refugee resettlement that tapped into existing narratives about immigration. I think there may be some fear-driven conversations happening in the community and while I imagine World Relief has experience building relationships and breaking down barriers of fear in communities, I just wanted to make sure I raised the alert.

Thanks  
Emily

PS Thanks for this invitation - unfortunately I have work commitments at that time.

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 8:55:33 AM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 16:19:11 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Not a sad good bye

Thanks for all your work, Ka! Will miss you but look forward to the good work you will do at World Relief.

Ua Tsaug,

Emily

**From:** Ka Vang

**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 2:40:29 PM

**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones

**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) *Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023*

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

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L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire  
203 S. Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:49 -0500  
**To:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee  
Resettlement office in Eau Claire

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:40:03 -0500  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Hi Matt,

Hello from Green Bay. I wanted to forward this meeting information about an event tonight. As you can see below, a group opposed to World Relief's resettlement of refugees in Eau Claire will be meeting VFW from 7-9 pm.

Given the emotionally charged tenor of some of the comments we've received on this topic, I'm a bit concerned.

Tonight, some advocates who support refugee settlement in Eau Claire, volunteers from the Welcoming New Neighbors Group, plan to attend the meeting at the VFW. Naturally there will be disagreement, but hopefully it is a productive, de-escalating conversation.

My questions are:

- 1 - Public safety. Would a police presence be advisable at the event tonight, and/or at the World Relief info event next week, or a future council public hearing? Is a public safety strategy something that needs to be considered on this topic?
2. Outreach. Would ECPD be a good, de-escalating "messenger" to the public in clarifying that people do not need to be afraid?

Thanks,  
Emily

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents. I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305

1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:08:42 -0500  
**To:** "justin.preacher@gmail.com" <justin.preacher@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Welcoming the stranger - an invitation for Monday

Hi Justin,

In case you haven't already been invited, here's a link to register for a conversation at the library with World Relief, a Christian organization that is new to Eau Claire (but has been in Wisconsin and around the world for quite a while). World Relief is working to resettle refugees in Eau Claire. I know you've been interested in immigrant issues in the past, and I wanted to reach out to you, as a religious leader, and also to any members of your church who may want to learn more information or get involved.

[https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/?](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/)

I've seen some misconceptions floating around on social media about refugee resettlement and what that means as well, and I'm hopeful that community conversations like this one can provide information that frees people from fear so they can welcome their neighbors with love.

Thanks,  
Emily

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 17:20:39 -0500  
**To:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

**From:** "Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service" <info@wipps.org>  
**Sent:** Wed, 11 Jan 2023 17:11:19 +0000  
**To:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tonight: Forced Displacement - The View from 10,000 Feet



BUILDING COMMUNITY  
STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY

## **Tonight: *Forced Displacement – The View from 10,000 Feet***



### **The New Neighbors Series to cover recent newcomer arrival in Central Wisconsin**

Join us tonight for the first installment of the New Neighbors Series, "Forced Displacement – The View from 10,000 Feet." This event will feature two speakers, Bojana Zorić Martinez, refugee resettlement Coordinator for the state of Wisconsin, and Dr. Neamat Nojumi, former military commander and senior advisor to the U.S. Government, NATO, the United Nations and more.

022, Central Wisconsin welcomed more than 175 refugees from countries like Afghanistan, Syria and Burundi. In addition, an unknown number of immigrants arrived here seeking asylum from places such as Nicaragua and Venezuela.

The [New Neighbors Series](#) will examine the histories and political situations in the homelands of our new neighbors. We'll also find out about their journeys to our area and learn what our communities can do to ease their transitions.

### ***Forced Displacement – The View from 10,000 Feet***

***January 11, 7 p.m., UW Center for Civic Engagement, Veninga Theater***

Streamed on the [WIPPS YouTube channel](#).



**Dr. Neamat Nojumi** – Dr. Nojumi served as a military commander and senior political officer for the Freedom Fighter Forces against the Soviet military invasion of Afghanistan. He went on to serve as a Senior Social Scientist and Senior Advisor to the U.S. government.



**Bojana Zorić Martinez** – Refugee Resettlement Coordinator for the state of Wisconsin and a former refugee herself, Zorić Martinez has been involved in the resettlement of refugees in the state since 2017.

series is a collaboration between the Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service, Wisconsin Humanities, Ethiopian Community Development Council, and Wisconsin Public Radio. The events are free and open to the public, registration is not required. The event will be streamed on the [WIPPS YouTube channel](#).

If you would like to learn more about this topic before the event, please see the reading list below.

- On the U.S. policy toward Ukraine: [The Golden Bridge: A Case for Diplomacy in Ukraine](#)(Published October 25, 2022)
- On the U.S/NATO policy toward Afghanistan: [Contextualizing Afghanistan: A Deeper Look](#)(Published September 2021)
- On the U.S. Immigration Policy: [The U.S. Southern Border Predicament](#)(Published August 2021)

To learn more, visit [WIPPS.org](#).

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service"  
<info@wipps.org>  
**Sent:** Tue, 4 Apr 2023 20:24:41 +0000  
**To:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin



## Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

### Three Short Films to be Screened in Central Wisconsin

Short film series, "New Neighbors: Refugee Resettlement and Asylum-Seeking in Central Wisconsin," which showcases the stories of recent newcomers in Central Wisconsin, will be screened at upcoming public events. The three short films feature families from Afghanistan, Nicaragua, and Congo, and their journeys from their homelands to their new homes in Central Wisconsin.

Screenings of the films will take place [April 12, 6:30 p.m.](#), at the Dreyfus University Center Theater, UW Stevens Point, 1015 Reserve St., Stevens Point, and [May 6, 3:00 p.m.](#), at Whitewater Music Hall, 130 1<sup>st</sup> St, Wausau. Both events are free and open to the public, and registration is not required.

Filmmaker Laura Hunt and some of our new neighbors will participate in a Q&A session after the films.

SHORT FILM SCREENINGS:  
**NEW NEIGHBORS SERIES:  
REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT AND  
ASYLUM-SEEKING IN CENTRAL WISCONSIN**

...holding signs that said "Baihaqi Family welcome to Wausau."

A growing number of newcomers from around the globe now call Central Wisconsin home. These three short films tell the stories of families from Nicaragua, Afghanistan and Congo, starting with their lives in their homelands up to their arrival and welcome in Central Wisconsin.

**-April 12, 6:30 p.m.,** Dreyfus University Center Theater, UW Stevens Point, 1015 Reserve St., Stevens Point, WI.  
**-May 6, 3:00 p.m.,** Whitewater Music Hall, 130 1st St, Wausau, WI.

Filmmaker Laura Hunt and some of our New Neighbors will participate in a Q&A session after the films.

SPONSORS:

- ECDC: Empowering refugees and immigrants since 1985
- R2N: Refugee Resettlement Network
- University of Wisconsin Stevens Point
- WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO
- WISCONSIN HUMANITIES
- WIPPS: WISCONSIN INSTITUTE for PUBLIC POLICY and SERVICE
- UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN STEVENS POINT

[Download the event flyer](#)

films were created for the [New Neighbors Series](#), a public event series which examines experiences in the homelands of recent newcomers to the Central Wisconsin area, and their experiences here in the U.S.

New Neighbor Series is a collaboration between the Ethiopian Community Development Council, Rise Up Central Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service, Wisconsin Humanities, and Wisconsin Public Radio.

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**From:** "Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service"  
<info@wipps.org>  
**Sent:** Tue, 11 Apr 2023 18:31:32 +0000  
**To:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin



## Tomorrow: Refugee Resettlement Short Film Screening

### Three Short Films to be Screened in Central Wisconsin

"New Neighbors: Refugee Resettlement and Asylum-Seeking in Central Wisconsin," a short film series which showcases the stories of recent newcomers in Central Wisconsin, will be screened at two upcoming public events.

Screenings of the films will take place [April 12, 6:30 p.m.](#), at the Dreyfus University Center Theater, UW Stevens Point, 1015 Reserve St., Stevens Point, and [May 6, 3:00 p.m.](#), at Whitewater Music Hall, 130 1<sup>st</sup> St., Wausau. Both events are free and open to the public, and registration is not required.

The three short films profile families from Afghanistan, Nicaragua, and Congo, and their journeys from their homelands to their new homes in Central Wisconsin.

**SHORT FILM SCREENINGS:**  
**NEW NEIGHBORS SERIES:**  
REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT AND  
ASYLUM-SEEKING IN CENTRAL WISCONSIN

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SPONSORS:

[Download the event flyer](#)

maker Laura Hunt and some of our new neighbors will participate in a Q&A session after the films.

The films were created for the [New Neighbors Series](#), a public event series which examines the experiences in the homelands of recent newcomers to the Central Wisconsin area, and their experiences here in the U.S.

The New Neighbor Series is a collaboration between the Ethiopian Community Development Council, Rise Up Central Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service, Wisconsin Humanities, and Wisconsin Public Radio.

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 14 Apr 2023 12:22:06 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Compliment

Awesome! Thank you for passing that along, Emily.

---

**From:** Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 11:35 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Elizabeth Geise <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Compliment

Hi Everyone,

My parents were just at a Zoom meeting with the organization that is working with refugee resettlement. They told me about how effusive and enthusiastic the folks from that organization were about the Eau Claire city staff and health department staff they had met with. I have no idea about what decision will be made, but I wanted to share about the terrific impression you all make and express my appreciation for the skill, care and dedication you bring.

thanks,

Emily

**From:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 01:34:20 +0000  
**To:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Compliment

Thanks much Emily. Marisa was there for the health department and we certainly would be engaged if this moves forward.

Lieske

---

**From:** Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 11:35 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Compliment

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Hi Everyone,

My parents were just at a Zoom meeting with the organization that is working with refugee resettlement. They told me about how effusive and enthusiastic the folks from that organization were about the Eau Claire city staff and health department staff they had met with. I have no idea about what decision will be made, but I wanted to share about the terrific impression you all make and express my appreciation for the skill, care and dedication you bring.

thanks,

Emily

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 10:43:55 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Thanks Emily.

---

**From:** Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 10:04 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Hi Ka,

I wanted to reach out because I've received some communication (in addition to the public comment we heard last night) with concerns about the refugee resettlement that tapped into existing narratives about immigration. I think there may be some fear-driven conversations happening in the community and while I imagine World Relief has experience building relationships and breaking down barriers of fear in communities, I just wanted to make sure I raised the alert.

Thanks

Emily

PS Thanks for this invitation - unfortunately I have work commitments at that time.

---

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 8:55:33 AM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

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Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

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**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)



**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

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Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

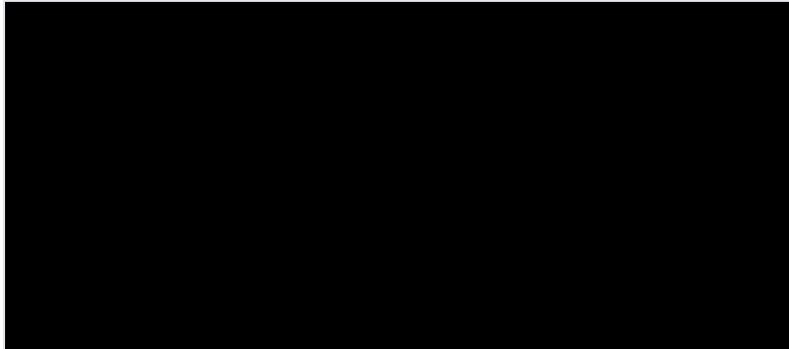
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



### **World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Susan Hintgen" <sghintgen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 19:32:58 -0500  
**To:** "" <Emily.Anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed Refugee Resettlement

Dear Ms. Anderson,

Thank you for your service to Eau Claire.

I am writing to you to express my concern about the possible establishment of a World Relief VOLAG (voluntary non-governmental agency) in Eau Claire, which would initially spearhead the resettlement of 75 refugees in the City of Eau Claire and the surrounding area.

I have just finished reading ‘**8 US Code 1522**-Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees’. The first concern I noted was in Section a (1) (B) (iii), which states that “local voluntary agency activities should be conducted in close cooperation and advance consultation with State and local governments.” Based on the information I have, I do not believe that this has occurred.

Furthermore, Section a (2) (A) states that “the Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities.” Which local officials knew about this, and were consulted? Again, I do not believe that this has occurred, and therefore the law has not been followed.

All of this was new to me as of last week. I do not know of any local citizen who was aware that this is being considered. Why wouldn’t the government, citizens and taxpayers of Eau Claire be apprised of such an impactful proposal? Why wouldn’t local shareholders like businesses, hospitals, churches, and school administrators be advised? Especially since after the first 90 days here, the responsibility for refugee job-training, language-learning, housing, medical expenses, education, etc. passes from the World Relief VOLAG to the Eau Claire taxpayers. And if 75 refugees arrive the first year, how many other refugees (e.g., family members and others) will follow the next year?

I ask that you investigate what is being proposed, and halt this “intended distribution of refugees,” not because they are refugees, but because Eau Claire already has a large homeless population, a shortage of affordable housing, and illegal immigrants coming here from our open southern border.

Sincerely,

Susan Hintgen  
404 West Fillmore Ave.  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
[sghintgen@gmail.com](mailto:sghintgen@gmail.com)

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 16 Oct 2023 09:15:34 -0500  
**To:** "Franklin, John Gallagher" <FRANKLJG6196@uwec.edu>  
**Subject:** Fw: City Manager's Weekly Update 10/13/2023: Regional Growth, Creative Problem Solving, Covid Updates

Hello John,

Nice meeting you in person this morning. Here is the City Manager's weekly update. You can sign up for future updates with the link she provides below. If you ever want more information on anything, please don't hesitate to reach out. I am thankful for our journalism partners to get the word out.

Also here is the link for our boards, commissions, and committees if you know of anyone that is interested... <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/government/boards-commissions-committees>

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Eau Claire Administrator <webmaster@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 3:01 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** City Manager's Weekly Update 10/13/2023: Regional Growth, Creative Problem Solving, Covid Updates

## **City Manager's Weekly Update 10/13/2023: Regional Growth, Creative Problem Solving, Covid Updates**

**Post Date:** 10/13/2023 8:38 AM

Hello City of Eau Claire residents, staff, and Council Members,  
I'm writing to share news from the City of Eau Claire. We are using a new format to send news out. [Prior updates can be found here](#). Take a look at our weekly newsletter to stay on top of what we are working on. Pass it along to friends who can [sign up for different City updates here](#). We welcome you at Council Meetings, Neighborhood Association Meetings, Library Events, and

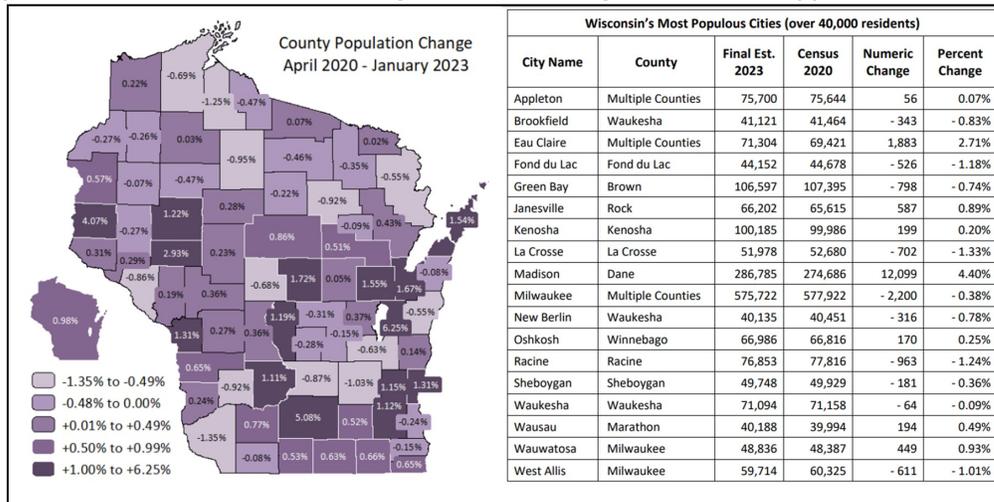
anywhere else that City work takes place. Bear with us as we work out any kinks of this new approach! Also, feel free to [send me feedback](#).

**CITY UPDATES:** Here's some news from around the city.

**2024 Budget Development Continues:** This past week, we held a public hearing and a work session on the 2024 budget. This included an overview of the finances, along with a list of changes we are proposing in the 2024 budget. We also shared accomplishments from 2023 and goals for 2024. Please find the material here: [Budget | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#) We welcome you to join the conversation at a second public hearing on the budget, which is scheduled for Monday, November 13th

**Seventh Biggest City:** This week, the Wisconsin Department of Administration released final population estimates for counties and municipalities as of January 1st, 2023. The City of Eau Claire and Eau Claire County continue to show strong growth: This document provides the most basic summary: [https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/Final\\_Ests\\_Summary\\_2023.pdf](https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/Final_Ests_Summary_2023.pdf)

The City of Eau Claire, according to this estimate, has now passed the City of Waukesha, to become the seventh largest city in the State of Wisconsin. Compared to the 2020 Census, the City of Eau Claire has gained 1,883 residents, a 2.71 percent increase, second only to Madison in both numerical gain and percentage increase for cities above 40,000 people in the state. Perhaps even more interesting, there isn't a single other city above 40,000 people that grew by even 1 percent during this period, and most cities (10 of the 18) above 40,000 people actually lost population during this period. Note that the City of Altoona has had incredible growth between the 2020 Census and January 1st, 2023: An increase of 1,027 people, or 12.38 percent! (Thank you to Council Member Gragert for creating this summary).



**COVID-19 Continues to be High:** As of this week, COVID-19 activity in Eau Claire remained higher than in previous months, according to wastewater data. Right now, the amount of COVID being found in Eau Claire's wastewater remains at a "very high" level (on a scale of very low to very high). The updated fall COVID vaccine is in the process of being made available to the public. As it's being distributed to vaccinators, vaccine supply is temporarily

limited, and appointment availability will vary from provider to provider. We expect availability to increase soon and vaccine appointments to become widely available in Eau Claire County in the coming weeks. People who have health insurance should plan to get the vaccine at their doctor's office or local pharmacy. Most health insurance plans will fully cover the cost of getting the fall COVID vaccine at an in-network provider. The Health Department is not offering mass COVID vaccination clinics this fall, but people who don't have health insurance or people whose insurance doesn't cover vaccinations can get a fall COVID vaccine at the Health Department at no cost through the federal Bridge to Access Program. For those who are uninsured or those whose health insurance doesn't cover vaccinations, please call us at 715-839-4718 to schedule a vaccination appointment. Not sure if you're up to date on your COVID vaccines? [Find out here](#). Another round of free mail-order COVID tests is now available! Every household can place an order to get four rapid home tests delivered for free to their home. To order, visit [www.covid.gov/tests](http://www.covid.gov/tests) or call 1-800-232-0233. You can sign up to get these emails directly if you are interested. Please do not hesitate to contact our department if you are interested in more information: [echealth@eau Claire County.gov](mailto:echealth@eau Claire County.gov) or through our general phone number: 715-839-4718.

**Voices of the Valley:** Students from a CVTC class recently presented stories of immigration, including stories of their homelands, their moves to the United States, and their lives in Eau Claire. They had worked with an English Language Instructor from CVTC, Alyssa Hedenstrom, to refine the stories and compile them to share. You can read all of their stories here: [CVTC Blog | Chippewa Valley Technical College](#)

**CVTC BLOG ARTICLES**

		
VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET EMINE AKIN TUNALI	VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET OUMOU TANGARA	VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET KEUM HEE (ROSA) CHOI

The event, called "CVTC Voices of the Valley," was held at the Library. Deputy City Manager Dave Solberg and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator Dr. Ka Vang also shared comments on immigration. Here's the text of Ka and Dave's comments:

**From Dr. Ka Vang (EDI Coordinator)**

"As a refugee myself, I am so excited to support the Voices of the Valley event tonight. The promise of new opportunities and brighter future was enough to entice my parents to make the decision to bring our whole family to America in 1979, after the Secret War in Laos. As we continue to embrace our new home

and carve our path, I will never forget the sacrifices my parents made so that I can be here.

There is a common theme from Voices of the Valley: Immigrant Stories from Students of Chippewa Valley Technical College -- leaving everything you know behind and learning to adjust to:

- new home,
- new country,
- new people,
- new customs,
- new, new, ect.,

all for various reasons... like leaving due to war and violence or leaving because of a love connection.

Just know that what you have written in this collection is not finished. Your journey just started. There will be more to your story. I encourage you to continue to document and write your story. Leave your footprint here in the Chippewa Valley for generations to come. Your stories and your voices add to the richness of The City of Eau Claire. Thank you for choosing to make the Chippewa Valley your home.”

**From Dave Solberg (Deputy City Manager)**

“As a father of two immigrants and a staff member of the City of Eau Claire, I wanted to express how important the immigrant community is to western Wisconsin, the City of Eau Claire, and myself personally. A diverse community is a strong community. The fabric of who we are as a society is made up of so many different colors, shapes, sizes, and fabrics...it’s the diversity of everyone that makes us a colorful, strong, vibrant community. Reading the stories in the collection, it is also striking how similar the stories are to everyday life in our area. We’re all humans with stories to tell.

It is common for students going on to secondary education and young adults entering the workforce to struggle with the transition...now consider attempting this while learning the English language at the same time. The achievements that they have made are remarkable given their challenges. Their achievements are testaments to their hard work, character, resilience, and desire to make themselves better and make us all better. In fact, these are the exact qualities we look for in employees at the City, and I hope a number of our new friends consider bringing their diversity and talents to our organization!”

**QUESTION AND ANSWERS:** Here are some questions that have come through the City Manager’s Office this week. *Have a question you’d like answered? [Submit it here.](#)*

**Traffic Law Enforcement**

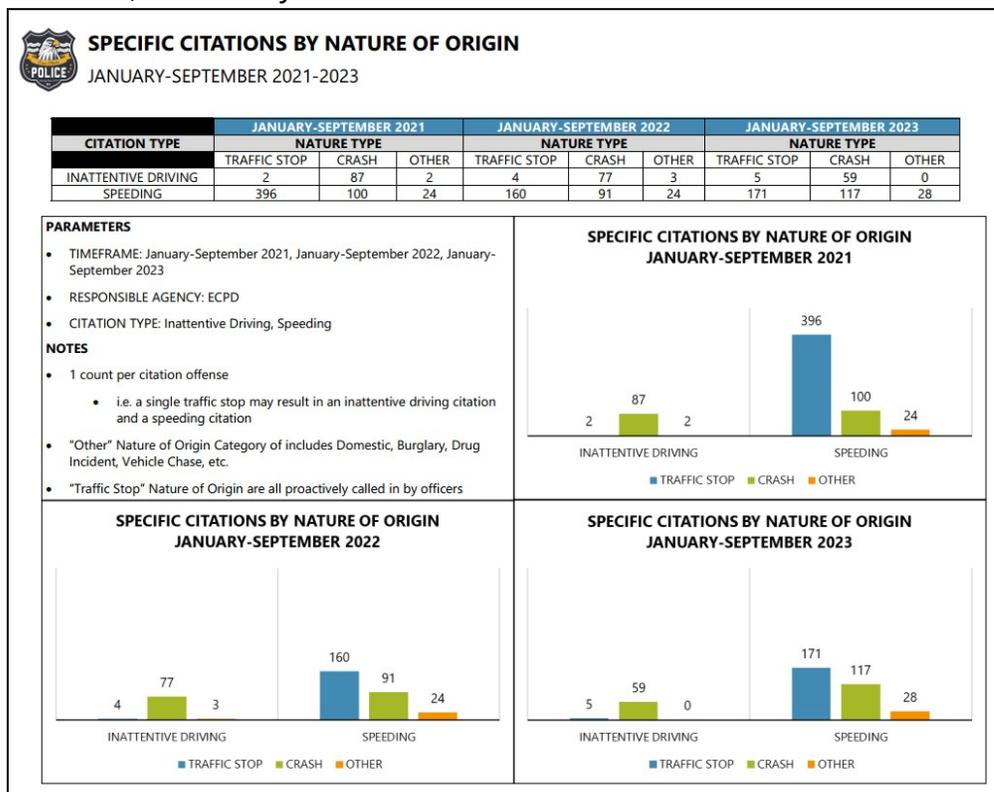
Question: “How does the Police Department handle traffic enforcement?”

Answer: Chief Matt Rokus shared the following information: “Resident concerns about speeding and traffic safety are frequently shared with us.

Concerns related to speed and traffic safety are triaged and prioritized amongst other types of issues and complaints, such as burglaries, car prowlers, drug houses, quality of life issues associated with homelessness, loud parties, underage alcohol consumption, and others.

Our Patrol Officers and their supervisors do their best to prioritize proactive traffic safety efforts in geographic areas where we have more crashes, as determined by data analysis, resident complaints, and officer observations. To provide the proactive focus, we allocate officer time to enforcement in the target areas. However, their time available is limited given the percent of time they are obligated responding to calls for service.

The table below contains some basic information related to traffic citations. The two main categories of traffic enforcement come from two types of incidents -- proactive traffic stops or enforcement following traffic-related incidents, most likely crashes."



### Trick-or-Treating

**Question:** "Will the City share information about trick-or-treating protocols?"

**Answer:** Media and Communications Specialist Tess Morgan shared: "The City of Eau Claire does not designate official tick-or-treat hours for the community. Aside from some safety reminders for kids and motorists, and helping to publicize the DECI Downtown event, we don't post about Halloween. In the past, individual neighborhoods have chosen to hold their own events when it's convenient for their area, but otherwise it's generally understood that trick-or-treating occurs on the holiday itself, October 31st, with the hours of 5-7:30PM still being relatively light out and therefor safer for kids to be visiting neighbors."

## **Park Planning**

Question: “Could a park be changed significantly without a public planning process?”

Answer: Our Parks Manager, Steve Plaza, shared the following feedback: “Any proposed changes to parks go through a planning process that includes review by nearby neighborhoods, the Waterways and Parks Commission, and the City Council. In general, park developments try to follow the parks and open space master plan, which will be updated this year. The purpose of the plan is described on page 11:

‘Parks and recreation programs and services are important to the overall quality of life and Eau Claire Parks, Recreation, and Forestry plays an integral role in the quality of life of all of Eau Claire’s citizens and visitors. The purpose of the System Master Plan is to serve as a guide for all programming, services, and operations of the department. Further, the System Master Plan will provide insight into ongoing industry trends and changes within the community, serve to assess levels of service provided to the community, evaluate available resources, and develop a prioritized action plan approved by the City Manager and City Council.’”

**EAUSTAT NEWS:** The City holds weekly meetings with departments to talk about their data, their goals, and any challenges they may be facing. This program is called "EauStat". Read on below for some data from the meetings we held this week.

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** This past week, we held an EDI EauStat meeting at which we discussed the many big projects underway in this department. We are sad to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley.

Starting Monday, Ka will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She’ll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka’s family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire’s continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, CVTC, other community organizations, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited an EDI Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society’s biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We’ll miss Ka, and we are happy she’s

staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy. Ka is pictured below (on the left) with a student tour. Please spread the word about our search for our next EDI Coordinator! [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) This person will have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive.



**Human Resources:** This past week, we held an HR EauStat meeting. In our EauStat meetings, we talk about the work that the HR Department does. One of their main duties is to recruit, hire, and work to retain employees. With the current labor shortage and dramatic increase in wages due to inflation, municipalities have been struggling to recruit and retain employees. Our HR Department has done a great job trying to manage these challenges. We regularly monitor the number of recruitments underway (see image below for our numbers for 2023 YTD). The bulk of our recruitments are for the numerous seasonal employees we have, and this takes a lot of effort, however, it also provides a critical service to constituents, while also helping to mentor many young people. We are working to develop and monitor a “retention rate” metric, as we work to identify metrics for all of our departments. Also, we are working with a consultant to create an “Employer of Choice” plan to try to increase retention and quality of life for our employees.

# Positions Filled	# Filled Internally	# Filled Externally
264	129	135

**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:** We have the best employees! Get to know one of them this week. (And [submit your suggestion for an employee to spotlight here...](#))

Today we highlight **Renae Casper**. A co-worker said this about Renae: “Renae answers lot of tough questions from residents, many of whom are animated, and answers them politely and with aplomb. Renae has also worked very hard with her predecessor, Rebecca Draeger, to put on employee appreciation events. The employee appreciation lunch was a big success and even brought in some retired employees. The cornhole tournament was also a hit. Renae has also helped fill in for her coworkers when they are absent and is very reliable.”

Here’s some more information about Renae (pictured below with her family and dog):

- **Your Position:** “I am one of two Administrative Associates for the Engineering Department. I’ve been with the city since January of this year.”
- **Something People May Not Know:** “I was born and lived in Cheyenne, WY until I was nine years old.
- **Favorite Activity:** “I enjoy traveling, going to Minnesota sporting events, attending music festivals and concerts. I enjoy playing volleyball and attending CrossFit classes.”
- **Thing about Working for City:** “I love that I am proud of where I work. Everyone here does what they can day in and day out to really make Eau Claire thrive. I also feel that I am supported in any decisions that I make and that my co-workers genuinely care about my well-being, both personally and professionally.”
- **Life Philosophy:** “Always be kind. You never know who you are talking to.”

- Anything else? “I am obsessed with dogs, so feel free to stop by with yours to say hello!”



### **SHOUT-OUTS**

**Creative Problem Solving:** Our Streets Division does not get as many shout-outs as they deserve, in part because the work they do is more specialized and behind-the-scenes than some other divisions. Here’s an awesome shout-out to a team from the Streets Division that captures how creative they are in finding technical solutions in our budget-constrained environment. Read about both the original, unique, way to clean the street sweeper and then the much-improved method that our very skilled tradespeople built...

Community Services Director Lane Berg wrote:

“I want to share some work that was done by our Street Division recently that I am extremely proud of. I am continually amazed by the vast skill set of our employees and this is a shining example of that!

Some of our street sweepers have a ‘not so great’ system for washing them out at the end of a shift. It requires operating a fire hydrant and discharging water onto the pavement. The sweeper must drive over the wet pavement and vacuum up the water. The load of water and debris is then dumped and the process is repeated until the machine is deemed clean. As you can imagine, this is an inefficient system and is also disruptive to any neighboring properties.

Our employees reached out to supervisor Tim Anderson to see if they could work on coming up with a better system, and they were granted approval. The group was led by Jeff Wilczek, who sought input from many of his co-workers. The team developed a concept, designed the system, and built it with no help from outside contractors or designers, thus saving the City thousands of dollars. The new system (shown in pictures below) is a station that the sweeper backs into. A ball valve is opened which floods the basin, and the sweeper vacuums up the water. The water is then turned off, a drain valve is opened for the basin, and the sweeper dumps the water and debris, while remaining in the same location, and the contents drain to a holding pond. The

process can be repeated, if necessary, in just a couple minutes. This system is so efficient and will save time for years to come at no disruption to residents. I am so incredibly proud of this for several reasons. We had a system that was not very functional, and our employees wanted to improve it. We have so many talented people, and they were allowed to use their skills and knowledge to make this happen. All involved were able to voice their opinions, and the final design reflected this input.

Special thanks to this group of talented people: Tim Anderson, Jeff Wilczek, Rich Bauer, Don Diesterhaft, Ryan Yule, Paul Rosolack, Brady Johnson, Jake Clauson, Joel Thompson, Cory Wright, Justin Meinen, Jericho Jurewicz, and John Rademacher.”



**Water Plant Kudos:** On September 20<sup>th</sup>, the Sustainability Advisory Committee held their monthly meeting at the Water Plant. City staff gave them an in-depth tour of the facility and showed them some of the sustainable features that have been added recently. Staff and the Committee had a great dialogue and used the opportunity to discuss ideas for improved sustainability in the future. Truly a great collaborative effort!

Pictured L to R: Ben Spanel, (Utilities Manager), Cole Cloutier, (Utilities Engineer), Cameron Bump, Brian Graff, James Schumacher, Janis Tyler, Gary Pesicka (Committee Members) and Joe Dahl, (Water Plant Supervisor).



## **COUNCIL CALENDAR**

- Monday, October 23rd: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
- Tuesday, October 24th: Council Meeting (City Council Operating Budget Work Session #4 – Amendment Discussion)
- *November 3rd – City Council Budget Amendments Due*
- Monday, November 6th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion (with Housing Study presentation)
- Monday, November 13th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night (Public Hearing #2 on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget)
- Tuesday, November 14th: Council Meeting (City Council action on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget and levy)
- Monday, December 18th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion

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**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 18:12:37 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents. I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for](#)

[domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305

1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad

715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 11:45:41 -0500  
**To:** "Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin)"  
<Anna\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-1681925522775f2f745b4-d1ef-4c02-ac5b-beb3fa7e3b1f.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775accd0b5c-5fc2-4eb1-a8bb-f4923614a499.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227757db28b5e-d36a-4c22-ba75-ae68ee1d9310.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775b150ccec-2be6-4fea-a5da-070cb1913692.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227756a842e50-5954-4eee-9101-e95a3425da44.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775725f5b5b-1d7d-4ceb-9dc2-0d9ba1eafed4.jpg, OutlookEmoji-168192552277534b06977-2bcb-492a-8038-26054ef1cb87.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227751a4b38da-f646-457b-9426-b63f694ad992.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775f6ed5e4d-bfd2-47a7-ac82-ab2e2ffafc26.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227755c42f989-348c-4218-8a5e-6e690d363d39.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775255aed74-d5a5-4559-9dd2-f873a895d8e9.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775a3d54337-c0c3-4347-a00a-bda8d07b1112.jpg, OutlookEmoji-168192552277523ce30c4-49f9-4e18-ad16-ee69e5553df8.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775746ee699-8b81-443a-8612-ac0704ab4290.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775a4e63be3-928e-496f-b766-1204f4e2c04a.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227753a2cf627-f3f8-4ace-8ecd-b25f4cfd7b2a.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227752b21c5df-b546-4146-9a89-67b7a1aa2060.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775db43bdf5-182b-4eb3-bde8-30ac07d6339f.jpg, OutlookEmoji-168192552277589970cc2-da14-4c05-828b-273592e51f9a.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227750462f5c3-6ec5-4b88-b118-6245896f5c7c.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227758654668c-8e8f-4bf1-afb1-4392d73c9661.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775aac05c85-4381-4200-826e-12e0d7a21815.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227755b0719f4-7c3d-48df-b763-c66f56825580.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775a90d086b-bb1f-47c2-8b25-4d37ff185b10.jpg

Hi Anna,

I just reread my email to you and I must had been really tired last night because I omitted words throughout my message. Yikes.

Anyway, I checked my work calendar and noon works great on Tuesday. We could do ECDC?

Also does the Senator know that Senator Johnson's staffer is organizing groups to protest refugees coming to Eau Claire? World Relief is opening an office in Eau Claire and they are hosting an event Monday at 6pm at the Library about how we can welcome our new neighbors and I have heard this group will be attending the World Relief meeting.

Here is more information on the World Relief meeting in case you are interested in learning more: <https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Here is an article about the meeting that Scott Bolstad organized: [https://www.wqow.com/eye\\_on\\_eau\\_claire/residents-react-to-refugee-resettlement-coming-to-chippewa-valley/article\\_156fdf84-6ef9-11ee-9ad1-6f1aaedf0fa0.html](https://www.wqow.com/eye_on_eau_claire/residents-react-to-refugee-resettlement-coming-to-chippewa-valley/article_156fdf84-6ef9-11ee-9ad1-6f1aaedf0fa0.html)

I will let you know how the event goes on Tuesday. I am looking forward to our conversation.

Thank you for reaching out!

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Emily Berge  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 6:19:39 PM  
**To:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hi Anna  
Thank you for reaching out. I need to check my work calendar but I am free, I would love to meet up. I will get back to over the weekend (I am just getting home from a conference).

Thanks!

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin) <Anna\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:10:11 AM

**To:** Emily Berge

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hey Emily!

I was reaching out because I'm going to be in the area on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, and I was wondering if you'd have time to grab a cup of coffee downtown over the noon-hour and catch up on all things EC? If you're busy – I absolutely understand, but I wanted to reach out and check!

I hope all has been well.

All the best,

**ANNA RINGSTAD**

*Northwestern Wisconsin Regional Representative*

*Proudly Serving: Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Clark, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor, Vilas, and Washburn counties*

**U.S. SENATOR TAMMY BALDWIN**

PO Box 401

Ladysmith, WI 54848

715-450-3754

Keep up to date by following Tammy online:



[www.baldwin.senate.gov](http://www.baldwin.senate.gov)











**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:34:58 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 4:58 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

President Berge, I would like to clarify a couple of things that I just learned.

An official from World Relief admitted that she never spoke with any members of the city council, only the city manager. If the city manager did not bring it to the board's attention, that is another matter.

The official from World Relief also confirmed that the refugees will be coming from Somalia. I attended the stakeholder's meeting last week and the word Somalia was never mentioned. That is at least the third lie I have caught them in.

This is not about the refugees it is about the process. World Relief believes that speaking with the local government is speaking with bureaucrats, while many of us believe speaking with local governments is speaking with elected officials. I can also tell you that no one in the county I have spoken to knows anything about this.

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

On Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 03:45:07 PM CDT, Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com> wrote:

President Berge,

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. Did they happen? If so where are the minutes fore these meetings? I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement.

I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for. Did you direct her to sign the document or has she gone rogue...again? If not do you have the authority to approve this action? Is the goal here to keep any blame for this off of the city council?

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? Not what World Relief has told you, but what the actual country of origin is? I was told it was one of two countries.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this.

I look forward to your response

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359



**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:34:39 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 3:45 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement

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Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 11:29:44 -0500  
**To:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-16819255227755898ecfa-6ea5-4503-a332-57cc9a5e89c5.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227751ae407ad-68dc-4b49-a6c7-c7ce5d4d2d5e.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775da085022-320e-48f1-9608-4d496525d05c.jpg

Dear Mr. Bolstad,

There is a lot here and I think it would be best for a phone conversation. I just left you a vm. Feel free to give me a call 715-575-9795.

Thank you,

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 4:58:54 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

President Berge, I would like to clarify a couple of things that I just learned.

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Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359



**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 20:24:44 -0500  
**To:** "Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin)"  
<Anna\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

See you tomorrow!

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin) <Anna\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 8:35:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hey Emily,

Don't worry about it – we've all been there! ☐

ECDC sounds excellent, I am free from 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM, so I'll just post up at ECDC and meet you when you arrive. I love coffee shop environments for working and will never turn that down.

Rep. Emerson had texted me over the weekend about the meeting this evening, but I cannot make it. Would you be open to perhaps inviting her along to join us if the main topic is this World Relief meeting? Otherwise, we can keep it just you and I if you have different things you'd like to discuss.

Looking forward to it!

All the best,

**ANNA RINGSTAD**

*Northwestern Wisconsin Regional Representative*

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**U.S. SENATOR TAMMY BALDWIN**

PO Box 401

Ladysmith, WI 54848  
715-450-3754

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[www.baldwin.senate.gov](http://www.baldwin.senate.gov)

---

**From:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 11:46 AM  
**To:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin) <Anna\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hi Anna,

I just reread my email to you and I must have been really tired last night because I omitted words throughout my message. Yikes.

Anyway, I checked my work calendar and noon works great on Tuesday. We could do ECDC?

Also does the Senator know that Senator Johnson's staffer is organizing groups to protest refugees coming to Eau Claire? World Relief is opening an office in Eau Claire and they are hosting an event Monday at 6pm at the Library about how we can welcome our new neighbors and I have heard this group will be attending the World Relief meeting.

Here is more information on the World Relief meeting in case you are interested in learning more: <https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Here is an article about the meeting that Scott Bolstad organized:  
[https://www.wqow.com/eye\\_on\\_eau\\_claire/residents-react-to-refugee-resettlement-coming-to-chippewa-valley/article\\_156fdf84-6ef9-11ee-9ad1-6f1aedef0fa0.html](https://www.wqow.com/eye_on_eau_claire/residents-react-to-refugee-resettlement-coming-to-chippewa-valley/article_156fdf84-6ef9-11ee-9ad1-6f1aedef0fa0.html)

I will let you know how the event goes on Tuesday. I am looking forward to our conversation.

Thank you for reaching out!

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** Emily Berge  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 6:19:39 PM  
**To:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hi Anna

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Thanks!

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*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin) <[Anna\\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov](mailto:Anna_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:10:11 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hey Emily!

I was reaching out because I'm going to be in the area on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, and I was wondering if you'd have time to grab a cup of coffee downtown over the noon-hour and catch up on all things EC? If you're busy – I absolutely understand, but I wanted to reach out and check!

I hope all has been well.

All the best,

**ANNA RINGSTAD**

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PO Box 401  
Ladysmith, WI 54848  
715-450-3754

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[www.baldwin.senate.gov](http://www.baldwin.senate.gov)

**From:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eau Claire County.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 4 Jan 2023 14:00:22 +0000  
**To:** "Health-Board of Health" <HealthBoardofHealth@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "Wildenberg, Catherine" <WILDENBC@uwec.edu>  
**Cc:** "Gina Holt" <Gina.Holt@eau Claire County.gov>; "Health-Health Dept Supervisors" <Healthhealthdeptsupervisors@co.eau-claire.wi.us>  
**Bcc:** "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City-County Board of Health RN  
**Attachments:** Wildenberg CV 2022 (1).pdf

Greetings.

I am thrilled to share that we have a new confirmed BOH member – Catherine Wildenberg. Catherine was confirmed by the EC City Council and EC County Board. She is included in this email.

I thought I would share her CV and the public “application” that was reviewed by the City and County as an introduction for all of you.

Catherine will be joining us for the January BOH meeting.

Lieske

---

- Today's Date: **11/22/22**
- Name of Board or Commission You are Applying For (only vacancies listed): **Eau Claire City-County Board of Health**
- Are you a current employee of Eau Claire County or employed at a firm that is a vendor or has an affiliation with Eau Claire County? **No**
- The majority of Boards/Commissions/Councils and Committees meet on a monthly basis (date and time is determined by the committee.) Can you commit to attending meetings in accordance with the schedule of the Boards/Commissions/Councils and Committees you are applying for? **Yes**
- Full Name **Catherine Elizabeth Wildenberg**
- Age 18 or Older **Yes**
- Residence Address **5 Roosevelt Ave, Eau Claire, WI, 54701**
- Home Phone Number/Cell phone/Business phone **715-836-4770**
- Email [wildenbc@uwec.edu](mailto:wildenbc@uwec.edu)
- Do you currently reside/live within Eau Claire County limits? **Yes**
- Number of Years: **4**
- Education: **MSN in Nursing, BSN in Nursing, Registered Nurse**
- Do you have relatives employed or appointed to serve in Eau Claire County? **No**
- Please describe any potential conflicts of interest (or list n/a) **N/A**
- List County Boards, Commissions, or Committees on which you have served: **none**
- Please describe how you are qualified for the position of interest: **My clinical background is in public health nursing and I have 7 years of experience working as a nurse in health departments or non-profits contracted to do public health work (CV attached). I have 6 years of experience in nursing education and I am a clinical assistant professor of nursing at UWEC College of Nursing.**

- If selected, how would you work to better our community? **Health is so much more than healthcare, and as a nurse I have seen the devastating downstream effects when people don't have access to health promotion and disease prevention. If selected, I would work to better our community by advocating for more affordable housing, investing in programs that show return on investment such as Nurse Family Partnership and other perinatal home visiting program, advocating for increasing vaccination uptake and programs for reducing vaccine hesitancy, and other programs that address the root causes of social determinants of health.**

This communication constitutes an electronic communication within the meaning of the Electronic Privacy Act, 18 USC 2510 and its disclosure is strictly limited to the recipient intended by the sender of this message. This communication is confidential and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. Receipt by anyone other than the intended recipient does not constitute waiver or loss of the confidential or privileged nature of the communication. If the person receiving this message is not the intended recipient or you have received this message in error, any review, publication, copying or other distribution of this information is strictly prohibited. If you received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately at the email address above, return the original message to me by mail, destroy any copies you may have made and delete the communication from any computer and/or storage media. Thank you for your cooperation.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

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Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

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Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

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VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:39:00 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus"  
<Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
Claire

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
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Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm 1 <meyersdm 1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning <jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie <gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad <John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield <mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider <katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel <tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk <kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson <missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

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October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)  
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**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 13:57:05 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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Sent from my iPhone

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Larry Hoekstra  
<Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook  
<dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson  
<steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk  
<Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren  
<Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey  
<nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto  
<nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy  
<Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell  
<connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar  
<nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch

<David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue  
<Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning  
<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine  
Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin  
Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather  
DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi  
Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami  
Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle  
Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy  
Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>

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**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Hi - I learned that Tami McLaughlin from World Relief will attend tonight to dispel inaccuracies and Dave has been conferring with the ECPD

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 1:57:05 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?  
Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM

**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Larry Hoekstra  
<Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook  
<dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson  
<steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk  
<Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren  
<Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey  
<nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto  
<nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy  
<Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell  
<connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar  
<nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch  
<David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue  
<Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning  
<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine  
Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin  
Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather  
DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi  
Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami  
Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle  
Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy  
Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in  
Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees and read The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

## Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)

1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT-Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:40:03 -0500  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Hi Matt,

Hello from Green Bay. I wanted to forward this meeting information about an event tonight. As you can see below, a group opposed to World Relief's resettlement of refugees in Eau Claire will be meeting VFW from 7-9 pm.

Given the emotionally charged tenor of some of the comments we've received on this topic, I'm a bit concerned.

Tonight, some advocates who support refugee settlement in Eau Claire, volunteers from the Welcoming New Neighbors Group, plan to attend the meeting at the VFW. Naturally there will be disagreement, but hopefully it is a productive, de-escalating conversation.

My questions are:

- 1 - Public safety. Would a police presence be advisable at the event tonight, and/or at the World Relief info event next week, or a future council public hearing? Is a public safety strategy something that needs to be considered on this topic?
2. Outreach. Would ECPD be a good, de-escalating "messenger" to the public in clarifying that people do not need to be afraid?

Thanks,  
Emily

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents. I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

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Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 20:45:07 +0000  
**To:** "Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement

President Berge,

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. Did they happen? If so where are the minutes fore these meetings? I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement.

I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for. Did you direct her to sign the document or has she gone rogue...again? If not do you have the authority to approve this action? Is the goal here to keep any blame for this off of the city council?

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? Not what World Relief has told you, but what the actual country of origin is? I was told it was one of two countries.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this.

I look forward to your response

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 21:58:54 +0000  
**To:** "Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

President Berge, I would like to clarify a couple of things that I just learned.

An official from World Relief admitted that she never spoke with any members of the city council, only the city manager. If the city manager did not bring it to the board's attention, that is another matter.

The official from World Relief also confirmed that the refugees will be coming from Somalia. I attended the stakeholder's meeting last week and the word Somalia was never mentioned. That is at least the third lie I have caught them in.

This is not about the refugees it is about the process. World Relief believes that speaking with the local government is speaking with bureaucrats, while many of us believe speaking with local governments is speaking with elected officials. I can also tell you that no one in the county I have spoken to knows anything about this.

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

On Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 03:45:07 PM CDT, Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com> wrote:

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We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this.

I look forward to your response

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



### **World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 22:46:16 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg, 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf, image001.jpg

Thank you Stephanie for sending this context and background. We are getting some emails about it ... mostly it's people trying to figure out whether the city council had a role in this in terms of local "sign-off."

Best  
Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 22, 2023, at 6:09 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

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**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Ringstad"  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:35:55 +0000  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hey Emily,

Don't worry about it – we've all been there! ☹️

ECDC sounds excellent, I am free from 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM, so I'll just post up at ECDC and meet you when you arrive. I love coffee shop environments for working and will never turn that down.

Rep. Emerson had texted me over the weekend about the meeting this evening, but I cannot make it. Would you be open to perhaps inviting her along to join us if the main topic is this World Relief meeting? Otherwise, we can keep it just you and I if you have different things you'd like to discuss.

Looking forward to it!

All the best,

**ANNA RINGSTAD**

*Northwestern Wisconsin Regional Representative*

*Proudly Serving: Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Clark, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor, Vilas, and Washburn counties*

**U.S. SENATOR TAMMY BALDWIN**

PO Box 401

Ladysmith, WI 54848

715-450-3754

Keep up to date by following Tammy online:



[www.baldwin.senate.gov](http://www.baldwin.senate.gov)

---

**From:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 11:46 AM  
**To:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin) <Anna\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hi Anna,

I just reread my email to you and I must have been really tired last night because I omitted words throughout my message. Yikes.

Anyway, I checked my work calendar and noon works great on Tuesday. We could do ECDC?

Also does the Senator know that Senator Johnson's staffer is organizing groups to protest refugees coming to Eau Claire? World Relief is opening an office in Eau Claire and they are hosting an event Monday at 6pm at the Library about how we can welcome our new neighbors and I have heard this group will be attending the World Relief meeting.

Here is more information on the World Relief meeting in case you are interested in learning more: <https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Here is an article about the meeting that Scott Bolstad organized:

[https://www.wqow.com/eye\\_on\\_eau\\_claire/residents-react-to-refugee-resettlement-coming-to-chippewa-valley/article\\_156fdf84-6ef9-11ee-9ad1-6f1aedef0fa0.html](https://www.wqow.com/eye_on_eau_claire/residents-react-to-refugee-resettlement-coming-to-chippewa-valley/article_156fdf84-6ef9-11ee-9ad1-6f1aedef0fa0.html)

I will let you know how the event goes on Tuesday. I am looking forward to our conversation.

Thank you for reaching out!

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

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**From:** Emily Berge  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 6:19:39 PM  
**To:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hi Anna

Thank you for reaching out. I need to check my work calendar but I am free, I would love to meet up. I will get back to over the weekend (I am just getting home from a conference).

Thanks!

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

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**From:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin) <[Anna\\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov](mailto:Anna_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:10:11 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hey Emily!

I was reaching out because I'm going to be in the area on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, and I was wondering if you'd have time to grab a cup of coffee downtown over the noon-hour and catch up on all things EC? If you're busy – I absolutely understand, but I wanted to reach out and check!

I hope all has been well.

All the best,

**ANNA RINGSTAD**  
*Northwestern Wisconsin Regional Representative*

*Proudly Serving: Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Clark, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor, Vilas, and Washburn counties*

**U.S. SENATOR TAMMY BALDWIN**

PO Box 401

Ladysmith, WI 54848

715-450-3754

Keep up to date by following Tammy online:



[www.baldwin.senate.gov](http://www.baldwin.senate.gov)

**From:** "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 17:12:29 +0000  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Emily,

Good to talk to you. You will do well tonight. Thanks in advance for your message to the public.

Nancy

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Kathryn Schauf <Kathryn.Schau@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 7:08 AM  
**Cc:** \_ECC-DeptHeads <\_ECC-DeptHeads@co.eau-claire.wi.us>  
**Subject:** FW: Information on World Relief

Good morning County Board and Department Heads –

We are aware that emails have been sent to board members as well as city council. I am forwarding this information from the City, along with a brief discussion of County involvement or potential involvement regarding the issue of immigration services in the City of Eau Claire.

There have also been questions about potential funding from Human Services and County participation. The County often receives requests to attend meetings of various organizations, and we do so to identify potential communities of interest and educate community partners regarding services we provide.

The County does not have regulatory authority over what other organizations may do in this community. Updates from the City will be shared with the Board as they become available.

Kathryn

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:10 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg <Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephen Nick <stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov>; Nicholas Koerner <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Douglas Hoffer <Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov>; Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; Angela Weideman <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kathryn Schauf <Kathryn.Schau@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Susan Hintgen" <sghintgen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 19:25:37 -0500  
**To:** "" <Emily.Berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed Refugee Resettlement

Dear Ms. Berge,

Thank you for your service to Eau Claire.

I am writing to you to express my concern about the possible establishment of a World Relief VOLAG (voluntary non-governmental agency) in Eau Claire, which would initially spearhead the resettlement of 75 refugees in the City of Eau Claire and the surrounding area.

I have just finished reading ‘**8 US Code 1522**-Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees’. The first concern I noted was in Section a (1) (B) (iii), which states that “local voluntary agency activities should be conducted in close cooperation and advance consultation with State and local governments.” Based on the information I have, I do not believe that this has occurred.

Furthermore, Section a (2) (A) states that “the Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities.” Which local officials knew about this, and were consulted? Again, I do not believe that this has occurred, and therefore the law has not been followed.

All of this was new to me as of last week. I do not know of any local citizen who was aware that this is being considered. Why wouldn’t the government, citizens and taxpayers of Eau Claire be apprised of such an impactful proposal? Why wouldn’t local shareholders like businesses, hospitals, churches, and school administrators be advised? Especially since after the first 90 days here, the responsibility for refugee job-training, language-learning, housing, medical expenses, education, etc. passes from the World Relief VOLAG to the Eau Claire taxpayers. And if 75 refugees arrive the first year, how many other refugees (e.g., family members and others) will follow the next year?

I ask that you investigate what is being proposed, and halt this “intended distribution of refugees,” not because they are refugees, but because Eau Claire already has a large homeless population, a shortage of affordable housing, and illegal immigrants coming here from our open southern border.

Sincerely,

Susan Hintgen  
404 West Fillmore Ave.  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
[sghintgen@gmail.com](mailto:sghintgen@gmail.com)

**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 13:45:18 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Not a sad good bye

Thank you Ka, for all of the marvelous, focused work that you have done in this community to make us more aware, connected and appreciative of one another. I am grateful to have come alongside for this brief time to know you a bit better and appreciate all that you do. I will see you around town!

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
715-271-2489

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 2:40:29 PM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) *Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023*  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire  
203 S. Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:06:03 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Fyi

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
[715-271-2489](tel:715-271-2489)

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents. I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
[715-497-4359](tel:715-497-4359)

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 16:36:37 -0500  
**To:** "Bettie Gerdes" <bettiegerdes@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Refugee resettlement

Hello Ms. Gerdes, I am sure that your questions will be welcomed at the meeting. I am not more informed than others, but I am not fearful or worried about Eau Claire's ability to receive immigrants into our community. I am going to be at the meeting on Monday, 10/23 and ready to hear what this very experienced agency has to say about their work in WI and in Eau Claire. Thank you for your questions and look forward to seeing you there.

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
715-271-2489  
**From:** Bettie Gerdes <bettiegerdes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 2:46:35 PM  
**To:** Jill Christopherson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugee resettlement

I'm concerned about the lack of public information about a group of immigrants which have apparently been slated for resettlement locally. What do you know about this? Where are they from? Have these people been properly vetted? And why hasn't the public been properly informed since we all will be paying the bill after 90 days or so? I'm sure you are aware of many other concerns out here in the public due to certain conditions in our country...like an open border. I am aware of a public informational meeting at the library, but I doubt that our questions will be accepted, so that's why I'm asking you! Thank you for your consideration and I await your answers. Sincerely, Betsy Gerdes

**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 16:41:28 -0500  
**To:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

Thank you Mr. Bolstad for your letter. I know that there have been immigrants settled in Eau Claire over the past three years through one of the other WI offices of World Relief. Their application to operate in Eau Claire has not been under darkness, but has been through the regulated application process. Churches and non profits in Eau Clair have been performing their work of welcome for decades and have provided funds for resettlement in this case as well.

I am looking forward to being at the October 23 meeting at the library to hear how we may receive immigrants into our community. I look forward to seeing you there.

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
715-271-2489  
**From:** Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 5:20:31 PM  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that

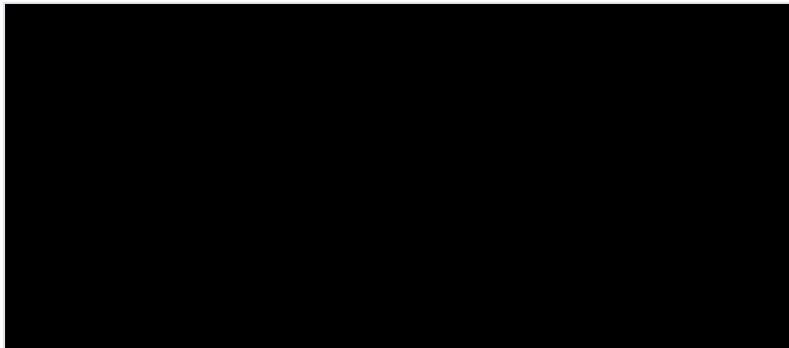
burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees. Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

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Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 14:26:10 -0500  
**To:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

FYI Tami from World Relief will attend to answer questions and Dave has talked to the Acting Police Chief to brief him. Fingers crossed that hearts are changed.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Jill Christopherson <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 12:06:03 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Fyi

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
[715-271-2489](tel:715-271-2489)

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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[domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

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Scott Bolstad

[715-497-4359](tel:715-497-4359)

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Bettie Gerdes" <bettiegerdes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 14:46:35 -0500  
**To:** "" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugee resettlement

I'm concerned about the lack of public information about a group of immigrants which have apparently been slated for resettlement locally. What do you know about this? Where are they from? Have these people been properly vetted? And why hasn't the public been properly informed since we all will be paying the bill after 90 days or so? I'm sure you are aware of many other concerns out here in the public due to certain conditions in our country...like an open border. I am aware of a public informational meeting at the library, but I doubt that our questions will be accepted, so that's why I'm asking you! Thank you for your consideration and I await your answers. Sincerely, Betsy Gerdes

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

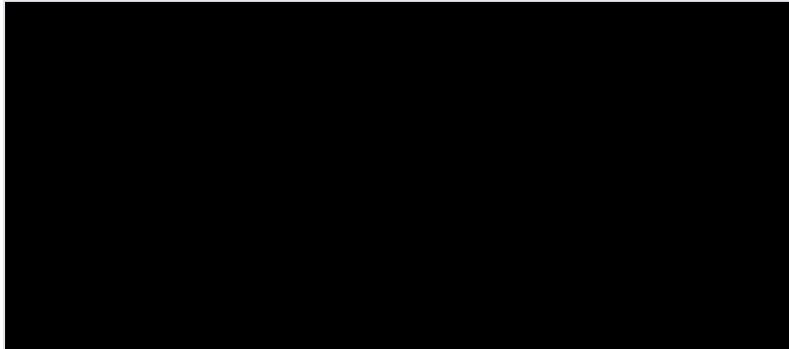
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Bettie Gerdes" <[bettiegerdes@gmail.com](mailto:bettiegerdes@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 09:20:42 -0500  
**To:** "Jill Christopherson" <[Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Refugee resettlement

Thank you for your reply.

On Sun, Oct 22, 2023, 4:36 PM Jill Christopherson <[Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com)> wrote:

Hello Ms. Gerdes, I am sure that your questions will be welcomed at the meeting. I am not more informed than others, but I am not fearful or worried about Eau Claire's ability to receive immigrants into our community. I am going to be at the meeting on Monday, 10/23 and ready to hear what this very experienced agency has to say about their work in WI and in Eau Claire. Thank you for your questions and look forward to seeing you there.

Jill Christopherson

District 4, Eau Claire Westside

715-271-2489

**From:** Bettie Gerdes <[bettiegerdes@gmail.com](mailto:bettiegerdes@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 2:46:35 PM  
**To:** Jill Christopherson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugee resettlement

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**From:** "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 22:18:12 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Thanks Ka!

Unfortunately I am not able to make it because I will be in Green Bay for the League of Wisconsin Municipalities Annual Conference!

Jeremy Gragert  
Eau Claire City Council member - District 3  
**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 8:55:33 AM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

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Office Director

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[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 15 Oct 2023 15:41:24 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Not a sad good bye

Thanks for your time with us, Ka!

And it sounds like there will be many other opportunities to work with you in your new role! Very exciting. ☺

I will be out of town at the League of Wisconsin Municipalities on October 18th, and on October 23rd I have to work right up until the City Council meeting.

Please let me know how I can be in the loop otherwise.

Thanks,

Jeremy Gragert

Eau Claire City Council member - District 3

**From:** Ka Vang

**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 2:40:29 PM

**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones

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I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

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**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

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Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 23:52:00 -0500  
**To:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

Good evening Scott,

Thank you for reaching out. Sorry about my delay getting back to you, as I'm just catching up from nearly a week away at the League of Wisconsin Municipalities Annual Conference in Green Bay.

Are you still with Sen. Ron Johnson's office, and therefore could help interpret this federal code in that capacity?

I believe it was in May 2023 that I was made aware that a World Relief office for Eau Claire was being explored, and further information will be shared by World Relief on Monday night at 6pm at the L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library. I hope to learn more by attending that meeting.

Thank you,

Jeremy Gragert  
Eau Claire City Council member - District 3  
**From:** Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 5:20:31 PM  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

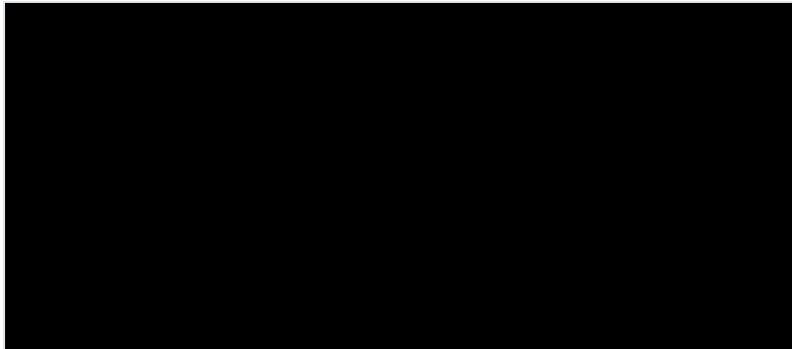
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees. Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

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L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

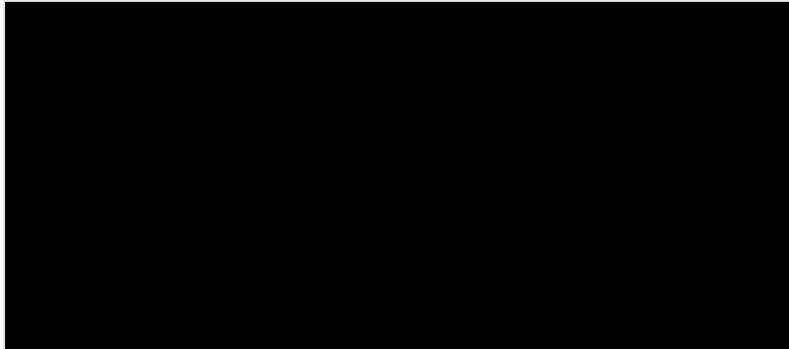
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I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



**World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down  
Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Joshua Miller" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 21:09:49 -0500  
**To:** "jessmiller@mac.com" <jessmiller@mac.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: Learn basic Hmong phrases with Ka (Kab) and Shoua (Sua)

Joshua Miller  
Eau Claire City Council

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 6:19:18 PM  
**To:** Joshua Miller; Ka Vang  
**Subject:** Re: Learn basic Hmong phrases with Ka (Kab) and Shoua (Sua)

Sure! I thought of you guys this week because we are working with a refugee resettlement agency that may want to locate in EC. If they do, they are currently resettling people and families from the Congo. And people speak French in the Congo! I thought if it all happens, it'd be a fun thing for your family to be involved with.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Joshua Miller <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 5:51:42 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Learn basic Hmong phrases with Ka (Kab) and Shoua (Sua)

Stephanie,

Jessica is a language teacher and linguist and would be very interested in attending this lesson on Hmong phrases. Could she be a +1 with me for the session on April 5?

Thanks,  
Joshua

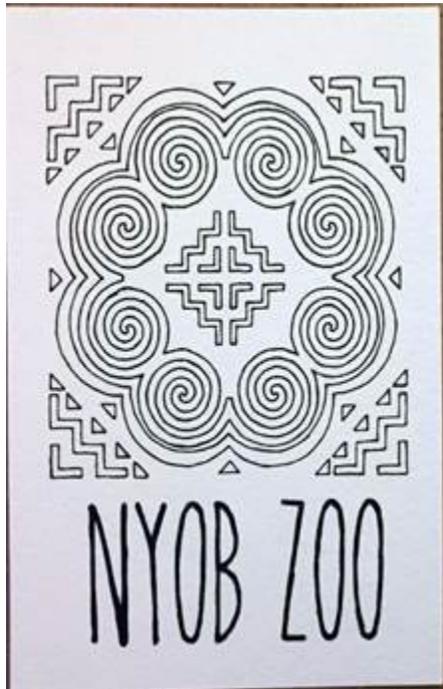
**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 1:25:58 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Subject:** Learn basic Hmong phrases with Ka (Kab) and Shoua (Sua)  
**When:** Occurs every Wednesday from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM effective 4/5/2023 until 4/19/2023.  
**Where:** City Hall, North Conference Room

Council Members – You are most welcome to join up with interested staff for these get-togethers!

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(Ever wonder how to say this catch phrase that I use as part of my signature? Come to one of the basic Hmong phrases class and find out!)

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Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-839-4942

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Shoua H. Bauer  
Fire Inspector  
Eau Claire Fire & Rescue  
Office: 715-839-6154  
Cell: 715-829-4304  
Fax: 715-839-1696

**From:** "Joshua Miller" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 21:26:52 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Learn basic Hmong phrases with Ka (Kab) and Shoua (Sua)

Yes, if any help is needed with French-speaking refugees you can certainly let us know. Jessica said we might even be able to get some university students to assist.

Joshua Miller  
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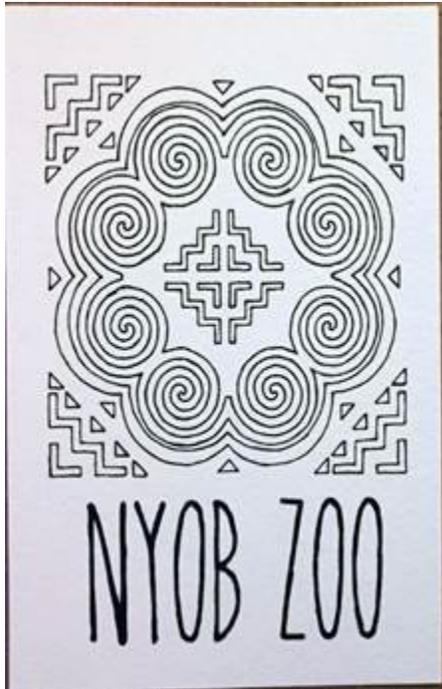
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Shoua H. Bauer  
Fire Inspector  
Eau Claire Fire & Rescue  
Office: 715-839-6154  
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**From:** "Joshua Miller" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 10:33:02 -0500  
**To:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Ms. Meyers.

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I will be attending their meeting to learn more and see what their program entails for Eau Claire and western Wisconsin.

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**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55:07 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

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attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305

1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Joshua Miller" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 11:52:49 -0500  
**To:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-16695778776557f0749bf-35da-4de5-8e9c-c8a5e851f322.png, OutlookEmoji-16695778776555a031c23-fb28-4a69-a7a9-f63cd4c21683.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655a46af5ed-a6c8-4ae3-a3bd-68a9f6fa9abb.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655dd3e3293-e625-4c4d-a3c5-4ebb8dbc7d78.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655d96d7fd0-f601-40fb-a07b-626fc9f56324.png

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**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 10:46:47 AM  
**To:** Joshua Miller  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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**From:** "Joshua Miller" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 12:52:13 -0500  
**To:** "ron branstner" <golfer\_4\_1999@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-1669577877655aad1a2c1-1052-4315-b98e-ea27daee351e.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765503af26a4-1bc3-4f71-966d-368a0d113403.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765534893b17-98ce-4293-ada5-d965fb7a8ade.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655d48743eb-92fd-4720-abec-eb74e658c7b5.png, OutlookEmoji-16695778776553ec9f304-c10b-4ec9-b6f4-f2c7e1ee7363.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765508205fa2-92e7-43bc-8c10-5d9d86fa4bae.png

Mr. Branstner,

I have not replied yet to the email that you sent over the weekend because I will be attending the World Relief community meeting this evening and will have more information after that meeting.

**Joshua Miller**  
**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** ron branstner <golfer\_4\_1999@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 9:26:04 PM  
**To:** Joshua Miller  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Dear Councilman Miller, According to 8 U.S code 1522 Local officials were to be involved in the resettlement of refugees in Eau Claire. I am doing a date request from the City of Eau Claire, WI . I am looking to see if any elected council members were in the mandatory meetings as required. If not, the city was in violation of federal law. This will be first hand information.

I have not received a response from my last e-mail.

Ron Branstner

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 02:20:12 PM PDT  
**Subject:** Fwd: Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

----- Original Message -----

**Subject:**Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Date:**2023-10-19 11:52  
**From:**Joshua Miller <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>

**To:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>

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**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 18:19:18 -0500  
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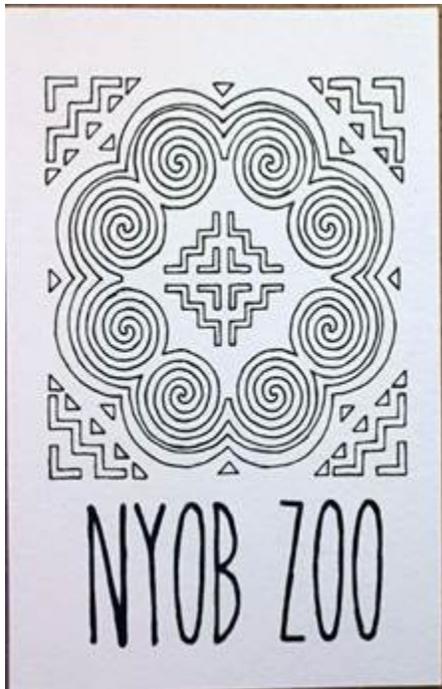
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Shoua H. Bauer  
Fire Inspector  
Eau Claire Fire & Rescue  
Office: 715-839-6154  
Cell: 715-829-4304  
Fax: 715-839-1696

**From:** "Jessica Miller" <jessmiller@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 21:11:45 -0500  
**To:** "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Learn basic Hmong phrases with Ka (Kab) and Shoua (Sua)

Wow! We could get university students involved too.

Le 31 mars 2023 à 21:10, Joshua Miller <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com> a écrit :

Joshua Miller  
Eau Claire City Council

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 6:19:18 PM  
**To:** Joshua Miller; Ka Vang  
**Subject:** Re: Learn basic Hmong phrases with Ka (Kab) and Shoua (Sua)

Sure! I thought of you guys this week because we are working with a refugee resettlement agency that may want to locate in EC. If they do, they are currently resettling people and families from the Congo. And people speak French in the Congo! I thought if it all happens, it'd be a fun thing for your family to be involved with.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Joshua Miller <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 5:51:42 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Learn basic Hmong phrases with Ka (Kab) and Shoua (Sua)

Stephanie,

Jessica is a language teacher and linguist and would be very interested in attending this lesson on Hmong phrases. Could she be a +1 with me for the session on April 5?

Thanks,

Joshua

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch

**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 1:25:58 PM

**To:** CityCouncil

**Subject:** Learn basic Hmong phrases with Ka (Kab) and Shoua (Sua)

**When:** Occurs every Wednesday from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM effective 4/5/2023 until 4/19/2023.

**Where:** City Hall, North Conference Room

Council Members – You are most welcome to join up with interested staff for these get-togethers!

\*\*\*

**You are invited...**

Have you noticed that we added the Hmong translation of 'Welcome' to the TV monitors in City Hall? Come and learn how to say Welcome (Zoo siab txais tos!) in Hmong.

<image001.jpg>

**What:** Learn basic Hmong phrases with Ka (Kab) and Shoua (Sua)

**When:** 3pm on April 5, 12, 19

## Where: City Hall, North Conference Room

You will have 3 opportunities to learn some basic Hmong phrases. You just need to commit to one of the dates above. However, you are welcome to attend all 3 sessions to continue practicing your Hmong. You can practice with each other or practice with Shoua and I any time!

If you are in a different building and would like us to bring this basic Hmong phrase class to your building for ease with your staff, please let us know.

(Ever wonder how to say this catch phrase that I use as part of my signature? Come to one of the basic Hmong phrases class and find out!)

**Ua tsaug** (Thank you),

Ka Vang, Ed.D.  
Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator  
City of Eau Claire  
Rescue  
203 S. Farwell Street  
6154  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauclaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauclaireWi.gov)  
<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>

Shoua H. Bauer  
Fire Inspector  
Eau Claire Fire &

Office: 715-839-

Cell: 715-829-4304

Fax: 715-839-1696

<image001.jpg>

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) *Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023*

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

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10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 10:46:47 -0500  
**To:** "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Thank you for your response. It is more important you attend the meeting tonight at the VFW. The one-sided information you will receive from World Relief is not reality.

On 2023-10-19 10:33, Joshua Miller wrote:

Ms. Meyers.

World Relief Wisconsin is having a community meeting at the Eau Claire library on Monday, October 23. I'll be attending to learn more about their refugee program and what ideas they have. It's a community meeting and anyone can register. Here's the link.

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Regarding the establishment of an office, they already have an office in Eau Claire. Any organization has the right to have an office and there is no reason to stop an office from being established, nor would the city have the legal right to stop them.

According to their website, they work with the US Department of State with their refugee resettlement program. I have confidence that the State Department is following US laws regarding refugees and is approving the people being considered for relocation. You can see their statement on refugee resettlement on this page:

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/about-us-chippewa-valley/>

I will be attending their meeting to learn more and see what their program entails for Eau Claire and western Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

**Joshua Miller**  
**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55:07 AM

**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents. I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

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[domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

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7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

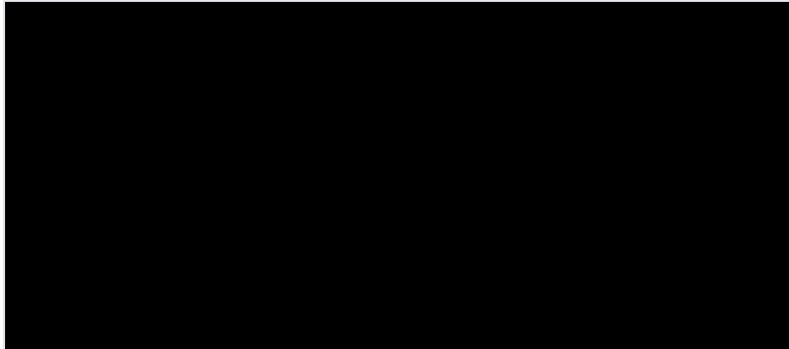
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



**World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down  
Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "ron branstner" <golfer\_4\_1999@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 02:26:04 +0000  
**To:** "Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Dear Councilman Miller, According to 8 U.S code 1522 Local officials were to be involved in the resettlement of refugees in Eau Claire. I am doing a date request from the City of Eau Claire, WI . I am looking to see if any elected council members were in the mandatory meetings as required. If not, the city was in violation of federal law. This will be first hand information.

I have not received a response from my last e-mail.

Ron Branstner

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 02:20:12 PM PDT  
**Subject:** Fwd: Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

----- Original Message -----

**Subject:**Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Date:**2023-10-19 11:52  
**From:**Joshua Miller <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**To:**meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>

It is most important to get information from the primary source. In this case, that is World Relief. Since they have not yet had their community information meeting, it does not seem likely that more accurate information could be presented from a third party, in this case, the meeting at the VFR. Thank you for the suggestion, but I must decline to attend the meeting tonight.

Joshua Miller

Eau Claire City Council

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 10:46:47 AM  
**To:** Joshua Miller  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Thank you for your response. It is more important you attend the meeting tonight at the VFW. The one-sided information you will receive from World Relief is not reality.

On 2023-10-19 10:33, Joshua Miller wrote:

Ms. Meyers.

World Relief Wisconsin is having a community meeting at the Eau Claire library on Monday, October 23. I'll be attending to learn more about their refugee program and what ideas they have. It's a community meeting and anyone can register. Here's the link.

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Regarding the establishment of an office, they already have an office in Eau Claire. Any organization has the right to have an office and there is no reason to stop an office from being established, nor would the city have the legal right to stop them.

According to their website, they work with the US Department of State with their refugee resettlement program. I have confidence that the State Department is following US laws regarding refugees and is approving the people being considered for relocation. You can see their statement on refugee resettlement on this page:

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/about-us-chippewa-valley/>

I will be attending their meeting to learn more and see what their program entails for Eau Claire and western Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

**Joshua Miller**  
**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55:07 AM

**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

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L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

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Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

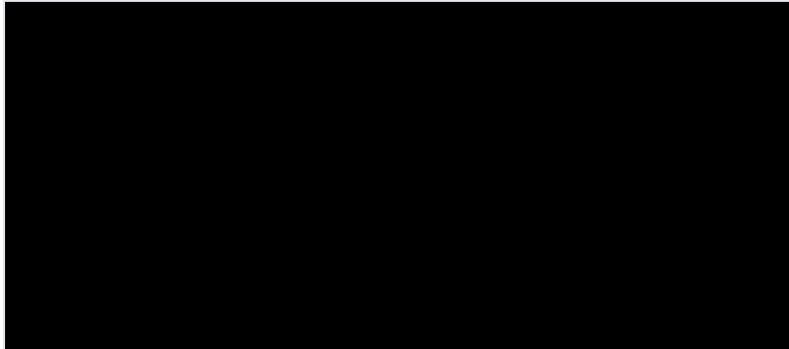
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



### **World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Susan Hintgen" <sghintgen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 19:31:05 -0500  
**To:** "" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed Refugee Resettlement

Dear Ms. Schoen,

Thank you for your service to Eau Claire.

I am writing to you to express my concern about the possible establishment of a World Relief VOLAG (voluntary non-governmental agency) in Eau Claire, which would initially spearhead the resettlement of 75 refugees in the City of Eau Claire and the surrounding area.

I have just finished reading ‘**8 US Code 1522**-Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees’. The first concern I noted was in Section a (1) (B) (iii), which states that “local voluntary agency activities should be conducted in close cooperation and advance consultation with State and local governments.” Based on the information I have, I do not believe that this has occurred.

Furthermore, Section a (2) (A) states that “the Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities.” Which local officials knew about this, and were consulted? Again, I do not believe that this has occurred, and therefore the law has not been followed.

All of this was new to me as of last week. I do not know of any local citizen who was aware that this is being considered. Why wouldn’t the government, citizens and taxpayers of Eau Claire be apprised of such an impactful proposal? Why wouldn’t local shareholders like businesses, hospitals, churches, and school administrators be advised? Especially since after the first 90 days here, the responsibility for refugee job-training, language-learning, housing, medical expenses, education, etc. passes from the World Relief VOLAG to the Eau Claire taxpayers. And if 75 refugees arrive the first year, how many other refugees (e.g., family members and others) will follow the next year?

I ask that you investigate what is being proposed, and halt this “intended distribution of refugees,” not because they are refugees, but because Eau Claire already has a large homeless population, a shortage of affordable housing, and illegal immigrants coming here from our open southern border.

Sincerely,

Susan Hintgen  
404 West Fillmore Ave.  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
[sghintgen@gmail.com](mailto:sghintgen@gmail.com)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

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L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

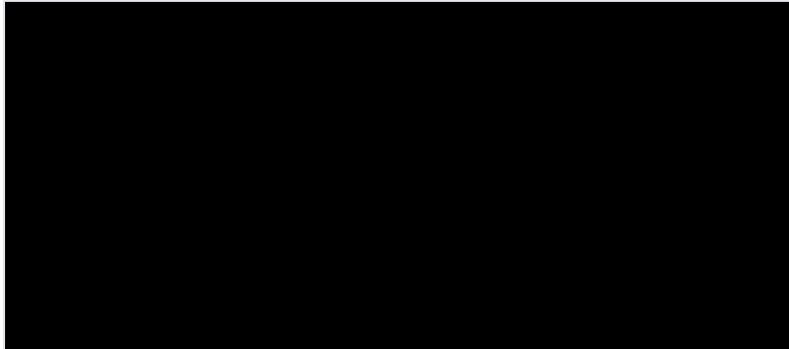
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



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Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

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I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

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Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:05:02 -0500  
**To:** "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Information on World Relief

Awe, thanks SO MUCH for sending this note!! ☐ If you don't mind, I'll pass it along to Anoosheh and Ka. It's especially discouraging to our current immigrants and BIPOC resident to hear how fearful and angry some residents are about the possibility of more immigrants, particularly immigrants of color.

---

**From:** Kate Felton <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief

Hey Stephanie,

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Thank you! Keep up this good work!

**KATE FELTON** (formerly Kate Beaton)  
Eau Claire City Council, Member At-Large  
[Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com](mailto:Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com)  
Phone: 715-252-2544

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:09:31 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg; Steve Nick; Nicholas Koerner; Tess Morgan; Anoosheh Hamzehee; Doug Hoffer; Elizabeth Geise; Angela Weideman; Kathryn Schauf; Nancy Coffey; Matt Rokus  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

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**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Kate Felton" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 15:56:59 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Not a sad good bye

Hi Ka,

So sad to see you go! But wishing you luck in your new project. Such important work and I feel so good for our community know that you're leading the charge!

**KATE FELTON** (formerly Kate Beaton)  
Eau Claire City Council, Member At-Large  
Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com  
Phone: 715-252-2544

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 2:40:29 PM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) *Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023*  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire  
203 S. Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Kate Felton" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:59:14 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief

Hey Stephanie,

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**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:09:31 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg; Steve Nick; Nicholas Koerner; Tess Morgan; Anooosheh Hamzehee; Doug Hoffer; Elizabeth Geise; Angela Weideman; Kathryn Schauf; Nancy Coffey; Matt Rokus  
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**From:** "Kate Felton" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:07:54 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg

Yes please do pass it on to whoever you'd like! ☐

On Oct 23, 2023, at 2:05 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Awe, thanks SO MUCH for sending this note!! ☐ If you don't mind, I'll pass it along to Anoosheh and Ka. It's especially discouraging to our current immigrants and BIPOC resident to hear how fearful and angry some residents are about the possibility of more immigrants, particularly immigrants of color.

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**Cc:** Dave Solberg; Steve Nick; Nicholas Koerner; Tess Morgan; Anoosheh Hamzehee; Doug Hoffer; Elizabeth Geise; Angela Weideman; Kathryn Schauf; Nancy Coffey; Matt Rokus  
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**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**  
<image001.jpg>



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Larry Mboga" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 21:03:54 -0500  
**To:** "Kathy Kivlin" <kathykivlin4@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Syrian Refugees

Hi Kathy

I appreciate you for reaching out to me and sharing your concerns . I'll be there on Monday night to learn more about this refugee resettlement

Thank you

Larry mboga city council at large

**From:** Kathy Kivlin <kathykivlin4@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 8:58:14 PM  
**To:** Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Syrian Refugees

Mr. Mboga,

I am extremely concerned about the Syrian Refugees who may be coming to the Chippewa Valley. The informational meeting held at VFW, Starr Ave. Thursday evening was extremely disconcerting for a number of reasons, mainly because this seemed to be done under the cover of darkness, with many discrepancies. The taxpayers in the Chippewa Valley were not given a heads up that this was taking place, therefore no one had an opportunity to voice their MANY concerns. Do you remember whom you represent?

Attendees at the Thursday meeting were told that this was coordinated by the Sheriff. This was a lie as the Sheriff knows nothing about this!!

What is going on??!!

I expect every City Council/County Board member to be present at the Library, 6 PM, 10/23. Remember whom you represent.

Regards,

Kathleen Kivlin

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov> on behalf of "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 07:57:50 -0500  
**To:** "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hi Larry – You might want to join in on this too, which is right before our discussion on the LVRF. No pressure – just thought you might be interested.

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2023 8:46 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee; Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami Mclaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

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### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

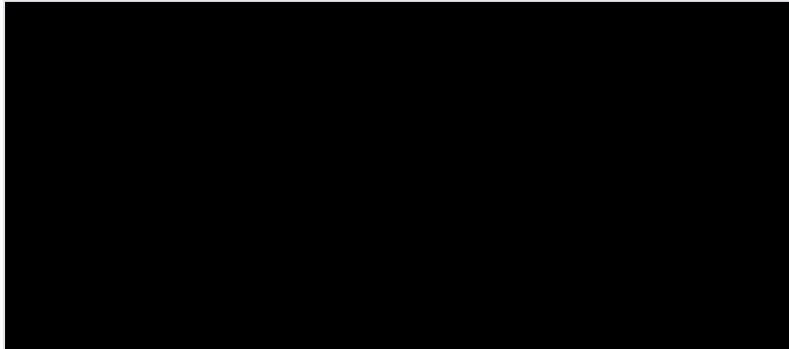
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov> on behalf of "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:45:13 -0500  
**To:** "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

For background, here's when we originally met with World Relief...

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch **On Behalf Of** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 7:58 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee; Larry Mboga  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Hi Larry – You might want to join in on this too, which is right before our discussion on the LVRF. No pressure – just thought you might be interested.

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <>  
**Sent:** [Wednesday, March 22, 2023 8:46 AM](#)  
**To:** [Anoosheh Hamzehee; Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise](#)  
**Subject:** [Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency](#)  
**When:** [Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM \(UTC-06:00\) Central Time \(US & Canada\)](#).  
**Where:** [Rivers Conference Room](#)

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
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CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

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Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

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L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

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Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

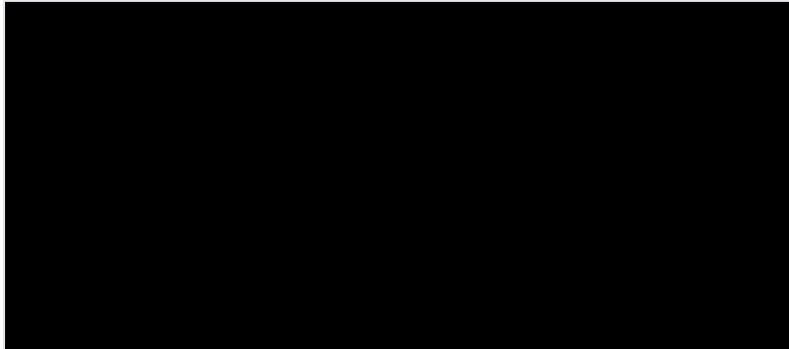
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



### **World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 12 Jan 2023 09:59:52 -0600  
**To:** "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Attachments:** TaskListHousing.pdf

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 08:07:17 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Invite or Not?

Hi Anoosheh! I think it would be great to include all of those people. If there's any way to gauge their availability, that would be great. Like, if Tami has some flexibility, then you could offer up a few options to the group. You might include a sentence that explains the context too, such as: We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2023 9:23 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Invite or Not?  
**Importance:** High

Good morning Stephanie,

I hope you're enjoying your trip ☺  
I talked to World relief director in Fox Valley.  
She's coming to Eau Claire to visit with us and all the key players.  
Is it ok to invite Katheryn and Lieske, Holley, Deb and Don too?  
Do you think we should have Billie too because she has housing questions for us as well or you will take care of them?

This is the email I'm going to send and I've already booked it on your schedule

"World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. TAMI MCLAUGHLIN is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire to meet with us and do an assessment. I appreciate if you can attend please."

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**  
**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4903  
E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)  
203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 12:39:57 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Want to reach out to Bea and Ginny to ask how a World Relief would relate to what they're trying to do?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:38 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

FYI,

---

**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>; Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Dear Anoosheh,

I just wanted to let you know that there is also an existing refugee resettlement organization in Eau Claire called Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN). Wnn has been operating under the sponsorship of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan—home office Milwaukee—as a CoSponsorship program. WNN has accepted and settled 7 Afghan men and also supported two Afghan families who came to Eau Claire as a secondary migration. WNN is also moving to become a recognized Refugee Resettlement agency.

Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US &

Canada).

**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment. I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 11:26:18 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: update for council

Thanks!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 10:26 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: update for council

We are exploring the feasibility of expanding the City's capacity to welcome immigrants and refugees. Our dual objectives are to address employee shortages and to cultivate a vibrant, multi-cultural community. One potential avenue is the prospect of World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency establishing a new office in Wisconsin. We are thrilled to be one of two candidates under consideration, and Tami McLaughlin, Director of World Relief Fox Valley, will visit Eau Claire in April to conduct an assessment. Additionally, we are actively exploring ways to boost the local workforce by utilizing PERM (employment) visas. To this end, we have engaged with the Chamber, CVTC, and ECD and are in the process of planning an information session for Eau Claire's businesses and employers.

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 8:46 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** update for council

Hi – Can you prepare a paragraph update for the City Council newsletter on the PERM/Refugee efforts?

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 16:28:01 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Our conversation yesterday

Just to confirm – this means that everyone can come, per her question?

please confirm that the full Welcoming New Neighbors Steering Committee members are invited. That could be as many as 8-10 folks depending on other prior commitments.

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 3:35 PM  
**To:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>; Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Diane House <house.dianerev@gmail.com>; Joyce Anderson <joyce4334@gmail.com>; Anderson, David <prdavea@gmail.com>; Greg Barnes <gregleebarnes@gmail.com>; Sharon Evans <evanssk@hotmail.com>; Mowry, Donald D. <dmowry@uwec.edu>; Martha Munger <moonlightfav@aol.com>; Cheryl Lochner Wright <c\_lochnerwright@yahoo.com>; Abdullah Ameen <abdullah.ameenn@gmail.com>; Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>; Michelle Harris <michelle.harris@ecahmaa.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Our conversation yesterday

Hi Ginny,

We really enjoyed talking with you yesterday and are looking forward to meeting the whole team and “Dreaming” together ☺

Anoosheh

**From:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 9:00 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Diane House <[house.dianerev@gmail.com](mailto:house.dianerev@gmail.com)>; Joyce Anderson <[joyce4334@gmail.com](mailto:joyce4334@gmail.com)>; Anderson, David <[prdavea@gmail.com](mailto:prdavea@gmail.com)>; Greg Barnes <[gregleebarnes@gmail.com](mailto:gregleebarnes@gmail.com)>; Sharon Evans <[evanssk@hotmail.com](mailto:evanssk@hotmail.com)>; Mowry, Donald D. <[dmowry@uwec.edu](mailto:dmowry@uwec.edu)>; Martha Munger <[moonlightfav@aol.com](mailto:moonlightfav@aol.com)>; Cheryl Lochner Wright <[c\\_lochnerwright@yahoo.com](mailto:c_lochnerwright@yahoo.com)>; Abdullah Ameen <[abdullah.ameenn@gmail.com](mailto:abdullah.ameenn@gmail.com)>; Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>; Michelle Harris <[michelle.harris@ecahmaa.org](mailto:michelle.harris@ecahmaa.org)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Our conversation yesterday

Dear Anoosheh and Stephanie,

Thank you so much for hosting our conversation yesterday. Hopefully your takeaway, as was mine, was knowing how passionate we are about becoming a more diverse and welcoming community. Having a refugee resettlement agency locally would definitely work towards that.

In planning for the April 5th meeting, please confirm that the full Welcoming New Neighbors Steering Committee members are invited. That could be as many as 8-10 folks depending on other prior commitments.

Looking forward to seeing you again and continuing to 'dream' together!

Ginny Close,  
Welcoming New Neighbors

PS Besides giving credit to Walt Disney, yesterday, here is another appropriate quote. **"If you can dream it, then you can achieve it. You will get all you want in life if you help enough other people get what they want. - Zig Ziglar.**

--

Ginny Close  
[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)  
715-577-8336

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:52:44 -0500  
**To:** "Scott Allen" <Scott.Allen@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Christian Bell" <Chris.Bell@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Bob Nelson" <Robert.Nelson@eauclairewi.gov>; "Carrie Riepl" <Carrie.Riepl@eauclairewi.gov>; "Colleen Schian" <Colleen.Schian@eauclairewi.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Lane Berg" <Lane.Berg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Travis Davis" <Travis.Davis@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Danya Morman" <Danya.Morman@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

FYI... Hope you're having a great weekend so far!

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 1, 2023 9:50 AM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; Charles Johnson <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; Jeremy Gragert <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; Jill Christopherson <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; Joshua Miller <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; Kate Felton <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; Larry Mboga <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; Roderick Jones <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; Terry Weld <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; David Solberg <Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Nicholas Koerner <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents

who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update,  
Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update,  
County Health Rankings

- **Council Calendar**

- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov> on behalf of "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 07:57:50 -0500  
**To:** "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hi Larry – You might want to join in on this too, which is right before our discussion on the LVRF. No pressure – just thought you might be interested.

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2023 8:46 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee; Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami Mclaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 6 Apr 2023 09:17:41 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

YES!

---

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 7:57 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

Maybe we need to see how we can get these films here? Just a thought...

---

**From:** Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service <[info@wipps.org](mailto:info@wipps.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023 3:25 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin



BUILDING COMMUNITY  
STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY

## Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

**Three Short Films to be Screened in Central Wisconsin**

hort film series, “New Neighbors: Refugee  
settlement and Asylum-Seeking in Central  
consin,” which showcases the stories of recent  
comers in Central Wisconsin, will be screened at  
upcoming public events. The three short films  
file families from Afghanistan, Nicaragua, and  
ngo, and their journeys from their homelands to their  
/ homes in Central Wisconsin.

eenings of the films will take place [April 12, 6:30  
..](#), at the Dreyfus University Center Theater, UW  
vens Point, 1015 Reserve St., Stevens Point, and  
[/ 6, 3:00 p.m.](#), at Whitewater Music Hall, 130 1<sup>st</sup> St,  
usau. Both events are free and open to the public,  
registration is not required.

mmaker Laura Hunt and some of our new neighbors  
participate in a Q&A session after the films.

: films were created for the [New Neighbors Series](#), a  
lic event series which examines the situations in the  
relands of recent newcomers to the Central Wisconsin area, and their experiences here i  
U.S.

: New Neighbor Series is a collaboration between the Ethiopian Community Developmen  
ncil, Rise Up Central Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Wisconsin Instit  
Public Policy and Service, Wisconsin Humanities, and Wisconsin Public Radio.

SHORT FILM SCREENINGS:

**NEW NEIGHBORS SERIES:  
REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT AND  
ASYLUM-SEEKING IN CENTRAL WISCONSIN**



...holding signs that said “Baihaqi Family welcome to Wausau.”

A growing number of newcomers from around the globe now call Central Wisconsin home. These three short films tell the stories of families from Nicaragua, Afghanistan and Congo, starting with their lives in their homelands up to their arrival and welcome in Central Wisconsin.

**-April 12, 6:30 p.m.**, Dreyfus University Center Theater, UW Stevens Point, 1015 Reserve St., Stevens Point, WI.

**-May 6, 3:00 p.m.**, Whitewater Music Hall, 130 1st St, Wausau, WI.

Filmmaker Laura Hunt and some of our New Neighbors will participate in a Q&A session after the films.

SPONSORS:



[Download the event flyer](#)

consin Institute for Public Policy and Service · 625 Stewart Ave, Wausau, WI 54401, United States - This email was se  
a.vang@eauclairewi.gov. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#). - You can also keep up with WIPPS on Facebook.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 6 Apr 2023 12:13:03 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

I think Micon downtown...

---

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 11:55 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

If we were to do film screening, where would be a good place and any idea how many to plan for? I reached out to them and they would be happy to bring the film to EC.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 9:18 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

YES!

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**From:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 7:57 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

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**Sent:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023 3:25 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin



BUILDING COMMUNITY  
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# Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

## Three Short Films to be Screened in Central Wisconsin

Short film series, “New Neighbors: Refugee Resettlement and Asylum-Seeking in Central Wisconsin,” which showcases the stories of recent newcomers in Central Wisconsin, will be screened at upcoming public events. The three short films file families from Afghanistan, Nicaragua, and Congo, and their journeys from their homelands to their homes in Central Wisconsin.

Screenings of the films will take place [April 12, 6:30 p.m.](#), at the Dreyfus University Center Theater, UW Stevens Point, 1015 Reserve St., Stevens Point, and [May 6, 3:00 p.m.](#), at Whitewater Music Hall, 130 1<sup>st</sup> St, Wausau. Both events are free and open to the public, registration is not required.

Filmmaker Laura Hunt and some of our new neighbors participate in a Q&A session after the films.

The films were created for the [New Neighbors Series](#), a public event series which examines the situations in the homelands of recent newcomers to the Central Wisconsin area, and their experiences here in the U.S.

The New Neighbor Series is a collaboration between the Ethiopian Community Development Council, Rise Up Central Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service, Wisconsin Humanities, and Wisconsin Public Radio.

SHORT FILM SCREENINGS:  
**NEW NEIGHBORS SERIES:  
REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT AND  
ASYLUM-SEEKING IN CENTRAL WISCONSIN**

...holding signs that said "Baihaqi Family welcome to Wausau."

A growing number of newcomers from around the globe now call Central Wisconsin home. These three short films tell the stories of families from Nicaragua, Afghanistan and Congo, starting with their lives in their homelands up to their arrival and welcome in Central Wisconsin.

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Filmmaker Laura Hunt and some of our New Neighbors will participate in a Q&A session after the films.

SPONSORS:

ECDC Empowering refugees and immigrants since 1985  
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R2N  
University of Wisconsin Stevens Point  
WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO  
WISCONSIN HUMANITIES  
WIPPS  
UW

[Download the event flyer](#)

Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service · 625 Stewart Ave, Wausau, WI 54401, United States - This email was sent to [a.vang@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:a.vang@eauclairewi.gov). To stop receiving emails, [click here](#). - You can also keep up with WIPPS on [Facebook](#).

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 14 Apr 2023 12:22:06 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Compliment

Awesome! Thank you for passing that along, Emily.

---

**From:** Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 11:35 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Elizabeth Geise <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Compliment

Hi Everyone,

My parents were just at a Zoom meeting with the organization that is working with refugee resettlement. They told me about how effusive and enthusiastic the folks from that organization were about the Eau Claire city staff and health department staff they had met with. I have no idea about what decision will be made, but I wanted to share about the terrific impression you all make and express my appreciation for the skill, care and dedication you bring.

thanks,

Emily

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 12:28:20 -0500  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Meet with World Relief

Hi Matt – Would you be available to meet (probably for just about a half hour) with a representative from a refugee resettlement agency? They are considering setting up an office here in Eau Claire, and they wanted to ask these questions listed below... Let me or Anoosheh know if this time doesn't work! It looks free on your calendar. The agency person is free after 9:30AM on Wednesday.

World Relief, a refugee resettlement agency, is considering Eau Claire as a potential location to establish a refugee settlement office. The agency has conducted initial interviews with relevant individuals. As part of the assessment process, the director of the agency based in Appleton, Tami Laughlin, wishes to speak with the Eau Claire police chief. The following is a list of questions that will be discussed during the meeting.

- Any anti-immigrant sentiments expressed in the community? If so, how are sentiments managed?
- How are immigrant groups isolated or integrated into the community?
- Does local law enforcement have a community or cultural liaison?
- Any foreseeable barriers from public safety perspective to resettlement in community
- Any resources available for language barriers?

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 13:58:07 -0500  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Meet with World Relief

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- How are immigrant groups isolated or integrated into the community?
- Does local law enforcement have a community or cultural liaison?
- Any foreseeable barriers from public safety perspective to resettlement in community
- Any resources available for language barriers?

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 12:11:29 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Not sure why it would've bounced... Do you want to draft the letter for me to sign?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 12:11:15 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "TMcLaughlin@wr.org"  
<TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

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Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**  
Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley  
[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)  
o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 08:51:34 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Nice letter! Let me see how to work it out with the Council.

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Good morning,  
Draft letter is attached.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

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Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 09:02:43 -0500  
**To:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

FYI, only...

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023 8:04 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

FYI, email below from Lieske

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 8:26 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you Anoosheh.

We will review and be in touch with Tami.

Do note that this is the type of additional tax levy supported effort from our agency that is so critical that we will have to sort out how to navigate.

Lieske

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:18 PM  
**To:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** [marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov). <[marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Marisa,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials

and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you personally have done with refugee health screenings as well as the whole Eau Claire public health team to pave the way for future newcomer communities. We look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 22 May 2023 10:02:04 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"TMcLaughlin@wr.org" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hi Tami – Attached please find a letter of support. So happy to be able to send it!

Let us know if there's anything else we can do on our end.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 23 Jun 2023 15:42:54 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** digital version inc ase it's helpufl....  
**Attachments:** TaskListEmple.xlsx

Stephanie Hirsch  
City Manager  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701  
Office: 715-839-6045



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 9 Jul 2023 10:22:34 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

What a bummer about the religious requirement... That seems like it would be a really fun job!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 8, 2023 1:15 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 5:33:45 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Anoosheh,

Good to hear from you! We don't expect to receive final approve for the resettlement site until late August but are going to begin recruiting for the site director (position should be posted by the following week). I will also begin looking for office space. Do you have any recommendations regarding location? A top priority is accessibility to public transportation.

Will stay in touch as starting to move forward!

Thanks!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 3:03 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami,

Hope you are doing fine. How is World Relief Eau Claire project going? Have you heard back from the HQ yet? Have you started looking for a place/hiring?

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:13 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you!

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

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**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**  
Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley  
[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)  
o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 9 Jul 2023 10:22:18 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Aaron White"  
<Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Anoosheh – I'd suggest working with Aaron on possible locations!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 8, 2023 1:15 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 5:33:45 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Anoosheh,

Good to hear from you! We don't expect to receive final approve for the resettlement site until late August but are going to begin recruiting for the site director (position should be posted by the following week). I will also begin looking for office space. Do you have any recommendations regarding location? A top priority is accessibility to public transportation.

Will stay in touch as starting to move forward!

Thanks!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami,

Hope you are doing fine. How is World Relief Eau Claire project going?  
Have you heard back from the HQ yet? Have you started looking for a place/hiring?

Anoosheh

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**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:13 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee

<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you!

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Jul 2023 08:52:56 -0500  
**To:** "Travis Davis" <Travis.Davis@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Danya Morman" <Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Task List Extract  
**Attachments:** 2023-07-17\_TaskListExtract.xlsx

Here's an extract of the Task List database grouped by meeting. I'm still trying to figure out how we can keep a master list of active and up-to-date tasks, including ones that are "on hold" or "long term" that we can refer to around budget season.

It would be great if Trello works.

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 14:55:15 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Draft Blurp

Please edit/add/subtract however!

\*\*\*

We are saying farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. Ka has done so much for us in the time she has been here, and we are very sad to see her go. That said, we are excited about the position she is shifting into. She will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. Ka has said that she feels it's her life mission to work with refugees. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship. While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited a BIPOC Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 12 Oct 2023 15:27:44 -0500  
**To:** "Tj" <atkins77@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** EDI Coordinator

Hi TJ –

I know that many people have asked you this, including me the last time around! ☹️ But I thought I'd add another ask to the list... They say that women need to be asked like 10 times to run for office, and I'm using that same theory here.

Our amazing Ka is going on to run the new World Relief program. We need someone brave, brilliant, strong, savvy, determined to spearhead these EDI projects. We have the \$800K set aside to spend on transforming the Chippewa Valley and it's pretty much the number one thing on my priority list. I hope you'll consider applying for the position! ☹️

Stephanie

\*\*

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** This past week, we held an EDI EauStat meeting at which we discussed the many big projects underway in this department. We are sad to say farewell to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley.

Starting Monday, Ka will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, CVTC, other community organizations, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited an EDI Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy.

Please spread the word about our search for our next EDI Coordinator! [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) This person will have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive.

Stephanie Hirsch  
City Manager  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701  
Office: 715-839-6045



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:10:06 -0500  
**To:** "Tj" <atkins77@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

It's the 30<sup>th</sup> if that helps! ☐

**From:** Tj <atkins77@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 12:01 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

I'd love to be on the panel, but that date I believe is the 31st and I am booked that day.

Thanks,  
TJ

On Thu, Oct 19, 2023 at 8:32 AM Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

I understand! Any interest in being on the panel again? Could be an annual gig for you! ☐

**From:** Tj <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 9:16 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you again for the compliment and opportunity!!! However, I am quite content with where I am at, but thank you for thinking of me.

TJ

On Thu, Oct 12, 2023, 3:28 PM Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

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**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**

--

T.J. Atkins  
CHH Inc Board of Directors- Secretary  
Dairyland Housing Coalition- Interim Secretary  
Downtown Eau Claire Inc. -Treasurer  
United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley Board Member  
Agnes Table and Community Center Board Member

Eau Claire Health Alliance Mental Health Action Team- Co-Chair

Rotary of Eau Claire member

ClearWater Kiwanis member

Suicide Prevention workgroup Co-Chair

Eau Claire Chamber Leadership Eau Claire Volunteerism and Human Services-Co-Chair

Not Fragile like a flower, but like a bomb.-RBG

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:39:00 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus"  
<Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
Claire

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

Chief Rokus, do you have thoughts on safety? Dave may have more insight on this situation as well...

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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
Claire

I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?

Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning <jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie <gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad <John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield <mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider <katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel <tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk <kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson <missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting,  
October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 14:26:10 -0500  
**To:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

FYI Tami from World Relief will attend to answer questions and Dave has talked to the Acting Police Chief to brief him. Fingers crossed that hearts are changed.

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**From:** Jill Christopherson <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 12:06:03 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Fyi

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
[715-271-2489](tel:715-271-2489)

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad

[715-497-4359](tel:715-497-4359)

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 14:31:21 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Hi - I learned that Tami McLaughlin from World Relief will attend tonight to dispel inaccuracies and Dave has been conferring with the ECPD

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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 1:57:05 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Thanks Stephanie:

I have two Events I am attending tonight, so I am not able to make it.

I think the biggest concern I keep hearing is that refugees coming to the community will not be vetted. That is certainly not true. I do think strongly, pushing back on that and making sure people know the truth will help.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 19, 2023, at 12:39 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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Sent from my iPhone

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**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM

**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Larry Hoekstra  
<Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook  
<dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson  
<steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk  
<Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren  
<Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey  
<nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto  
<nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy  
<Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell  
<connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar  
<nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch  
<David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue  
<Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning  
<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine  
Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin  
Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather  
DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi  
Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami  
Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle  
Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy  
Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in  
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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:41:36 -0500  
**To:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

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**From:** Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:40:03 PM  
**To:** Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

Hi Matt,

Hello from Green Bay. I wanted to forward this meeting information about an event tonight. As you can see below, a group opposed to World Relief's resettlement of refugees in Eau Claire will be meeting VFW from 7-9 pm.

Given the emotionally charged tenor of some of the comments we've received on this topic, I'm a bit concerned.

Tonight, some advocates who support refugee settlement in Eau Claire, volunteers from the Welcoming New Neighbors Group, plan to attend the meeting at the VFW. Naturally there will be disagreement, but hopefully it is a productive, de-escalating conversation.

My questions are:

- 1 - Public safety. Would a police presence be advisable at the event tonight, and/or at the World Relief info event next week, or a future council public hearing? Is a public safety strategy something that needs to be considered on this topic?
2. Outreach. Would ECPD be a good, de-escalating "messenger" to the public in clarifying that people do not need to be afraid?

Thanks,  
Emily

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM

**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:04:04 -0500  
**To:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

Thank you!!

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**From:** Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 4:03:06 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

I think Chief Rokus and DC Thomas have it under control. I'll see if he'd be comfortable sending the council an update on what they see as a prudent level of police presence today and the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:42 PM  
**To:** Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

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**From:** Emily Anderson <[emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:40:03 PM  
**To:** Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Subject:** Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

Hi Matt,

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Thanks,

Emily

---

**From:** meyersdm1 <[meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net](mailto:meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

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Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

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[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:33:12 -0500  
**To:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

I'm not sure... three of them are here with me and Andrew can't make it. maybe Jill?

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**From:** Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 4:21:57 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

Are any council members going to the meeting tonight?

## David A. Solberg, PE

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 4:04 PM  
**To:** Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

Thank you!!

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 4:03:06 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:42 PM  
**To:** Dave Solberg <[dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

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**From:** Emily Anderson <[emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:40:03 PM  
**To:** Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang

<[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM

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Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov> on behalf of "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:45:13 -0500  
**To:** "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

For background, here's when we originally met with World Relief...

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch **On Behalf Of** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 7:58 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee; Larry Mboga  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Hi Larry – You might want to join in on this too, which is right before our discussion on the LVRF. No pressure – just thought you might be interested.

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <>  
**Sent:** [Wednesday, March 22, 2023 8:46 AM](#)  
**To:** [Anoosheh Hamzehee; Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise](#)  
**Subject:** [Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency](#)  
**When:** [Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM \(UTC-06:00\) Central Time \(US & Canada\)](#).  
**Where:** [Rivers Conference Room](#)

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

scheduling the

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 20:44:47 -0500  
**To:** "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Oh wow – No I didn't realize there was limited participation. I'll ask Tami.

---

**From:** Elizabeth Geise <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 8:39 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Fyi that the page indicates that registration is closed. Do you know if registration is required?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:10 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <[CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg <[Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephen Nick <[stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov)>; Nicholas Koerner <[Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan <[Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Douglas Hoffer <[Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov)>; Elizabeth Geise <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Angela Weideman <[Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Nancy Coffey <[nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>  
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**Office: 715-839-6045**



This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:44:26 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

FYI...

---

**From:** Kathryn Schauf <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 7:08 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Thank you Stephanie – I will use what you share to keep our board apprised as well. Let me know if you have a desire for county participation in any discussions.

---

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Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 12:15:46 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Refugee resettlement Q&A 2nd draft  
**Attachments:** Refugee Resettlement Q&A - SH.docx

Just added a few...

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 11:42 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Refugee resettlement Q&A 2nd draft

## Anoosheh Hamzehee

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:36:32 -0500  
**To:** "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Sure – feel free to call.

---

**From:** Elizabeth Geise <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 1:32 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Do you have a minute to talk about tonight?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 8:45 PM  
**To:** Elizabeth Geise <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Oh wow – No I didn't realize there was limited participation. I'll ask Tami.

---

**From:** Elizabeth Geise <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 8:39 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Fyi that the page indicates that registration is closed. Do you know if registration is required?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:10 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <[CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg <[Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephen Nick <[stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov)>; Nicholas Koerner <[Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan <[Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Douglas Hoffer <[Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov)>; Elizabeth Geise <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Angela Weideman <[Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Nancy Coffey <[nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

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office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

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Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:05:21 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Information on World Relief

FYI, □

---

**From:** Kate Felton <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief

Hey Stephanie,

Just wanted to leave you a word of appreciation for your work to welcome World Relief, thereby welcoming new neighbors to our city. We have been getting some emails about this, and though of course not everyone in our community will support these actions, the resounding message I've gotten over my 8 years in service is that our community wants to lead with compassion, kindness, and generosity. I fully support the work you're doing here and I have good reason to believe that the majority of our council and our community support this work too.

Thank you! Keep up this good work!

**KATE FELTON** (formerly Kate Beaton)  
Eau Claire City Council, Member At-Large  
[Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com](mailto:Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com)  
Phone: 715-252-2544

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:09:31 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg; Steve Nick; Nicholas Koerner; Tess Morgan; Anoosheh Hamzehee; Doug Hoffer; Elizabeth Geise; Angela Weideman; Kathryn Schauf; Nancy Coffey; Matt Rokus  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

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**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:05:02 -0500  
**To:** "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Information on World Relief

Awe, thanks SO MUCH for sending this note!! ☐ If you don't mind, I'll pass it along to Anoosheh and Ka. It's especially discouraging to our current immigrants and BIPOC resident to hear how fearful and angry some residents are about the possibility of more immigrants, particularly immigrants of color.

---

**From:** Kate Felton <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief

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Eau Claire City Council, Member At-Large  
[Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com](mailto:Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com)  
Phone: 715-252-2544

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**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 8 Feb 2023 13:16:59 -0600  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch"  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

Eau Claire is not on list of Refugee Resettlement Agency...  
<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/refugee/pdf/fundedagencies-rev0822.pdf>

---

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2023 1:15 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

On the refugee programs in WI:  
<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/refugee/researchers/programs>

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2023 12:22 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang  
<[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

Recording:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/zKm4tA2F5CDNrRhXM8u4Lgp9QWPLroD1f9-D6LhkgIX6VT0Sa1b5QQGLpOMoqEW0.XkuqqPC27zKn58Ue>

**Passcode:** PERMwi1#

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2023 12:15 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang  
<[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

FYI...

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2022 3:40 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

I thought there was a recording, but I'm not sure... You could email Aaron White and/or Kaylynnn or Ray to see if they know of one.

**From:** Kaylynn Winegar <[winegar@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:winegar@eauclairechamber.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 30, 2022 8:14 AM  
**To:** Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Ray French <[ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Luke Hanson <[luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com](mailto:luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com)>; [steve@momentumwest.org](mailto:steve@momentumwest.org); Jon Menz <[jmenz@wdbwcw.org](mailto:jmenz@wdbwcw.org)>; minor (<[minor@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:minor@eauclairechamber.org)> <[minor@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:minor@eauclairechamber.org)>); Samantha Kraegenbrink <[Samantha.Kraegenbrink@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Samantha.Kraegenbrink@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

Hello everyone,

Apologies for the late response we've been hosting a Chamber conference the last week.

We are interested in meeting, thanks Aaron for bringing up our previous work. We have also been in contact with a group called Welcoming New Neighbors that is associated with Lutheran Social Services. They have been specifically working to bring and acclimating some Afghanistan refugees (individuals and families) in the past year tackling exactly when Aaron mentioned, housing, transportation and basic needs.

I look forward to learning more.

Kaylynn Winegar  
Pronouns: She/Her ([Learn more about pronouns](#))  
Vice President, Workforce Initiatives  
Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce  
101 N. Farwell Street, Ste. 101  
Eau Claire, WI 54703  
Direct Line: (715) 858-0615  
[winegar@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:winegar@eauclairechamber.org)  
CHECK OUT THE NEW WEBSITE:  
<https://www.eauclairechamber.org>  
"Our Community is Our Business"

On Fri, Sep 23, 2022 at 2:41 PM Aaron White <[Aaron.White@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Aaron.White@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Count me in for the meeting. Just so everyone is aware, there is another staffing group bringing in workers from Puerto Rico, current used heavily by Ashley Furniture in Arcadia/Whitehall. They have been doing this for about a year. Kaylynn and I have spoken with them a couple of times. Biggest challenge they have is finding landlords that will rent to someone with no housing references/history, etc.

**Aaron J. White, MBA**  
*Economic Development Manager*  
715-839-4914—main desk

715-839-9047—direct line  
[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)  
<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>  
<https://www.eauclaireddevelopment.com/>  
203 S. Farwell St, Eau Claire, WI 54701



\*\*\* Your Economic Development team and the Downtown Eau Claire, Inc. staff are working on efforts to find resources for our community during this time.

For updated information on upcoming business resources and support programs related to COVID-19 financial impacts, go to our web sites:  
<https://www.eauclaireddevelopment.com/doing-business/financial-assistance/> or  
<https://www.downtowneauclaire.org/coronavirus-aid-and-support/> and be sure to continue supporting our local businesses.

---

**From:** Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 23, 2022 2:33 PM  
**To:** Ray French <[ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Luke Hanson <[luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com](mailto:luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com)>; Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; [steve@momentumwest.org](mailto:steve@momentumwest.org); 'Jon Menz' <[jmenz@wdbwcw.org](mailto:jmenz@wdbwcw.org)>; Kaylynn Winegar <[winegar@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:winegar@eauclairechamber.org)>; minor (<[minor@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:minor@eauclairechamber.org)>) <[minor@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:minor@eauclairechamber.org)>  
**Cc:** Samantha Kraegenbrink <[Samantha.Kraegenbrink@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Samantha.Kraegenbrink@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

Samantha Kraegenbrink can be our lead to pull together this group for planning, and we can host on WebEX.

Hoping that the Chamber will have the business contacts that we will want to invite.

---

**From:** Ray French <[ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 23, 2022 1:31 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)>; Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Luke Hanson <[luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com](mailto:luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com)>; Aaron White <[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)>; [steve@momentumwest.org](mailto:steve@momentumwest.org); 'Jon Menz' <[jmenz@wdbwcw.org](mailto:jmenz@wdbwcw.org)>; Kaylynn Winegar <[winegar@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:winegar@eauclairechamber.org)>; minor (<[minor@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:minor@eauclairechamber.org)>) <[minor@eauclairechamber.org](mailto:minor@eauclairechamber.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Hi all – looping the Chamber in on this too. I also had shared the webinar recording with Kaylynn. Below is what I received back from Mitos as the best step for getting the information to our businesses.

I can set up a meeting to plan out the webinar with Mitos. Can someone take the lead to be our “host” for it? We’ll want to discuss target businesses and marketing the webinar. Attached are the flyers for the previous one. For those that haven’t watched it, a meeting would be a good time to get any of our questions answered. Let me know who wants “in” and we can schedule a conversation.

Thank you,  
Ray

**From:** Mitos Bitong [mitosbitong@intlmanpower.com](mailto:mitosbitong@intlmanpower.com)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 9:03 PM  
**To:** Ray French [ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)  
**Subject:** Re: PERM for Western Wisconsin

Hello Ray,

Thank you for your email. We could do a webinar with a Question & Answer Session. I normally invite Len Fast, Administrator of Barron Care & Rehab because he gives first hand information on his great experience with our IMC foreign workers. Providers can relate to him especially because he is from Wisconsin as well.

My husband Albert and I just came back from a trip to Israel and Dubai where most of our Filipino foreign workers are. We were there to visit our Offices, Recruiters and applicants.

I look forward to hearing back from you.

**Thank you,**  
**Mitos Bitong**  
**Recruitment Director**

***International Manpower Connection, Inc.***

5850 Canoga Ave, Ste. 400

Woodland Hills, CA 91367 **U.S.A.**

**Tel. 818-922-0522 / 818-486-2971**

**Website: [www.intlmanpowerconnections.com](http://www.intlmanpowerconnections.com)**

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 11, 2022 2:27 PM  
**To:** Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Ray French <[ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)>; Luke Hanson <[luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com](mailto:luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com)>; Aaron White <[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)>; [steve@momentumwest.org](mailto:steve@momentumwest.org); 'Jon Menz' <[jmenz@wdbwcw.org](mailto:jmenz@wdbwcw.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

It seems like perhaps we should set up a meeting with the recruitment director, Mitos? I’m all for that!

---

**From:** Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 1, 2022 1:56 PM  
**To:** Ray French <[ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Luke Hanson <[luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com](mailto:luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com)>; Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; [steve@momentumwest.org](mailto:steve@momentumwest.org); 'Jon Menz' <[jmenz@wdbwcw.org](mailto:jmenz@wdbwcw.org)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: PERM Webinar Recording

All -

I believe this would be a program that would benefit the Chippewa Valley – particularly with our hub of health care and the need for nurses. What are the steps to getting this going and who do we need on point to lead the charge? There may also be employers in manufacturing who need the workforce.

Kathryn

---

**From:** Ray French <[ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 1:52 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)>; Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Luke Hanson <[luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com](mailto:luke.hanson@eauclaire-wi.com)>; Aaron White <[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)>; [steve@momentumwest.org](mailto:steve@momentumwest.org); 'Jon Menz' <[jmenz@wdbwcw.org](mailto:jmenz@wdbwcw.org)>  
**Subject:** FW: PERM Webinar Recording

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Good afternoon!

Attached is the PowerPoint from the PERM workforce webinar this morning and a link to the recording is below. The first half hour is the more formal presentation with another 20 minutes of questions.

Thank you,  
Ray

—  
Ray French, EDFP  
Regional Economic Development Director  
He/Him/His

**Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation**

Email: [ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)

Phone: 608.210.6791

Eau Claire, WI 54701



Websites: [InWisconsin.com](http://InWisconsin.com) | [wedc.org](http://wedc.org)

Newsletters: [InWisconsin.com/subscribe](http://InWisconsin.com/subscribe)



---

**From:** Mari Kay-Nabozny <[mari@nwwib.com](mailto:mari@nwwib.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 1:03 PM  
**To:** Mari Kay-Nabozny <[mari@nwwib.com](mailto:mari@nwwib.com)>  
**Subject:** PERM Webinar Recording

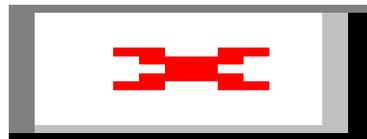
Hello everyone,

Thank you for joining us today for the PERM presentation. Below you can find the link to the webinar recording and the passcode to view it. I have also attached the Powerpoint presentation that Mitos provided and her contact information is on the last slide. We truly appreciate you joining us today. We will be hosting an employer roundtable about workforce challenges and solutions in October and we will ensure you receive that information as well. Thank you and have a great day!

<https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/zKm4tA2F5CDNrRhXM8u4Lgp9QWPLroD1f9-D6LhkgIX6VToSa1b5QQLpOMoqEW0.XkuqqPC27zKn58Ue>

**Passcode:** PERMwi1#

Mari



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**From:** "Billie Hufford" <billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 8 Mar 2023 15:24:46 -0600  
**To:** "Scott Allen" <Scott.Allen@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Chad Hoyord" <Chad.Hoyord@eauclairewi.gov>; "Brendan Osborne" <Brendan.Osborne@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Keith Johnathan" <Keith.Johnathan@eauclairewi.gov>; "Travis Davis" <Travis.Davis@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Libby Richter" <libbyr@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Cortney Sperber" <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Jason Rohloff" <Jason.Rohloff@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Al Bertrang" <Al.Bertrang@eauclairewi.gov>; "Grant.Zastoupil@eauclairecounty.gov" <Grant.Zastoupil@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Jesse Henning" <Jesse.Henning@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Corey Lee" <Corey.Lee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kelly Thompson" <Kelly.Thompson@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Heidi Ender" <Heidi.Ender@eauclairewi.gov>; "Room\_North Conference" <Room\_North\_Conference@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Housing Eau Stat  
**Attachments:** EauStat\_Housing\_DiscussionQuestions\_2023-03-08.pdf, EauStat\_Housing\_Slides\_2023-03-09.pdf, EauStat\_Housing\_TaskList\_2023-03-08.pdf

Good afternoon!

Please see attached for tomorrow's meeting at 10am. I changed the location to the North Conference Room going forward due to the large number of people in this group.

I am planning on moving through the Coordinated Entry, Sojourner House, and Community Haven House data pretty fast to allow time for conversation on some other points and the task list. Please take a look at the task list before the meeting. We would like to add updates to each one as time allows.

PD has been fantastic helping to provide some raw data that we have started creating charts that we can update monthly to help identify trends. If there is anything else that may be useful please let me know and I can work with PD to add that to our monthly update.

Have an amazing day!



Sincerely,

**Billie Hufford** *(She, Her, Hers)*

Project Management Coordinator (Planning & Housing)

(715) 839-4903

[Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI 54701



**From:** "Billie Hufford" <billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 9 Mar 2023 16:37:56 -0600  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Task List Updates  
**Attachments:** EauStat\_Housing\_TaskList\_2023-03-08 BLH Notes.pdf

Hi Stephanie,

I skimmed through the task list quickly. I think there are some funding, zoning, and other topics that reoccur and will take a deeper dive into the list. I added some notes on a handful of items to update. I wanted to share with you before making any changes.

Have an amazing day!



Sincerely,

**Billie Hufford** *(She, Her, Hers)*

**Project Management Coordinator (Planning & Housing)**

(715) 839-4903

[Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI 54701



**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 15 Mar 2023 10:00:01 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch"  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/refugee/pdf/fundedagencies-rev0822.pdf>

check out this list of Refugee Resettlement Agencies....

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 9:48 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

I'm looking into what agencies are working around Appleton that are related to what we're looking for.  
One is **World Relief** that I'm very familiar with, they are a huge **Christian** NGO with branches all over the world, They accept strictly Christian employees, their model of working as a very rich agency can't be a model for us I guess? Also, they're closed on Wednesdays. The other one is a **Muslim** organization with a headquarter in **Pakistan** that helps refugees from Muslim countries, If we want to meet with them we have to email them an official request, I've got the email address. They help the refugees in their area to settle. I can't remember any other entities in Appleton that we're interested in learning more about, do you?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**  
**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4903  
E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)  
203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701





**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 15 Mar 2023 10:01:52 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

Thank you, I will

---

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:00 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/refugee/pdf/fundedagencies-rev0822.pdf>

check out this list of Refugee Resettlement Agencies....

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 9:48 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

I'm looking into what agencies are working around Appleton that are related to what we're looking for. One is **World Relief** that I'm very familiar with, they are a huge **Christian** NGO with branches all over the world, They accept strictly Christian employees, their model of working as a very rich agency can't be a model for us I guess? Also, they're closed on Wednesdays. The other one is a **Muslim** organization with a headquarter in **Pakistan** that helps refugees from Muslim countries, If we want to meet with them we have to email them an official request, I've got the email address. They help the refugees in their area to settle. I can't remember any other entities in Appleton that we're interested in learning more about, do you?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**  
**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4903  
E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Route Fifty Today" <news@e.routefifty.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 16 Mar 2023 07:00:24 -0400  
**To:** "" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Kids eat free! States push to make school meals available to all; Plus: \$700m in grants for local EV chargers

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## Kids Eat Free! States Push to Make School Meals Available to All

DANIEL C. VOCK | Lawmakers around the country have passed or are considering bills that would make universal free school meals permanent following the end of a similar federal pandemic-era program.

## \$700M in Grants for Local EV Chargers Announced

DANIEL C. VOCK | The competitive grants are designed to install electric vehicle chargers in local communities where private entities are otherwise less likely to build them.

## Four Ways to Improve Refugee Resettlement in the US

[LORI SCIALABBA](#) | COMMENTARY | Geopolitical unrest and the detrimental impacts of climate change will continue to increase the flow of refugees requiring resettlement. Here's how state and local governments and nonprofits can effectively prepare to meet increased demand.

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Government Executive Media Group, 600 New Hampshire Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20037

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 22 Mar 2023 09:22:53 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Invite or Not?  
**Importance:** High

Good morning Stephanie,

I hope you're enjoying your trip ☺  
I talked to World relief director in Fox Valley.  
She's coming to Eau Claire to visit with us and all the key players.  
Is it ok to invite Katheryn and Lieske, Holley, Deb and Don too?  
Do you think we should have Billie too because she has housing questions for us as well or you will take care of them?

This is the email I'm going to send and I've already booked it on your schedule

"World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. TAMI MCLAUGHLIN is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire to meet with us and do an assessment. I appreciate if you can attend please."

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 08:37:45 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami Mclaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 12:38:20 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

FYI,

---

**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>; Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Dear Anoosheh,

I just wanted to let you know that there is also an existing refugee resettlement organization in Eau Claire called Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN). Wnn has been operating under the sponsorship of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan—home office Milwaukee—as a CoSponsorship program. WNN has accepted and settled 7 Afghan men and also supported two Afghan families who came to Eau Claire as a secondary migration. WNN is also moving to become a recognized Refugee Resettlement agency.

Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment. I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 08:11:27 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** PRM New Site Development Guide - 2021 Revision - with highlighted sections.docx

Good morning Stephanie,  
I think it's a good idea to share the attached with the stake holders before the meeting, your thoughts please?

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 7:29 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Hello Anoosheh,

I enjoyed our discussion yesterday regarding World Relief establishing a refugee resettlement site in Eau Claire. Will look forward to continuing the conversation with a wider network of community stakeholders on Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> and am very thankful for your willingness to coordinate this meeting.

Attached is a document created by our resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), as a guide to assess a community's ability to resettle refugees. World Relief will complete the assessment and use to assist in determining if we are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire. This would be followed by submitting a proposal to PRM as ultimately it is their decision to approve new sites. As I mentioned, we are also assessing the community of La Crosse and would most likely only support opening one new office next year.

Please feel free to send the guide to your stakeholders. Attachments Two and Three on pages 19 – 25 contain specific questions related to the assessment, and we will use the Evaluation Matrix to begin our conversation. My goal would be to have the assessment completed by the end of April and will plan to make one or two additional trips to Eau Claire.

Regarding housing questions, we would expect to resettle no more than a total of 75 people the first year. (most likely arriving after January 1, 2024). We are currently resettling mainly Congolese in the Fox Valley; singles to families as large as 9 people so renting 1 – 4 bedroom housing, ranging from \$650 - \$1400. Housing is a challenge in all of our communities so will be a priority in the assessment!

Hope this information is helpful as we begin this process. Please feel free to reach out with questions....resettlement is a collaborative and community response and we look forward to developing a strong partnership.

Thank you for your help and I look forward to meeting you soon.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 9:34 AM

**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Subject:** April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Good morning Tami,

I have invited Health Director, County Director and the city manager, Human Services Director, our housing project coordinator, ELL program Manager from CVTC, and a few more to the meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00. Most of them will be here☐

Our housing project manager asked me a couple of questions to get ready for the meeting, I thought I'll forward them to you:

“Do we have any preliminary information on needs from a community to host this program? How much housing would a program like this need available?  
If housing is needed, what price points? It would be helpful to know what criteria they look at in order to be able to be prepared to answer questions during the meeting. “

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 12:55:44 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2023 11:32 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Mowry, Donald D. <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning Anoosheh,

Thank you for being so welcoming!! ☺ If it would work for you, a few of us would like to meet with you prior to the 5th, perhaps next week? We would especially like to tell you our Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN) 'story'. Also, we would like to share what we have learned, connections we have made, and other immigrant support efforts already at work of which you may or may not already be aware. Learning more of the City of Eau Claire perspective and the World Relief connection would be of great value as WNN envisions our community becoming an even more immigrant welcoming one, working in partnership with those seeking that same outcome.

Anoosheh, in order to proceed with setting up a meeting, could you please give us a couple of choices of days, times, and a meeting place that would work for you? There is such great interest within our Steering Committee, that I would estimate 4-5 of us wanting to join you.

Happy Friday,  
Ginny Close  
WNN Steering Committee Member

On Thu, Mar 23, 2023 at 3:03 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Ginny,

Yes to both, we can meet before April 5<sup>th</sup> and you're welcome to join us for that meeting☺

**From:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 2:59 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>; Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hello Anoosheh,

Yes Welcoming New Neighbors is still a volunteer driven organization. From our Afghan welcoming experience, we are exploring expanding to become a 501c3 in support of new immigrants and of those already here.

It is exciting to hear that World Relief is considering EC. All kinds of questions come to mind however and I would like to hear more of the back story of how EC got to be considered as a possible future resettlement location? Would you be available to meet with a few of WNN volunteers prior to April 5 or could a few of us attend that meeting?

Looking forward to working together to become a truly welcoming community.  
Ginny Close

On Thu, Mar 23, 2023, 12:53 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Thank you Don! Hello Bea and Ginny! I wish I knew this earlier, I was under the impression that Welcoming neighborhood is volunteer based. Has that changed? How a World relief agency in town would relate with what you're doing? I used to work for DHS and have met a few of the WNN members and also all the 7 Afghan refugees who were settled then. Are all or some of the Afghan refugees still living in Eau Claire? I am aware that World Relief will contact Lutheran Social Services before doing the assessment for Eau Claire.

Thank you  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>; Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Dear Anoosheh,

I just wanted to let you know that there is also an existing refugee resettlement organization in Eau Claire called Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN). Wnn has been operating under the sponsorship of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan—home office Milwaukee—as a CoSponsorship program. WNN has accepted and settled 7 Afghan men and also supported two Afghan families who came to Eau Claire as a secondary migration. WNN is also moving to become a recognized Refugee Resettlement agency.

Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anosheh Hamzehee <[Anosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise

**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

sche

during the meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anosheh

**From:** "Ray French" <ray.french@wedc.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 21:17:51 +0000  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Hedenstrom, Alyssa" <ahedenstrom@cvtc.edu>  
**Cc:** "Dave Armstrong" <bcedc@co.barron.wi.us>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Bring Diversity to EC  
**Attachments:** RWHC TBB & Immigrant Workforce 4.21.2022.pdf, PERM STD.pdf

Good afternoon,

Thanks to everyone for your work on this. I'm sorry for my delay in following up. I just had a chance to go back through my archives of information I've shared the last year with our economic development partners.

I mentioned to Kaylynn at the Chamber, who I hope you've had a chance to connect with, about your interest in the Workforce Talent Pipelines Series we discussed. It sounds like she's talked with Steve Jahn of Momentum West, who could be a partner, and she recommended bringing in "Welcoming New Neighbors" locally. The series we discussed included [International Manpower Connection, Inc.](#) (PERM), [Mission Wisconsin](#) (Veterans), and a group Kaylynn mentioned named Integrated... not sure. As we discussed, I still think the best chance for success in this in supporting businesses in driving the work of bringing new people to the region.

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Otherwise, the following information was shared with me for contact information and links on accessing various programs. We also talked about Lutheran Social Services being a partner in our region as well.

Bojana Zori ☒ Martinez

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[dcf.wisconsin.gov](http://dcf.wisconsin.gov) | p:414. 270.4707 m:414. 588.0515

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Highlights of the Ukraine refugee process (from my counterpart in Northern WI)

1. They are refugee status, they are here for two years, basically a temporary status, unless some things change with our immigration process during the two years that will allow them to obtain a green card and/or citizenship they will return to Ukraine at the end of two years. While here they are eligible for benefits, health insurance etc. They can obtain a work permit, this process can take up to 6 weeks.
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longer more extensive process. They suggested having an immigration lawyer retained if considering this program. However, some of the links above will provide info.

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4. Most of the Ukraine refugees are female. Some are professionals, others are not. There is no guarantee they would be interested in working in manufacturing. It didn't seem like there was a way to screen people to determine their interest in working and what skills they may or may not have.
5. The I-134 is the first form to complete.

I hope all this is helpful. I'm glad to have a group in Eau Claire interested in taking this on. My role going forward can certainly be to share information and connect people who are interested and working on this topic.

Thank you,

Ray

—

Ray French, EDFP

Regional Economic Development Director

He/Him/His

**Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation**

Email: [ray.french@wedc.org](mailto:ray.french@wedc.org)

Phone: 608.210.6791

---

**From:** Ray French

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 9:34 AM

**Subject:** Immigration talent pipelines

Good morning,

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The new resettlement program for the Ukrainians was recently announced: [Welcome.US | Explainer](#). It looks like the US sponsors (family, friends, employers) should just go on the USCIS website and fill out the Affidavit of Support to start the process I-134 [Affidavit of Support \(uscis.gov\)](#).

Attached is a presentation she recently gave to the Rural WI Healthcare Cooperative Association. It provides a great primer on organizations like [Talent Beyond Boundaries](#) and discusses various pathways for opening our communities to refugees. It also references the PERM program in Rice Lake and I'm sure Dave Armstrong would be a happy resource on that.

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Finally, we're in early conversations about a series of roundtables throughout the State this summer on this topic. I hope to have more to share in a few weeks!

Thank you!

Ray

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Pronouns: He/Him/His

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**From:** "Ray French" <ray.french@wedc.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 21:17:51 +0000  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Hedenstrom, Alyssa" <ahedenstrom@cvtc.edu>  
**Cc:** "Dave Armstrong" <bcedc@co.barron.wi.us>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
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He/Him/His

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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 10:48:24 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Bring Diversity to EC  
**Attachments:** RWHC TBB & Immigrant Workforce 4.21.2022.pdf, PERM STD.pdf

Hi Stephanie,

We're trying to hold an info session about PERM and... in Eau Claire. Chamber and CVTC are board. Do you think we can have someone from EDC to present a similar presentation in the info session? Please see the attached.

---

**From:** Ray French <ray.french@wedc.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2023 4:18 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; Hedenstrom, Alyssa <ahedenstrom@cvtc.edu>  
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**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov" <Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov>; "ron.schmidt@eauclairecounty.gov" <ron.schmidt@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**Attachments:** PRM New Site Development Guide - 2021 Revision - with highlighted sections.docx

FYI, attached is a document created by World Relief resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), as a guide to assess a community's ability to resettle refugees. World Relief will complete the assessment and use it to assist in determining if they are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

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203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 08:59:42 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>; ""  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Diane House" <house.dianerev@gmail.com>; "Joyce  
Anderson" <joyce4334@gmail.com>; "Anderson, David" <prdavea@gmail.com>;  
"Greg Barnes" <gregleebarne@gmail.com>; "Sharon Evans"  
<evanssk@hotmail.com>; "Mowry, Donald D." <dmowry@uwec.edu>; "Martha  
Munger" <moonlightfav@aol.com>; "Cheryl Lochner Wright"  
<c\_lochnerwright@yahoo.com>; "Abdullah Ameen"  
<abdullah.ameenn@gmail.com>; "Bea Evans" <beaevans2@gmail.com>; "Michelle  
Harris" <michelle.harris@ecahmaa.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Our conversation yesterday

Dear Anoosheh and Stephanie,

Thank you so much for hosting our conversation yesterday. Hopefully your takeaway, as was mine, was knowing how passionate we are about becoming a more diverse and welcoming community. Having a refugee resettlement agency locally would definitely work towards that.

In planning for the April 5th meeting, please confirm that the full Welcoming New Neighbors Steering Committee members are invited. That could be as many as 8-10 folks depending on other prior commitments.

Looking forward to seeing you again and continuing to 'dream' together!

Ginny Close,  
Welcoming New Neighbors

PS Besides giving credit to Walt Disney, yesterday, here is another appropriate quote. "If you can dream it, then you can achieve it. You will get all you want in life if you help enough other people get what they want. - Zig Ziglar.

--

Ginny Close  
[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)  
715-577-8336

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 10:25:49 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: update for council

We are exploring the feasibility of expanding the City's capacity to welcome immigrants and refugees. Our dual objectives are to address employee shortages and to cultivate a vibrant, multi-cultural community. One potential avenue is the prospect of World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency establishing a new office in Wisconsin. We are thrilled to be one of two candidates under consideration, and Tami Mclaughlin, Director of World Relief Fox Valley, will visit Eau Claire in April to conduct an assessment. Additionally, we are actively exploring ways to boost the local workforce by utilizing PERM (employment) visas. To this end, we have engaged with the Chamber, CVTC, and ECD and are in the process of planning an information session for Eau Claire's businesses and employers.

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 8:46 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** update for council

Hi – Can you prepare a paragraph update for the City Council newsletter on the PERM/Refugee efforts?

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 15:35:12 -0500  
**To:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Diane House" <house.dianerev@gmail.com>; "Joyce Anderson" <joyce4334@gmail.com>; "Anderson, David" <prdavea@gmail.com>; "Greg Barnes" <gregleebarne@gmail.com>; "Sharon Evans" <evanssk@hotmail.com>; "Mowry, Donald D." <dmowry@uwec.edu>; "Martha Munger" <moonlightfav@aol.com>; "Cheryl Lochner Wright" <c\_lochnerwright@yahoo.com>; "Abdullah Ameen" <abdullah.ameenn@gmail.com>; "Bea Evans" <beaevans2@gmail.com>; "Michelle Harris" <michelle.harris@ecahmaa.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Our conversation yesterday

Hi Ginny,

We really enjoyed talking with you yesterday and are looking forward to meeting the whole team and "Dreaming" together ☺

Anoosheh

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 9:00 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Diane House <house.dianerev@gmail.com>; Joyce Anderson <joyce4334@gmail.com>; Anderson, David <prdavea@gmail.com>; Greg Barnes <gregleebarne@gmail.com>; Sharon Evans <evanssk@hotmail.com>; Mowry, Donald D. <dmowry@uwec.edu>; Martha Munger <moonlightfav@aol.com>; Cheryl Lochner Wright <c\_lochnerwright@yahoo.com>; Abdullah Ameen <abdullah.ameenn@gmail.com>; Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>; Michelle Harris <michelle.harris@ecahmaa.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Our conversation yesterday

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--

Ginny Close  
[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)  
715-577-8336

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 5 Apr 2023 07:57:03 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement  
Stories in Central Wisconsin

Maybe we need to see how we can get these films here? Just a thought...

---

**From:** Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service <info@wipps.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023 3:25 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central  
Wisconsin



A solid red rectangular banner containing the text "BUILDING COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY" in white, all-caps, sans-serif font, centered within the banner.

## Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

**Three Short Films to be Screened in Central Wisconsin**

hort film series, “New Neighbors: Refugee  
settlement and Asylum-Seeking in Central  
consin,” which showcases the stories of recent  
comers in Central Wisconsin, will be screened at  
upcoming public events. The three short films  
file families from Afghanistan, Nicaragua, and  
ngo, and their journeys from their homelands to their  
/ homes in Central Wisconsin.

eenings of the films will take place [April 12, 6:30  
..](#), at the Dreyfus University Center Theater, UW  
vens Point, 1015 Reserve St., Stevens Point, and  
[/ 6, 3:00 p.m.](#), at Whitewater Music Hall, 130 1<sup>st</sup> St,  
usau. Both events are free and open to the public,  
registration is not required.

mmaker Laura Hunt and some of our new neighbors  
participate in a Q&A session after the films.

: films were created for the [New Neighbors Series](#), a  
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relands of recent newcomers to the Central Wisconsin area, and their experiences here i  
U.S.

: New Neighbor Series is a collaboration between the Ethiopian Community Developmen  
ncil, Rise Up Central Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Wisconsin Instit  
Public Policy and Service, Wisconsin Humanities, and Wisconsin Public Radio.

SHORT FILM SCREENINGS:

**NEW NEIGHBORS SERIES:  
REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT AND  
ASYLUM-SEEKING IN CENTRAL WISCONSIN**



...holding signs that said “Baihaqi Family welcome to Wausau.”

A growing number of newcomers from around the globe now call Central Wisconsin home. These three short films tell the stories of families from Nicaragua, Afghanistan and Congo, starting with their lives in their homelands up to their arrival and welcome in Central Wisconsin.

-April 12, 6:30 p.m., Dreyfus University Center Theater, UW Stevens Point, 1015 Reserve St., Stevens Point, WI.  
-May 6, 3:00 p.m., Whitewater Music Hall, 130 1st St, Wausau, WI.

Filmmaker Laura Hunt and some of our New Neighbors will participate in a Q&A session after the films.

SPONSORS:



[Download the event flyer](#)

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a.vang@eauclairewi.gov. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#). - You can also keep up with WIPPS on Facebook.

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 6 Apr 2023 11:54:52 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement  
Stories in Central Wisconsin

If we were to do film screening, where would be a good place and any idea how many to plan for? I reached out to them and they would be happy to bring the film to EC.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 9:18 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central  
Wisconsin

YES!

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 7:57 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central  
Wisconsin

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**From:** Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service <[info@wipps.org](mailto:info@wipps.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023 3:25 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central  
Wisconsin



BUILDING COMMUNITY  
STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY

## Short Film Screening: Refugee Resettlement Stories in Central Wisconsin

Three Short Films to be Screened in Central Wisconsin

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a.vang@eauclairewi.gov. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#). - You can also keep up with WIPPS on Facebook.

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 14 Apr 2023 11:34:58 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Compliment

Hi Everyone,

My parents were just at a Zoom meeting with the organization that is working with refugee resettlement. They told me about how effusive and enthusiastic the folks from that organization were about the Eau Claire city staff and health department staff they had met with. I have no idea about what decision will be made, but I wanted to share about the terrific impression you all make and express my appreciation for the skill, care and dedication you bring.

thanks,  
Emily

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 11:00:02 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief meeting with Chief Rokus (April 19th)

World Relief, a refugee resettlement agency, is considering Eau Claire as a potential location to establish a refugee settlement office.

The agency has conducted initial interviews with relevant individuals. As part of the assessment process, the director of the agency based in Appleton, Tami Laughlin, wishes to speak with the Eau Claire police chief. The following is a list of questions that will be discussed during the meeting.

Any anti-immigrant sentiments expressed in the community? If so, how are sentiments managed?

How are immigrants groups isolated or integrated into the community?

Does local law enforcement have a community or cultural liaison?

Any foreseeable barriers from public safety perspective to resettlement in community

Any resources available for language barriers?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 16:37:52 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov."  
<Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Local Governance Letter of Support Template.docx

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 12:03:50 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Local Governance Letter of Support Template.docx

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:12:38 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you!

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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Office Director

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Matt Rokus" <matt.rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 14:22:52 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Dear Ms. McLaughlin,

I am unable to compose a Letter of Support for a proposed refugee resettlement office in Eau Claire. Please do not interpret my inability to write this letter as a lack of support for refugee resettlement efforts. I am not well-versed in refugee resettlement and should not be considered a subject matter expert. Additionally on these matters I can only speak to the Police Department operations, not representing the City of Eau Claire as a whole.

Please know that that members of the Eau Claire Police Department will continue to do our very best to ensure Eau Claire is a safe and welcoming community for all ethnic and national backgrounds. This is especially true for our immigrant population. As your plans move forward please continue to consider us as a partner.

Sincerely,

## **Matt Rokus**

Chief of Police

Eau Claire Police Department

Office: 715.839.4975

Cell: 715.828.4266

[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)



---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:18 PM  
**To:** Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Chief Rokus,

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World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 21:43:08 +0000  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Chief Rokus,

Thank you for your response. I do respect and understand your position and appreciate the care and value you place on all populations.

It will be an honor to partner with the Eau Claire Police Department as we, together, welcoming a new community.

Best regards,

Tami

---

**From:** Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 2:23 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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Cell: 715.828.4266

[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)



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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:18 PM  
**To:** Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Chief Rokus,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you and your force have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 08:03:57 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

FYI, email below from Lieske

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 8:26 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you Anoosheh.  
We will review and be in touch with Tami.  
Do note that this is the type of additional tax levy supported effort from our agency that is so critical that we will have to sort out how to navigate.  
Lieske

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:18 PM  
**To:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you have received this email

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** [marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov). <[marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Marisa,

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This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 08:38:09 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Letter of support.docx

Good morning,  
Draft letter is attached.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Not sure why it would've bounced... Do you want to draft the letter for me to sign?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

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Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

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[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 13:29:25 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Looks like it is a regional effort...I didn't see anything that it is unique to the City of Eau Claire...so yes, it is a levy supported service but it is a COUNTY levy effort representing residents of Altoona, T of Wash, T of Pleasant Valley, Fall Creek, etc. We should make sure it is noted when this is discussed publicly that it isn't just the City of Eau Claire.

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager  
Engineering Director & City Engineer  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701  
Office: 715.839.4934  
e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023 9:03 AM  
**To:** Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; Kitzie Winters <Kitzie.Winters@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

FYI, only...

---

**From:** Anooosheh Hamzehee <[Anooosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anooosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023 8:04 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 8:26 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you Anoosheh.

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**To:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you have received this email

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** [marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov). <[marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Marisa,

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 22 May 2023 10:02:04 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"TMcLaughlin@wr.org" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hi Tami – Attached please find a letter of support. So happy to be able to send it!

Let us know if there's anything else we can do on our end.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)



**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 22 May 2023 16:19:32 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you, Stephanie.

Anoosheh's assistance and your support are appreciated. We very much look forward to this partnership!

Tami

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2023 10:02 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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Stephanie

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**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 8 Jul 2023 13:15:26 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 5:33:45 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Anoosheh,

Good to hear from you! We don't expect to receive final approve for the resettlement site until late August but are going to begin recruiting for the site director (position should be posted by the following week). I will also begin looking for office space. Do you have any recommendations regarding location? A top priority is accessibility to public transportation.

Will stay in touch as starting to move forward!

Thanks!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 3:03 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami,

Hope you are doing fine. How is World Relief Eau Claire project going?  
Have you heard back from the HQ yet? Have you started looking for a place/hiring?

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:13 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you!

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 29 Aug 2023 10:27:13 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** HR Eaustat  
**Attachments:** HRTask Lists.xlsx

Do you want to highlight the tasks from the task list that we want to focus on this coming session?

Do you want these to be discussed/included in the next HR Eaustat? Add/delete?

- Supervisor training
- New employee bus tour(how it went?)
- Employer of choice RFP
- Fire consultant study, next steps?
- Staff survey

Policies:

Nepotism

vacation

%increase with classification

performance appraisal

Future:

Parity across city Health, Library

Education incentive

Chemical screening(do we need it?)

Marijuana screen with legalization of M in MN

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 19 Sep 2023 07:11:26 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

FYI,

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 6:27 PM  
**To:** Elizabeth Geise <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Hello Lieske,

Annoosheh forwarded your email and I appreciate your interest in preparing for the arrival of refugees to the Chippewa Valley in the near future. Our team in the Fox Valley is wrapping up fiscal year 2023 in the midst of welcoming a few more individuals and families while also preparing to open our Chippewa Valley office in the next few weeks.

We are on the cusp of finalizing office space and in the process of making offers for several staff positions. We hope most of these details are in place by the middle of October. In addition, we have tentatively scheduled a "partner meeting" for later October and plan to send invites next week which you will receive. With all of these details in place, our best estimate for first arrivals would be late November and could consist of individuals or families. The total number of refugees we have been approved to welcome to the Chippewa Valley for FY2024 is 75 people.

Brittany Fry reached out earlier this summer asking for information regarding Public Health's responsibility in refugee resettlement and following was the response provided by our State Refugee Health Coordinator, Savitri Tsering:

*Hello,*

*I work as the State Refugee Health Coordinator (SRHC) and can address concerns related to refugees coming into your community. I know World Relief Fox Valley (WRFV) will be opening a satellite office in Eau Claire this fall. For refugee services we recommend that the local health department (LHD) be part of the network that works with the resettlement agency (RA) and provides information and updates as needed. In general, it is not expected that LHDs do any more for refugees than they would for others living in their community. You will be viewed as an agency in the know about area health/medical providers.*

*As you are aware there are sponsored humanitarian parolees that are coming into the US that need TB attestation. If they are not eligible for Medicaid (depending on where they are from, they may or may not be eligible), the TB dispensary can cover their TB related screening services.*

*Ways that health departments have helped make connection with the refugee community is in providing education and updates for programs they have such as home visiting, WIC, communicable disease follow-up, child car safety, Well Women programs, etc. – your LHD may or may not have some of those services but the point is, what you offer the general public, in turn offer to the refugee community and make sure you have a seat at the table for understanding and connecting with those doing refugee resettlement in your community.*

*Taking the view broader to all immigrant populations the same will be true – what do you provide to your general population, make sure [your local connection to Covering WI](#) is strong so that full knowledge of healthcare eligibility is there, know the parameters of what services you can provide regardless of documentation status.*

Lieske, I hope this information is helpful. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. We hope to meet you in the near future and look forward to developing a strong partnership and welcoming network for the Chippewa Valley newcomers!

Thank you,

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 8:32 AM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>

**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Thanks for the update Anoosheh.

Someone from our team will be happy to be part of the conversation.

I know that housing also will be an important issue. Not sure if anyone is actively addressing that if a large group of people are coming.

Do you know if this is likely individuals or families? That would help us in thinking who best on our end to engage.

Thanks.

Lieske

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 8:26 AM  
**To:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Good morning Lieske,

Tami will provide you more details this week. They're going to have a partnership meeting the middle of October and in the process of finalizing those plans.

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 11:23 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Greetings.

I wanted to quickly connect to see if you have any updates for us related to the proposed resettlement efforts. I know that depending on what moves forward, there may be considerable involvement of staff and resources across our agencies. I want to be sure we are thinking about that so we have planned strategically.

Let me know what you can share.

Thanks much.

Lieske

*Lieske (Elizabeth) Giese, RN, MSPH* | Health Officer - Director

[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)

P: (715) 839-4718 F: (715) 839-1674 Cell: (715) 514-7881

720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703



[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

**For more immediate response, please contact us at [ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov).**

***If there is a public health emergency outside of normal business hours, please contact NON-emergency dispatch at (715) 839-4972 and they will connect you with a public health official.***

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**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Tue, 3 Oct 2023 15:23:34 +0000  
**To:** "ellie.pomerleau@weau.com" <ellie.pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief

Hi Ellie,

Thanks for your interest in doing a story around refugee resettlement in Eau Claire. We believe this is newsworthy!

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Are you flexible with regard to when the story is released? We are hosting a Community Gathering the evening of Monday, October 23 at the Library and would love media exposure to assist in promoting the event. However, do know we appreciate the visibility whenever the story is released!

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Let me know if you are able to access/use the following footage. We are rebranding to World Relief Wisconsin but could still be useful?

[worldrelief.sharepoint.com/sites/MarketingandComms/Affiliate/Ready For Welcome FINAL\\_Fox Valley.mp4](https://worldrelief.sharepoint.com/sites/MarketingandComms/Affiliate/Ready%20For%20Welcome%20FINAL_Fox%20Valley.mp4)

Do let me know how I can be of additional assistance and thanks again!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Fox Valley Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief

Hi guys,

Thank you for reaching out! I was looking to do a story on World Relief coming to Eau Claire and how that will impact the city.

Stephanie- would you be the best person to speak with me about this decision from the City of Eau Claire? Also, I was wondering what volunteer groups you collaborated with in the community to make this happen.

Tami- Would you be available for an on-camera pre-recorded interview on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 9:30 a.m.? I think it would be great if we could meet in Eau Claire outside of where the resettlement agency will be located. However, let me know what works for you! Also, let me know if you have any footage you could submit from World Relief for the story.

My apologies for the response at 11 p.m. I am working overnights tonight. ☹️ My plan would be to film and edit this story the week of Oct. 16 and then air it that following Monday.

Let me know your thoughts!

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Subject:** World Relief

Hi Ellie –

I have a message from my staff that you're interested in learning more about the World Relief office opening? I'm CCing Tami, who is from World Relief and can give you more details...

Let us know if we can help with anything else!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <ellie.pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Wed, 4 Oct 2023 07:28:58 +0000  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Tami,

Thank you for getting back to me. We can set up the interview for Wednesday, October 18 at 9:30 a.m. instead, if that works better for you! What is the address of where the resettlement agency location will be located?

I am planning to air the story on the morning of Monday, Oct. 23, so it would work well to mention the community event when I air it.

Looks like I cannot access the footage. However, if you have raw files, you can send them to this link and upload them to the "Hello Wisconsin" section which should allow me to access and air the footage. Here is that link: <https://www.weau.com/community/user-content/>

Let me know if you have any questions and if Wednesday works for you for an interview!

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Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <ellie.pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
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Do let me know how I can be of additional assistance and thanks again!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Fox Valley Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Subject:** Re: World Relief

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Stephanie- would you be the best person to speak with me about this decision from the City of Eau Claire? Also, I was wondering what volunteer groups you collaborated with in the community to make this happen.

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Let me know your thoughts!

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Subject:** World Relief

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Stephanie

Stephanie Hirsch  
City Manager  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701  
Office: 715-839-6045



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**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Wed, 4 Oct 2023 21:00:05 +0000  
**To:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: World Relief

Hi Ellie,

Thanks for being flexible! October 18 at 9:30 works well. Our office is 223 W Madison St. Suite 107 in Eau Claire.

Our home office is working on reformatting the video and I will upload when completed.

See you soon!

Tami

---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 2:29 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief

Hi Tami,

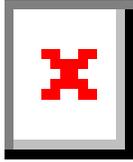
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Let me know if you have any questions and if Wednesday works for you for an interview!

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Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

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[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
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**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
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Fox Valley Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin

<[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

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[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thu, 5 Oct 2023 20:15:26 +0000  
**To:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: World Relief

Hi Ellie,  
I uploaded the video per your instructions. Titled: World Relief Wisconsin.  
Let me know if there is anything more I can assist with!  
Thanks,  
Tami

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 4:00 PM  
**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief

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**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief

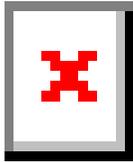
Hi Tami,

Thank you for getting back to me. We can set up the interview for Wednesday, October 18 at 9:30 a.m. instead, if that works better for you! What is the address of where the resettlement agency location will be located?

I am planning to air the story on the morning of Monday, Oct. 23, so it would work well to mention the community event when I air it.

Looks like I cannot access the footage. However, if you have raw files, you can send them to this link and upload them to the "Hello Wisconsin" section which should allow me to access and air the footage. Here is that link: <https://www.weau.com/community/user-content/>

Let me know if you have any questions and if Wednesday works for you for an interview!



[Submit Photos and Videos](#)

[www.weau.com](http://www.weau.com)

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>

**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: World Relief

Hi Ellie,

Thanks for your interest in doing a story around refugee resettlement in Eau Claire. We believe this is newsworthy!

If you are flexible, I am in Eau Claire on Wednesday, October 18 and could meet with you. If you prefer Tuesday, Karen Crisler, another staff member, will be in Eau Claire and I'll connect the two of you for an interview.

Are you flexible with regard to when the story is released? We are hosting a Community Gathering the evening of Monday, October 23 at the Library and would love media exposure to assist in promoting the event. However, do know we appreciate the visibility whenever the story is released!

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Let me know if you are able to access/use the following footage. We are rebranding to World Relief Wisconsin but could still be useful?

[worldrelief.sharepoint.com/sites/MarketingandComms/Affiliate/Ready For Welcome FINAL\\_Fox Valley.mp4](https://worldrelief.sharepoint.com/sites/MarketingandComms/Affiliate/Ready%20For%20Welcome%20FINAL_Fox%20Valley.mp4)

Do let me know how I can be of additional assistance and thanks again!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Fox Valley Office Director  
World Relief Wisconsin

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief

Hi guys,

Thank you for reaching out! I was looking to do a story on World Relief coming to Eau Claire and how that will impact the city.

Stephanie- would you be the best person to speak with me about this decision from the City of Eau Claire? Also, I was wondering what volunteer groups you collaborated with in the community to make this happen.

Tami- Would you be available for an on-camera pre-recorded interview on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 9:30 a.m.? I think it would be great if we could meet in Eau Claire outside of where the resettlement agency will be located. However, let me know what works for you! Also, let me know if you have any footage you could submit from World Relief for the story.

My apologies for the response at 11 p.m. I am working overnights tonight. ☹️ My plan would be to film and edit this story the week of Oct. 16 and then air it that following Monday.

Let me know your thoughts!

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Subject:** World Relief

Hi Ellie –

I have a message from my staff that you're interested in learning more about the World Relief office opening? I'm CCing Tami, who is from World Relief and can give you more details...

Let us know if we can help with anything else!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL** This message originated from outside Gray Television and may contain malicious content. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.



**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 9 Oct 2023 15:28:27 +0000  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Bcc:** "matt.rokus@eauclairewi.gov" <matt.rokus@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov" <billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov" <aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting -  
please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 16:08:37 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Blurb

Here's the edit version. Looks good. Thanks.

We are saying farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. Ka has done so much for us in the time she has been here, and we are very sad to see her go. That said, we are excited about the position she is shifting into. She will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship. While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, CVTC, other community organizations, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited an EDI Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 2:55 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Draft Blurb

Please edit/add/subtract however!

\*\*\*

We are saying farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. Ka has done so much for us in the time she has been here, and we are very sad to see her go. That said, we are excited about the position she is shifting into. She will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. Ka has said that she feels it's her life mission to work with refugees. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship. While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited a BIPOC Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken

on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy.

**From:** "Tj" <atkins77@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 09:15:48 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg, image001.jpg

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you again for the compliment and opportunity!!! However, I am quite content with where I am at, but thank you for thinking of me.

TJ

On Thu, Oct 12, 2023, 3:28 PM Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Hi TJ –

I know that many people have asked you this, including me the last time around! ☐ But I thought I'd add another ask to the list... They say that women need to be asked like 10 times to run for office, and I'm using that same theory here.

Our amazing Ka is going on to run the new World Relief program. We need someone brave, brilliant, strong, savvy, determined to spearhead these EDI projects. We have the \$800K set aside to spend on transforming the Chippewa Valley and it's pretty much the number one thing on my priority list. I hope you'll consider applying for the position! ☐

Stephanie

\*\*

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** This past week, we held an EDI EauStat meeting at which we discussed the many big projects underway in this department. We are sad to say farewell to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley.

Starting Monday, Ka will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, CVTC, other community organizations, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited an EDI Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy.

Please spread the word about our search for our next EDI Coordinator! [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) This person will have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive.

**Stephanie Hirsch**

**City Manager**

**City of Eau Claire**

**203 S Farwell Street**

**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 14:17:55 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "atkins77@gmail.com" <atkins77@gmail.com>;  
"tamishabutler@gmail.com" <tamishabutler@gmail.com>;  
"3davism.d@gmail.com" <3davism.d@gmail.com>; "antoinehill@yahoo.com" <antoinehill@yahoo.com>; "jacksosm@uwec.edu" <jacksosm@uwec.edu>;  
"legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com" <legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com>; "jdjones@uwec.edu" <jdjones@uwec.edu>; "leemai@uwec.edu" <leemai@uwec.edu>;  
"clindstrom6@cvtc.edu" <clindstrom6@cvtc.edu>; "khp\_95@hotmail.com" <khp\_95@hotmail.com>; "efren.martinez@icloud.com" <efren.martinez@icloud.com>;  
"emitchell@ecasd.us" <emitchell@ecasd.us>; "stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org" <stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org>;  
"addison.vang@wisc.edu" <addison.vang@wisc.edu>; "vuenc123@hotmail.com" <vuenc123@hotmail.com>; "cpwoods jr@gmail.com" <cpwoods jr@gmail.com>;  
"larkong@hmongchamber.org" <larkong@hmongchamber.org>; "angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com" <angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com>; "Dang Yang" <dyang1@ecasd.us>; "Berlye Middleton" <middletonberlye@gmail.com>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Kavang37@yahoo.com" <Kavang37@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** EDI Position and Interview Committee - Please consider applying or serving on interview panel

Hello BIPOC Committee –

I know Ka reached out, and here's a follow-up note. As Ka mentioned, she has moved over to manage the World Relief agency that just moved to Eau Claire. More about Ka's time at the City and about her new role is below.

I'm writing to ask two things...

**Spread the Word:** First, with Ka's transition, the EDI Coordinator position is now open and accepting applications through 10/22. Please consider applying yourself and/or spread the word about the opening. More information is here: [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) Our EDI Coordinator will continue to have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive. We have the \$810K set aside to spend on transforming the Chippewa Valley to work on these goals. As City Manager, I consider this work one of my highest priorities, and I'm committed to being part of the EDI team, along with other staff, at every step. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions!

**Serve on Selection Committee:** Next, if you are not interested in applying, would you consider serving on the interview committee? The interviews will be held on Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Depending on the number of candidates, they will last several hours. Please let me know if you're willing!

Thanks in advance for considering these requests!

Stephanie

\*\*

More about Dr. Ka Vang & Position...

**Farewell to Ka and Position Open:** We are sad to say farewell to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley. Starting Monday, Ka has started work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

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**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Tess Morgan" <tess.morgan@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 17:07:54 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Refugee Resettlement - website

Hello!

Just wanted to let you know about an update I made to the City's website to address questions that may come in about Refugee Resettlement. While resettling refugees is not a function of the City, I did think it made sense for us to address it since it would be a topic of interest to the community at-large and might be helpful in directing people where to go with questions. I talked a good deal with Doug and he reviewed these before they were published.

The Refugee Resettlement page can be found as a sub-page of the EDI Coordinator page:  
<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/government/our-divisions/city-manager/edi-equity-diversity-inclusion/refugee-resettlement>

And I created a Calendar item for the public meeting taking place on Monday at the Library:  
<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/13829/17>

While the work of World Relief Wisconsin is not ours to explain, the Refugee Resettlement page can be updated with additional information as needed in the future.

Just wanted to let you know in case calls came in and people were asking where they can go for information (there's a link to their website for contact info)

Thanks,  
~Tess

## Tess Morgan

Media/Communications Specialist

P: 715.839.4902

E: Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.gov

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 11:55:10 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?

Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm 1 <meyersdm 1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning

<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary  
<robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka  
<heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch  
<Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson  
<Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>

**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST

(United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting,  
October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Tj" <atkins77@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:01:10 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

I'd love to be on the panel, but that date I believe is the 31st and I am booked that day.

Thanks,  
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**From:** Tj <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 9:16 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

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Stephanie

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Please spread the word about our search for our next EDI Coordinator! [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) This person will have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive.

**Stephanie Hirsch**

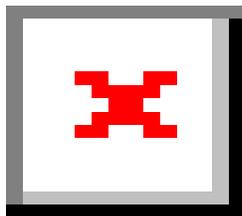
**City Manager**

**City of Eau Claire**

**203 S Farwell Street**

**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**

**Office: 715-839-6045**



--  
T.J. Atkins

CHH Inc Board of Directors- Secretary  
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United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley Board Member  
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ClearWater Kiwanis member  
Suicide Prevention workgroup Co-Chair  
Eau Claire Chamber Leadership Eau Claire Volunteerism and Human Services-Co-  
Chair

Not Fragile like a flower, but like a bomb.-RBG

**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:06:03 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Fyi

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
[715-271-2489](tel:715-271-2489)

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

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[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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**From:** "Tj" <atkins77@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:17:07 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

Ugh I am booked that day too :-(

On Thu, Oct 19, 2023 at 12:10 PM Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

It's the 30<sup>th</sup> if that helps! ☐

**From:** Tj <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 12:01 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

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**Stephanie Hirsch**

**City Manager**

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--

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ClearWater Kiwanis member

Suicide Prevention workgroup Co-Chair

Eau Claire Chamber Leadership Eau Claire Volunteerism and Human Services-Co-Chair

Not Fragile like a flower, but like a bomb.-RBG

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**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 13:57:05 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Thanks Stephanie:

I have two Events I am attending tonight, so I am not able to make it.

I think the biggest concern I keep hearing is that refugees coming to the community will not be vetted. That is certainly not true. I do think strongly, pushing back on that and making sure people know the truth will help.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 19, 2023, at 12:39 PM, Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

Chief Rokus, do you have thoughts on safety? Dave may have more insight on this situation as well...

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>

**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT

**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee  
Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?  
Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm 1 <meyersdm 1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Larry Hoekstra  
<Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook  
<dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson  
<steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk  
<Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren  
<Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey  
<nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto  
<nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy  
<Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell  
<connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar  
<nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch

<David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue  
<Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning  
<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine  
Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin  
Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather  
DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi  
Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami  
Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle  
Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy  
Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>

**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in  
Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau  
Claire County. Do not click any links or  
attachments unless you know the sender.**

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**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:40:03 -0500  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Hi Matt,

Hello from Green Bay. I wanted to forward this meeting information about an event tonight. As you can see below, a group opposed to World Relief's resettlement of refugees in Eau Claire will be meeting VFW from 7-9 pm.

Given the emotionally charged tenor of some of the comments we've received on this topic, I'm a bit concerned.

Tonight, some advocates who support refugee settlement in Eau Claire, volunteers from the Welcoming New Neighbors Group, plan to attend the meeting at the VFW. Naturally there will be disagreement, but hopefully it is a productive, de-escalating conversation.

My questions are:

- 1 - Public safety. Would a police presence be advisable at the event tonight, and/or at the World Relief info event next week, or a future council public hearing? Is a public safety strategy something that needs to be considered on this topic?
2. Outreach. Would ECPD be a good, de-escalating "messenger" to the public in clarifying that people do not need to be afraid?

Thanks,  
Emily

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:03:06 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

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**David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:42 PM  
**To:** Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

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**From:** Emily Anderson <[emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:40:03 PM  
**To:** Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang

<[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>

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Emily

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM

**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:07:20 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

I really think it will be ok. My hope is that the antiimmigration group is professional but determined in their belief but respectful. I've got 100% confidence in our PD.

**David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 4:04 PM  
**To:** Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

Thank you!!

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**Subject:** Fwd: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:40:03 PM

**To:** Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>

**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM

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<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:21:57 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

Are any council members going to the meeting tonight?

**David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

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**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:34:58 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 4:58 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

President Berge, I would like to clarify a couple of things that I just learned.

An official from World Relief admitted that she never spoke with any members of the city council, only the city manager. If the city manager did not bring it to the board's attention, that is another matter.

The official from World Relief also confirmed that the refugees will be coming from Somalia. I attended the stakeholder's meeting last week and the word Somalia was never mentioned. That is at least the third lie I have caught them in.

This is not about the refugees it is about the process. World Relief believes that speaking with the local government is speaking with bureaucrats, while many of us believe speaking with local governments is speaking with elected officials. I can also tell you that no one in the county I have spoken to knows anything about this.

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

On Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 03:45:07 PM CDT, Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com> wrote:

President Berge,

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. Did they happen? If so where are the minutes fore these meetings? I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement.

I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for. Did you direct her to sign the document or has she gone rogue...again? If not do you have the authority to approve this action? Is the goal here to keep any blame for this off of the city council?

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? Not what World Relief has told you, but what the actual country of origin is? I was told it was one of two countries.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this.

I look forward to your response

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715-497-4359



**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:34:39 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

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Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Angela Weideman" <angela.weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 23:11:46 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Information on World Relief

Thanks for sending this Stephanie!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:09:31 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg <Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Stephen Nick <stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov>; Nicholas Koerner <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Douglas Hoffer <Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov>; Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; Angela Weideman <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kathryn Schauf <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

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**From:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 01:38:44 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Fyi that the page indicates that registration is closed. Do you know if registration is required?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:10 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg <Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephen Nick <stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov>; Nicholas Koerner <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Douglas Hoffer <Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov>; Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; Angela Weideman <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kathryn Schauf <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

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**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 22:46:16 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg, 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf, image001.jpg

Thank you Stephanie for sending this context and background. We are getting some emails about it ... mostly it's people trying to figure out whether the city council had a role in this in terms of local "sign-off."

Best  
Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 22, 2023, at 6:09 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

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**From:** "Kathryn Schauf" <kathryn.schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 12:08:21 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Thank you Stephanie – I will use what you share to keep our board apprised as well. Let me know if you have a desire for county participation in any discussions.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:10 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg <Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephen Nick <stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov>; Nicholas Koerner <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Douglas Hoffer <Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov>; Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; Angela Weideman <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kathryn Schauf <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 10:42:21 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Refugee resettlement Q&A 1st draft  
**Attachments:** Refugee Resettlement Q.docx

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 11:42:26 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Refugee resettlement Q&A 2nd draft  
**Attachments:** Refugee Resettlement Q.docx

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:03:45 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] FAQ  
**Attachments:** FAQ on Refugee Resettlement Chippewa Valley.pdf

---

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 9:51 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FAQ

Attached is the FAQ WR will have available as handout at the meeting tonight.

**From:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 18:32:24 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Do you have a minute to talk about tonight?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 8:45 PM  
**To:** Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Oh wow – No I didn't realize there was limited participation. I'll ask Tami.

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 8:39 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:10 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <[CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg <[Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephen Nick <[stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov)>; Nicholas Koerner <[Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan <[Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Douglas Hoffer <[Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov)>; Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Angela Weideman <[Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Nancy Coffey <[nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>  
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**From:** "Kate Felton" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:59:14 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief

Hey Stephanie,

Just wanted to leave you a word of appreciation for your work to welcome World Relief, thereby welcoming new neighbors to our city. We have been getting some emails about this, and though of course not everyone in our community will support these actions, the resounding message I've gotten over my 8 years in service is that our community wants to lead with compassion, kindness, and generosity. I fully support the work you're doing here and I have good reason to believe that the majority of our council and our community support this work too.

Thank you! Keep up this good work!

**KATE FELTON** (formerly Kate Beaton)  
Eau Claire City Council, Member At-Large  
Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com  
Phone: 715-252-2544

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:09:31 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg; Steve Nick; Nicholas Koerner; Tess Morgan; Anooosheh Hamzehee; Doug Hoffer; Elizabeth Geise; Angela Weideman; Kathryn Schauf; Nancy Coffey; Matt Rokus  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

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**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Kate Felton" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:07:54 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg

Yes please do pass it on to whoever you'd like! ☐

On Oct 23, 2023, at 2:05 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Awe, thanks SO MUCH for sending this note!! ☐ If you don't mind, I'll pass it along to Anoosheh and Ka. It's especially discouraging to our current immigrants and BIPOC resident to hear how fearful and angry some residents are about the possibility of more immigrants, particularly immigrants of color.

---

**From:** Kate Felton <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief

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reason to believe that the majority of our council and our community support this work too.

Thank you! Keep up this good work!

**KATE FELTON** (formerly Kate Beaton)  
Eau Claire City Council, Member At-Large  
[Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com](mailto:Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com)  
Phone: 715-252-2544

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:09:31 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg; Steve Nick; Nicholas Koerner; Tess Morgan; Anoosheh Hamzehee; Doug Hoffer; Elizabeth Geise; Angela Weideman; Kathryn Schauf; Nancy Coffey; Matt Rokus  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

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[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**  
<image001.jpg>



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:16:30 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Refugee resettlement 3rd draft  
**Attachments:** Refugee Resettlement Q.docx

I'm assuming we won't need this today, but probably down the road?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Kate Felton" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 15:56:59 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Not a sad good bye

Hi Ka,

So sad to see you go! But wishing you luck in your new project. Such important work and I feel so good for our community know that you're leading the charge!

**KATE FELTON** (formerly Kate Beaton)  
Eau Claire City Council, Member At-Large  
Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com  
Phone: 715-252-2544

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 2:40:29 PM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) *Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023*  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire  
203 S. Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Charles Johnson" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 08:21:11 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

I am going to try and attend this meeting.

Thanks,

**Charlie Johnson**

Eau Claire City Council  
Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com  
651.491.5888



**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.

Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Larry Mboga" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 21:42:46 -0500  
**To:** "Sheila Wilkinson" <skwilkin@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Hi Sheila

Thank you for sharing your thoughts and if you have time attend Monday night

**October 23, 2023**

**6pm - 7pm**

**L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library**

Larry mboga city council at large

**From:** Sheila Wilkinson <skwilkin@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 7:44:35 PM  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that World Relief and the state of Wisconsin failed to abide by 8 US Code 1522 in that they failed to include the local governments in their decision to bring refugees to Eau Claire. They claim to have spoken to the city manager, but that individual is not an elected person.

Consequently, the people of Eau Claire are not being represented in this major decision. Other cities which have invited so many refugees have suffered from high tax increases that occur after the federal and state funds run out.

We have many people on fixed incomes that are not even keeping up with the inflation rate now and certainly cannot afford more increases.

I ask you to please halt this process. Disregarding 8 US Code 1522 is illegal, and the people need to have a voice.

Sincerely,  
Sheila Wilkinson

**From:** "Larry Mboga" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 12:51:25 -0500  
**To:** "Wilkinson Jennifer" <wilkinsonja@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief refugees

Hi Wilkinson

I appreciate you for reaching out and sharing your concerns. Would you be able to attend tonight meeting at Library 6pm-7pm ?

**From:** Wilkinson Jennifer <wilkinsonja@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 12:45:58 PM  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that the city council let the unelected city manager make an important decision concerning refugees, a decision that should have been addressed by our elected officials (8 US Code 1522).

Once federal aid ends, our taxes will go up. Low-income families and people on fixed incomes will be hurt the most by these tax increases.

We should have no taxation without representation. This principle was central in the birth of our nation, and we must continue to live by it.

The people of Eau Claire need a voice in the decision about refugees. This could be by referendum or a vote by our elected officials. The decision must not be delegated to an unelected official.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Wilkinson

**From:** "Kate Felton" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:59:14 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief

Hey Stephanie,

Just wanted to leave you a word of appreciation for your work to welcome World Relief, thereby welcoming new neighbors to our city. We have been getting some emails about this, and though of course not everyone in our community will support these actions, the resounding message I've gotten over my 8 years in service is that our community wants to lead with compassion, kindness, and generosity. I fully support the work you're doing here and I have good reason to believe that the majority of our council and our community support this work too.

Thank you! Keep up this good work!

**KATE FELTON** (formerly Kate Beaton)  
Eau Claire City Council, Member At-Large  
Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com  
Phone: 715-252-2544

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:09:31 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg; Steve Nick; Nicholas Koerner; Tess Morgan; Anooosheh Hamzehee; Doug Hoffer; Elizabeth Geise; Angela Weideman; Kathryn Schauf; Nancy Coffey; Matt Rokus  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

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Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Kate Felton" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:07:54 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg

Yes please do pass it on to whoever you'd like! ☐

On Oct 23, 2023, at 2:05 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Awe, thanks SO MUCH for sending this note!! ☐ If you don't mind, I'll pass it along to Anoosheh and Ka. It's especially discouraging to our current immigrants and BIPOC resident to hear how fearful and angry some residents are about the possibility of more immigrants, particularly immigrants of color.

---

**From:** Kate Felton <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief

Hey Stephanie,

Just wanted to leave you a word of appreciation for your work to welcome World Relief, thereby welcoming new neighbors to our city. We have been getting some emails about this, and though of course not everyone in our community will support these actions, the resounding message I've gotten over my 8 years in service is that our community wants to lead with compassion, kindness, and generosity. I fully support the work you're doing here and I have good

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**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg; Steve Nick; Nicholas Koerner; Tess Morgan; Anoosheh Hamzehee; Doug Hoffer; Elizabeth Geise; Angela Weideman; Kathryn Schauf; Nancy Coffey; Matt Rokus  
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**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**  
<image001.jpg>



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Kate Felton" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 17:58:41 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Member Update  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-16819255227759d57b9e4-6957-4f72-aa11-e05d12f78597.jpg

Works for me!

On Oct 21, 2023, at 1:44 PM, Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com> wrote:

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**

***Eau Claire City Council President***

*<OutlookEmoji-16819255227759d57b9e4-6957-4f72-aa11-e05d12f78597.jpg>*

[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 15 Mar 2023 09:48:10 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

I'm looking into what agencies are working around Appleton that are related to what we're looking for.

One is **World Relief** that I'm very familiar with, they are a huge **Christian** NGO with branches all over the world, They accept strictly Christian employees, their model of working as a very rich agency can't be a model for us I guess? Also, they're closed on Wednesdays. The other one is a **Muslim** organization with a headquarter in **Pakistan** that helps refugees from Muslim countries, If we want to meet with them we have to email them an official request, I've got the email address. They help the refugees in their area to settle. I can't remember any other entities in Appleton that we're interested in learning more about, do you?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 15 Mar 2023 10:01:52 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

Thank you, I will

---

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:00 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/refugee/pdf/fundedagencies-rev0822.pdf>

check out this list of Refugee Resettlement Agencies....

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 9:48 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

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**Anoosheh Hamzehee**  
**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4903  
E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 17 Mar 2023 13:38:17 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Meeting request from Eau Claire

Hi Tami,

I'm glad and excited to hear that. We can certainly talk next week through webex, zoom or phone, whichever you prefer. My availability:

Monday any time after 11:00  
Tuesday 8:00-10:00  
Wednesday 8:00-11:00  
Thursday 8:30-11:00  
Friday anytime after 10:30

Thank you  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2023 1:06 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Meeting request from Eau Claire

Hello Anoosheh,

Thank you for reaching out! We are currently in the process of considering a plan to expand our resettlement work in Wisconsin so your email is timely! The process includes completing an assessment of a community which requires time and we plan to have a decision by early May. Therefore, could we schedule a phone call next week to begin a conversation around this?

Please let me know your availability and the best way to talk.

Thank you!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**  
Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley  
[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)  
o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2023 11:19 AM  
**To:** WRFoxValley <[WRFoxValley@wr.org](mailto:WRFoxValley@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** Meeting request

Good morning,

My name is Anoosheh and I work for the City of Eau Claire. At the City manager's office we're looking at how we can make our city more appealing to refugees and possibility of having a resettlement agency in our town. We'll be in Appleton April 24, in the evening, till April 26<sup>th</sup> for Diversity conference. We're wondering if we can meet with your Refugee program coordinator, either on April 24<sup>th</sup> evening or April 26<sup>th</sup> afternoon please?

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**  
**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4903  
E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)  
203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 22 Mar 2023 09:22:53 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Invite or Not?  
**Importance:** High

Good morning Stephanie,

I hope you're enjoying your trip ☺  
I talked to World relief director in Fox Valley.  
She's coming to Eau Claire to visit with us and all the key players.  
Is it ok to invite Katheryn and Lieske, Holley, Deb and Don too?  
Do you think we should have Billie too because she has housing questions for us as well or you will take care of them?

This is the email I'm going to send and I've already booked it on your schedule

"World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. TAMI MCLAUGHLIN is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire to meet with us and do an assessment. I appreciate if you can attend please."

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

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W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 08:37:38 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "Room\_CH\_Rivers" <Room\_CH\_Rivers@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Canceled: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**Importance:** High

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 08:37:45 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami Mclaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 08:57:38 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

FYI, I have made that sentence bold ☐

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:54 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Cortney Sperber <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>; Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning Anoosheh.

I am sharing this with Marisa and Cortney to see if one person may be able to be there. **We do have a specific communicable disease role in resettlement and also have an interest more broadly in JEDI issues.**

I am not able to participate but we will see who can be available. Otherwise we are interested in outcome.

Lieske

.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 09:05:21 -0500  
**To:** "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning Billie ☺

It's not a program with host families. The only questions she asked me was the two that I asked you yesterday: how does your affordable housing look like compared to other US cities? Student numbers declining or not? Do you want me to forward your questions to her?

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Billie Hufford <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:54 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** Accepted: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

This is an awesome idea! Do we have any preliminary information on needs from a community to host this program? How much housing would a program like this need available? Or is it a program with host families? If housing is needed, what price points? It would be helpful to know what criteria they look at in order to be able to be prepared to answer questions during the meeting.

Billie

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 09:11:13 -0500  
**To:** "Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov"  
<Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov>; "ron.schmidt@eauclairecounty.gov"  
<ron.schmidt@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; 'Kathryn Schauf'; 'Hassemer, Holly'; 'Mowry, Donald D.'; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
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Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 12:38:20 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

FYI,

---

**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>; Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Dear Anoosheh,

I just wanted to let you know that there is also an existing refugee resettlement organization in Eau Claire called Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN). Wnn has been operating under the sponsorship of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan—home office Milwaukee—as a CoSponsorship program. WNN has accepted and settled 7 Afghan men and also supported two Afghan families who came to Eau Claire as a secondary migration. WNN is also moving to become a recognized Refugee Resettlement agency.

Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
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Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 12:52:59 -0500  
**To:** "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>  
**Cc:** "Bea Evans" <beaevans2@gmail.com>; "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Thank you Don! Hello Bea and Ginny! I wish I knew this earlier, I was under the impression that Welcoming neighborhood is volunteer based. Has that changed? How a World relief agency in town would relate with what you're doing? I used to work for DHS and have met a few of the WNN members and also all the 7 Afghan refugees who were settled then. Are all or some of the Afghan refugees still living in Eau Claire? I am aware that World Relief will contact Lutheran Social Services before doing the assessment for Eau Claire.

Thank you  
Anoosheh

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**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>; Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
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**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
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Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 15:03:24 -0500  
**To:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Bea Evans" <beaevans2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hi Ginny,

Yes to both, we can meet before April 5<sup>th</sup> and you're welcome to join us for that meeting

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 2:59 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Mowry, Donald D. <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hello Anoosheh,

Yes Welcoming New Neighbors is still a volunteer driven organization. From our Afghan welcoming experience, we are exploring expanding to become a 501c3 in support of new immigrants and of those already here.

It is exciting to hear that World Relief is considering EC. All kinds of questions come to mind however and I would like to hear more of the back story of how EC got to be considered as a possible future resettlement location? Would you be available to meet with a few of WNN volunteers prior to April 5 or could a few of us attend that meeting?

Looking forward to working together to become a truly welcoming community.  
Ginny Close

On Thu, Mar 23, 2023, 12:53 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

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Thank you  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>; Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

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Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise

**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).

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g the meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 08:11:27 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** PRM New Site Development Guide - 2021 Revision - with highlighted sections.docx

Good morning Stephanie,  
I think it's a good idea to share the attached with the stake holders before the meeting, your thoughts please?

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 7:29 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Hello Anoosheh,

I enjoyed our discussion yesterday regarding World Relief establishing a refugee resettlement site in Eau Claire. Will look forward to continuing the conversation with a wider network of community stakeholders on Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> and am very thankful for your willingness to coordinate this meeting.

Attached is a document created by our resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), as a guide to assess a community's ability to resettle refugees. World Relief will complete the assessment and use to assist in determining if we are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire. This would be followed by submitting a proposal to PRM as ultimately it is their decision to approve new sites. As I mentioned, we are also assessing the community of La Crosse and would most likely only support opening one new office next year.

Please feel free to send the guide to your stakeholders. Attachments Two and Three on pages 19 – 25 contain specific questions related to the assessment, and we will use the Evaluation Matrix to begin our conversation. My goal would be to have the assessment completed by the end of April and will plan to make one or two additional trips to Eau Claire.

Regarding housing questions, we would expect to resettle no more than a total of 75 people the first year. (most likely arriving after January 1, 2024). We are currently resettling mainly Congolese in the Fox Valley; singles to families as large as 9 people so renting 1 – 4 bedroom housing, ranging from \$650 - \$1400. Housing is a challenge in all of our communities so will be a priority in the assessment!

Hope this information is helpful as we begin this process. Please feel free to reach out with questions....resettlement is a collaborative and community response and we look forward to developing a strong partnership.

Thank you for your help and I look forward to meeting you soon.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 9:34 AM

**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Subject:** April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Good morning Tami,

I have invited Health Director, County Director and the city manager, Human Services Director, our housing project coordinator, ELL program Manager from CVTC, and a few more to the meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00. Most of them will be here☐

Our housing project manager asked me a couple of questions to get ready for the meeting, I thought I'll forward them to you:

“Do we have any preliminary information on needs from a community to host this program? How much housing would a program like this need available?  
If housing is needed, what price points? It would be helpful to know what criteria they look at in order to be able to be prepared to answer questions during the meeting. “

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 09:36:03 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** getting ready to meet with World Relief

I would suggest that we meet with a few people like Aaron and Billie and... to discuss Housing and possibly other subjects which will be on the assessment. Could housing situation be a deal breaker?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 12:55:44 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2023 11:32 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Mowry, Donald D. <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning Anoosheh,

Thank you for being so welcoming!! ☺ If it would work for you, a few of us would like to meet with you prior to the 5th, perhaps next week? We would especially like to tell you our Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN) 'story'. Also, we would like to share what we have learned, connections we have made, and other immigrant support efforts already at work of which you may or may not already be aware. Learning more of the City of Eau Claire perspective and the World Relief connection would be of great value as WNN envisions our community becoming an even more immigrant welcoming one, working in partnership with those seeking that same outcome.

Anoosheh, in order to proceed with setting up a meeting, could you please give us a couple of choices of days, times, and a meeting place that would work for you? There is such great interest within our Steering Committee, that I would estimate 4-5 of us wanting to join you.

Happy Friday,  
Ginny Close  
WNN Steering Committee Member

On Thu, Mar 23, 2023 at 3:03 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Ginny,

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**From:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 2:59 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>; Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>  
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Best,

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise

**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

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I'm

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Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 14:26:37 -0500  
**To:** "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2023 8:46 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee; Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Cc:** Aaron White  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
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meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 08:55:29 -0500  
**To:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Bea Evans" <beaevans2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning Ginny,

How about Wednesday or Thursday afternoon here at the city hall? ☐

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2023 11:32 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Mowry, Donald D. <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning Anoosheh,

Thank you for being so welcoming!! ☐ If it would work for you, a few of us would like to meet with you prior to the 5th, perhaps next week? We would especially like to tell you our Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN) 'story'. Also, we would like to share what we have learned, connections we have made, and other immigrant support efforts already at work of which you may or may not already be aware. Learning more of the City of Eau Claire perspective and the World Relief connection would be of great value as WNN envisions our community becoming an even more immigrant welcoming one, working in partnership with those seeking that same outcome.

Anoosheh, in order to proceed with setting up a meeting, could you please give us a couple of choices of days, times, and a meeting place that would work for you? There is such great interest within our Steering Committee, that I would estimate 4-5 of us wanting to join you.

Happy Friday,  
Ginny Close  
WNN Steering Committee Member

On Thu, Mar 23, 2023 at 3:03 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Ginny,

Yes to both, we can meet before April 5<sup>th</sup> and you're welcome to join us for that meeting☐

**From:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 2:59 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>; Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hello Anoosheh,

Yes Welcoming New Neighbors is still a volunteer driven organization. From our Afghan welcoming experience, we are exploring expanding to become a 501c3 in support of new immigrants and of those already here.

It is exciting to hear that World Relief is considering EC. All kinds of questions come to mind however and I would like to hear more of the back story of how EC got to be considered as a possible future resettlement location? Would you be available to meet with a few of WNN volunteers prior to April 5 or could a few of us attend that meeting?

Looking forward to working together to become a truly welcoming community.  
Ginny Close

On Thu, Mar 23, 2023, 12:53 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Thank you Don! Hello Bea and Ginny! I wish I knew this earlier, I was under the impression that Welcoming neighborhood is volunteer based. Has that changed? How a World relief agency in town would relate with what you're doing? I used to work for DHS and have met a few of the WNN members and also all the 7 Afghan refugees who were settled then. Are all or some of the Afghan refugees still living in Eau Claire? I am aware that World Relief will contact Lutheran Social Services before doing the assessment for Eau Claire.

Thank you  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>; Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Dear Anoosheh,

I just wanted to let you know that there is also an existing refugee resettlement organization in Eau Claire called Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN). Wnn has been operating under the sponsorship of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan—home office Milwaukee—as a CoSponsorship program. WNN has accepted and settled 7 Afghan men and also supported two Afghan families who came to Eau Claire as a secondary migration. WNN is also moving to become a recognized Refugee Resettlement agency.

Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise

**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

sche

during the meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 11:35:55 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Hi Tami,

Recently a regional housing study was done and presented here in Eau Claire. I thought that might be a good source for the housing questions. Please see the link below.

[EauClaireOpenHousePosters.pdf | Powered by Box](#)

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 7:29 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Hello Anoosheh,

I enjoyed our discussion yesterday regarding World Relief establishing a refugee resettlement site in Eau Claire. Will look forward to continuing the conversation with a wider network of community stakeholders on Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> and am very thankful for your willingness to coordinate this meeting.

Attached is a document created by our resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), as a guide to assess a community's ability to resettle refugees. World Relief will complete the assessment and use to assist in determining if we are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire. This would be followed by submitting a proposal to PRM as ultimately it is their decision to approve new sites. As I mentioned, we are also assessing the community of La Crosse and would most likely only support opening one new office next year.

Please feel free to send the guide to your stakeholders. Attachments Two and Three on pages 19 – 25 contain specific questions related to the assessment, and we will use the Evaluation Matrix to begin our conversation. My goal would be to have the assessment completed by the end of April and will plan to make one or two additional trips to Eau Claire.

Regarding housing questions, we would expect to resettle no more than a total of 75 people the first year. (most likely arriving after January 1, 2024). We are currently resettling mainly Congolese in the Fox Valley; singles to families as large as 9 people so renting 1 – 4 bedroom housing, ranging from \$650 - \$1400. Housing is a challenge in all of our communities so will be a priority in the assessment!

Hope this information is helpful as we begin this process. Please feel free to reach out with questions....resettlement is a collaborative and community response and we look forward to developing a strong partnership.

Thank you for your help and I look forward to meeting you soon.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Anooosheh Hamzehee <[Anooosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Anooosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 9:34 AM

**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Subject:** April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Good morning Tami,

I have invited Health Director, County Director and the city manager, Human Services Director, our housing project coordinator, ELL program Manager from CVTC, and a few more to the meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00. Most of them will be here☐

Our housing project manager asked me a couple of questions to get ready for the meeting, I thought I'll forward them to you:

“Do we have any preliminary information on needs from a community to host this program? How much housing would a program like this need available?  
If housing is needed, what price points? It would be helpful to know what criteria they look at in order to be able to be prepared to answer questions during the meeting. “

**Anooosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anooosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anooosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 13:10:15 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov" <Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov>; "ron.schmidt@eauclairecounty.gov" <ron.schmidt@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**Attachments:** PRM New Site Development Guide - 2021 Revision - with highlighted sections.docx

FYI, attached is a document created by World Relief resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), as a guide to assess a community's ability to resettle refugees. World Relief will complete the assessment and use it to assist in determining if they are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

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W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 16:20:15 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Can you please block your Thursday afternoon, 1:00 pm for meeting with WNN?thank you

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 1:14:38 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Thanks Anoosheh. This is very helpful. Just fyi I am awaiting more replies from our WNN Steering Committee regarding a meeting with you this week. Can you hold 1pm Thursday for now. That looks like the best day and I just picked 1pm. There are 4 of us thus far but I am hoping Don Mowry and Bea Evans can attend as well.

Ginny

On Mon, Mar 27, 2023 at 1:10 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

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**Associate Analyst**

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W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 28 Mar 2023 08:20:04 -0500  
**To:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning,

I have been working remote for 2 days and didn't have access to city manager's calendar, but sent her a message to block her calendar for Thursday at 1:00, I'll make sure she's done it, I'd be in office today afternoon.

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 2:05:34 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

So sorry to keep bothering you! Do you have a preference of Wed or Thurs at 1pm? I am trying to swing a couple over to Wed now that we are split between the two days. ☐

Ginny

On Mon, Mar 27, 2023 at 1:14 PM Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)> wrote:

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**Associate Analyst**

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W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 28 Mar 2023 12:36:46 -0500  
**To:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Great! You can come to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, City Manager's office.

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 8:24 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Great! I will confirm that with our folks and we will be at the lobby of City Hall Thursday 1 pm.

Thanks Anoosheh!

Ginny

On Tue, Mar 28, 2023 at 8:20 AM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

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**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 2:05:34 PM  
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**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

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Ginny

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**Anosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

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W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 28 Mar 2023 13:01:43 -0500  
**To:** "Ned Noel" <Ned.Noel@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**Attachments:** PRM New Site Development Guide - 2021 Revision - with highlighted sections.docx

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**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

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W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 29 Mar 2023 11:02:40 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Interesting read

[World Relief helps refugees in Wisconsin despite political fights \(thenorthwestern.com\)](https://thenorthwestern.com)

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

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203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 29 Mar 2023 15:28:04 -0500  
**To:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hello,  
Looking forward to meeting you ☐

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 2:36 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hello again,  
One last thought before tomorrow. I have not planned any formal agenda but am thinking this as an informal conversation with us learning what the City of EC thoughts are leading up to the 5th meeting and we updating you as to where WNN is in our 'dreaming and scheming'!! ☐

Looking forward to meeting you Anoosheh!  
Ginny

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<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

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Ginny

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**Anoosheh Hamzehee**  
**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4903  
E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)  
203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 10:25:49 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: update for council

We are exploring the feasibility of expanding the City's capacity to welcome immigrants and refugees. Our dual objectives are to address employee shortages and to cultivate a vibrant, multi-cultural community. One potential avenue is the prospect of World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency establishing a new office in Wisconsin. We are thrilled to be one of two candidates under consideration, and Tami McLaughlin, Director of World Relief Fox Valley, will visit Eau Claire in April to conduct an assessment. Additionally, we are actively exploring ways to boost the local workforce by utilizing PERM (employment) visas. To this end, we have engaged with the Chamber, CVTC, and ECD and are in the process of planning an information session for Eau Claire's businesses and employers.

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 8:46 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** update for council

Hi – Can you prepare a paragraph update for the City Council newsletter on the PERM/Refugee efforts?

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 08:58:33 -0500  
**To:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>; "Kathy Florin" <kathymflorin@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** "Dwayne Voegeli" <winonasanctuary@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Reconnecting

Good morning Kathy, Ginny, and Dwayne,

Thank you for keeping me in the loop, I'm learning ☺

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 1, 2023 10:37 AM  
**To:** Kathy Florin <kathymflorin@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Dwayne Voegeli <winonasanctuary@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Reconnecting

Thanks Kathy! All great info. I did not mention it but Anoosheh had reached out to refugee resettlement agencies closest to EC and heard from Fox Valley World Relief that, quite coincidentally, they may be interested in a sub office in Eau Claire. This area is not close enough per federal requirements to resettle folks here. It took almost an 'Act of Congress' to allow Afghan resettlement. I assume Winona had the same challenge and sponsored Afghans through the Sponsor Circle program because of those same restrictions placed on the Agencies in Minnesota. It is MOST disturbing that Agencies cannot cross state lines!! Enough griping!!!

Hi again to Dwayne!! Are you two the movers and shakers of the Winona Sheltering Network? I envision that as a hub of a wheel and each of your groups are spokes? Although not yet as well organized, I think of Welcoming New Neighbors as becoming a kind of hub here. I assume Dwayne (Congrats on County Board!!) is in touch with Greg Barnes regarding the Honduran asylum families, Not wanting to steal Greg's thunder, but our Honduran family finally got work permits after almost 2 years.

So many questions come to mind that for sure, let's try to figure out how to update each other.

Happy Day!  
Ginny

On Sat, Apr 1, 2023 at 10:09 AM Kathy Florin <[kathymflorin@gmail.com](mailto:kathymflorin@gmail.com)> wrote:

Good morning everyone,

Ginny, it's nice to hear from you again and I do remember you! Thanks for reaching out.

Anoosheh, it's nice to meet over email.

I'm also including Dwayne Voegeli in this email. He was the main dreamer and mover on purchasing two homes in Winona for newcomers. He has also recently become a member of the Winona County Board.

Yes, the houses are intended as longer-term transitional housing and are less than a block from one another. Currently, there is a Honduran family living in one and an Afghan family living in the other one.

Dwayne can correct me if I'm wrong but....

The [Winona Sheltering Network](#) (WASN is under the 501c3 of the Winona Sheltering Network) took a loan out on the first house and through fundraising just recently paid it off (!!)

A landlord in town purchased the second house and we are doing a contract for deed with him.

This has been a solution for us with the challenges of adequate and affordable housing, flexible leases, not a need for background checks / credit scores, etc.

Dwayne would know more specific information though.

That's great about your Afghan community growing! We currently have 16 individuals in town and are also working on TPS applications and renewal of work authorizations so there's no gaps. The paperwork seems to never end. ☹

All of our Asylum seekers have had interviews but have not heard back anything yet (and two were more than 150 days ago). None of our SIV cases have had their interviews yet, but their paperwork has been submitted. ☹

I'd love to keep in touch! I enjoy learning about creative solutions that other communities are implementing to help support newcomers, growing the web of support and connections, and in general connecting with people doing work that inspires me.

With warmth,  
Kathy

On Fri, Mar 31, 2023 at 4:01 PM Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi Kathy,  
Remember me? Gosh 'how time flies' has a new meaning these days!! Now that our Afghan neighbors in the Eau Claire area are more settled, we of Welcoming New Neighbors are re-inventing ourselves to broaden our mission of welcoming to all newly arriving as well as to those already here.

Kathy, I vaguely remember someone (you?) mentioning that the Winona network had purchased transitional housing. That idea came up yesterday in a meeting with our Eau Claire City Manager Staff. I am wondering if you could connect us with the appropriate

person who can tell us more of the process for that? I am copying Anooosheh as one of the 'Movers & Shakers' in Eau Claire. :))

For your information, our Afghan population has increased to 19 or so individuals having discovered a family of 8 living in Spring Valley. No one has been granted asylum yet although many are well past the 150 day mark since they went to Chicago hearings. Now applications for Temporary Protective Status and renewed work permits are being submitted to avoid any gaps once their 24 mt parolee period is up.

Would love to hear from you.  
Ginny  
Welcoming New Neighbors

--

Ginny Close  
[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)  
715-577-8336

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 09:58:29 -0500  
**To:** "Diane Cable" <Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hi Diane,

I can meet anytime today between 2:00 and 4:00

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Diane Cable <Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hi Anoosheh,

At this time I am not able to attend this meeting, as I have a couple of conflicts. I would like to have a better understanding of the meeting, so I can determine who from the Department might be able to attend. Please let me know if you have a few minutes to connect this afternoon.

Thank you

Diane

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)> **On Behalf Of** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 8:26 AM  
**To:** Diane Cable  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Are you able to attend this meeting?

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:41 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee; Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry Donald; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Giese  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami Mclaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.

I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 15:17:20 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; "ginwinclose@gmail.com" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Just switching to a larger meeting, we'll meet at the North Conference room.  
Looking forward to see you all ☺

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 5 Apr 2023 15:12:08 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami Mclaughlin World Relief visit

Hi Tami,  
I'm forwarding Ginny's email to your address to make sure you receive it and I'm copying Ginny so that she'll have your email address.

Anoosheh

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 3:06 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; wrfoxvalley@wr.org  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami Mclaughlin World Relief visit

Hello again Anoosheh and Tami,

Anoosheh, thank you so much for including Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN) again into the conversation this morning. I know there is great interest within our steering committee and am looking forward to any and all future conversations welcoming immigrants.

Tami, I did not find an email address for you so I am using the World Relief Fox Valley address. It was so good to meet you this morning, however briefly. Thank you for being open to considering Eau Claire for a World Relief office!

Also, I am wondering if it would be of value to you to meet more of our WNN volunteers? I can safely speak for the larger group being interested in learning more of the World Relief community relationship building model: 'Neighbor to Neighbor'. (Sorry, I did not retain the exact name!!)

WNN meets via zoom the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm. Our next meeting is next Thursday the 13th. At that time, I will introduce World Relief's consideration of Eau Claire as a refugee agency site. BUT it would be of greater value and interest if you or your representative could attend and give a brief introduction to the organization. Of course, our folks would be open to assessment questions you may have regarding the community engagement piece.

Of course, WNN is open to any further conversation at Anoosheh's or your request at anytime by whatever means! We are definitely excited about the possibility for welcoming more new neighbors to Eau Claire and for partnering with World Relief.

Forward!!  
Ginny

--

Ginny Close

[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)  
715-577-8336

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 5 Apr 2023 17:48:41 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fw: Contact info for World Relief  
**Attachments:** Mary Proznik.vcf, John Mogensen.vcf, Alex Padrnos.vcf, Michael Halloin.vcf

**From:** Aaron White  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 4:46:29 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** Contact info for World Relief

Hey Anoosheh,

I have attached the vCards for the landlords I had referenced in the meeting today:

<p><b>Mary Proznik</b> Riverbend Rentals &amp; Property Manag... Operations Manager</p> <p>(715) 225-4200 Work (815) 503-4597 Mobile <a href="mailto:mary@riverbendpm.com">mary@riverbendpm.com</a></p>	<p><b>John Mogensen</b> Investment Realty Owner</p> <p>(715) 828-1096 Mobile <a href="mailto:john@investmentrealtors.com">john@investmentrealtors.com</a></p>
<p><b>Alex Padrnos</b> JCAP Project Coordinator</p> <p>715-831-3994 Work <a href="mailto:alex@jcaprealestate.com">alex@jcaprealestate.com</a></p>	<p><b>Michael Halloin</b> Landmark Company</p> <p>(715) 834-3411 Work <a href="mailto:michael@landmark-company.com">michael@landmark-company.com</a></p>

I work on getting some of the major employer contacts to you later.

Regards,

**Aaron J. White, MBA**  
*Economic Development Manager*  
715-839-4914—main desk  
715-839-6047—direct line  
[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)  
<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>  
<https://www.eauclairedevelopment.com/>  
203 S. Farwell St, Eau Claire, WI 54701



\*\*\* Your Economic Development team and the Downtown Eau Claire, Inc. staff are working on efforts to find resources for our community during this time.

For updated information on upcoming business resources and support programs related to COVID-19 financial impacts, go to our web sites: <https://www.eauclaireddevelopment.com/doing-business/financial-assistance/> or <https://www.downtowneauclaire.org/coronavirus-aid-and-support/> and be sure to continue supporting our local businesses.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 6 Apr 2023 08:18:31 -0500  
**To:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Contact info for World Relief

Good morning and THANK YOU ☺

---

**From:** Aaron White <Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 4:46 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Contact info for World Relief

Hey Anoosheh,

I have attached the vCards for the landlords I had referenced in the meeting today:

<p><b>Mary Proznik</b> Riverbend Rentals &amp; Property Manag... Operations Manager</p> <p>(715) 225-4200 Work (815) 503-4597 Mobile <a href="mailto:mary@riverbendpm.com">mary@riverbendpm.com</a></p>	<p><b>John Mogensen</b> Investment Realty Owner</p> <p>(715) 828-1096 Mobile <a href="mailto:john@investmentrealtors.com">john@investmentrealtors.com</a></p>
<p><b>Alex Padrnos</b> JCAP Project Coordinator</p> <p>715-831-3994 Work <a href="mailto:alex@jcaprealestate.com">alex@jcaprealestate.com</a></p>	<p><b>Michael Halloin</b> Landmark Company</p> <p>(715) 834-3411 Work <a href="mailto:michael@landmark-company.com">michael@landmark-company.com</a></p>

I work on getting some of the major employer contacts to you later.

Regards,

**Aaron J. White, MBA**  
*Economic Development Manager*  
715-839-4914—main desk  
715-839-6047—direct line  
[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)  
<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>  
<https://www.eauclairedevlopment.com/>  
203 S. Farwell St, Eau Claire, WI 54701



\*\*\* Your Economic Development team and the Downtown Eau Claire, Inc. staff are working on efforts to find resources for our community during this time.

For updated information on upcoming business resources and support programs related to COVID-19 financial impacts, go to our web sites: <https://www.eauclaireddevelopment.com/doing-business/financial-assistance/> or <https://www.downtowneauclaire.org/coronavirus-aid-and-support/> and be sure to continue supporting our local businesses.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 12 Apr 2023 13:15:49 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami McLaughlin World Relief visit

FYI,

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 3:21 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Karen Crisler <KCrisler@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami McLaughlin World Relief visit

Great news Tami! We try to keep our meetings to an hour. You and Karen, if available, would be first on the agenda. I would foresee your introduction to World Relief and the Good Neighbor Team Model with question/answer time using 30-45 minutes. At the moment I do not have any other pressing agenda items and this fits perfectly as we educate ourselves on all things immigration related.

The meeting is Thursday, April 13, 6:30 pm CDT. Here is the zoom link. Anoosheh, please share with anyone you think may be interested.

Looking forward to seeing you again and hopefully meeting Karen.

Ginny

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89073725592?pwd=ZmowT2Q0dXNWcnNFK2tzWVFDWVVGUT09>

Meeting ID: 890 7372 5592

Passcode: 042629

On Wed, Apr 5, 2023 at 5:31 PM Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)> wrote:

Thank you Anoosheh and Ginny,

I was very impressed and encouraged by our conversation today and look forward to additional dialogue.

Ginny, our Community Engagement Manager, Karen Crisler, is returning from vacation on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup>. If she is available, I know she would be very interested in participating on your call. Either way, I am available and one or both of us will provide an overview of

World Relief and specifically our Good Neighbor Team model. I've copied Karen on this email so please send us both an invite.

We most likely will have additional questions around community engagement and appreciate your willingness to include your group in that discussion. Please advise regarding time allotted as want to be considerate of your agenda that evening.

Thank you again. Looking forward to next steps!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 3:12 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Cc:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami Mclaughlin World Relief visit

Hi Tami,  
I'm forwarding Ginny's email to your address to make sure you receive it and I'm copying Ginny so that she'll have your email address.

Anoosheh

**From:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 3:06 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; [wrfxvalley@wr.org](mailto:wrfxvalley@wr.org)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami Mclaughlin World Relief visit

Hello again Anoosheh and Tami,

Anoosheh, thank you so much for including Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN) again into the conversation this morning. I know there is great interest within our steering committee and am looking forward to any and all future conversations welcoming immigrants.

Tami, I did not find an email address for you so I am using the World Relief Fox Valley address. It was so good to meet you this morning, however briefly. Thank you for being open to considering Eau Claire for a World Relief office!

Also, I am wondering if it would be of value to you to meet more of our WNN volunteers? I can safely speak for the larger group being interested in learning more of the World Relief community relationship building model: 'Neighbor to Neighbor'. (Sorry, I did not retain the exact name!!)

WNN meets via zoom the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm. Our next meeting is next Thursday the 13th. At that time, I will introduce World Relief's consideration of Eau Claire as a refugee agency site. BUT it would be of greater value and interest if you or your representative could attend and give a brief introduction to the organization. Of course, our folks would be open to assessment questions you may have regarding the community engagement piece.

Of course, WNN is open to any further conversation at Anoosheh's or your request at anytime by whatever means! We are definitely excited about the possibility for welcoming more new neighbors to Eau Claire and for partnering with World Relief.

Forward!!  
Ginny

--

Ginny Close  
[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)  
715-577-8336

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 17:00:55 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Who do you think from ECASD would be the best representative?  
Do we know Jody?

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hello Anoosheh,

Hope you are enjoying Wisconsin weather at its finest! We know it won't last so have to take advantage.

I am planning on returning to Eau Claire next week with two of my colleagues and hoping to schedule a visit with a representative from the ECASD. Do you have a recommendation of a contact to reach out to as there isn't an ELL contact on the website? I have also requested an appointment, per the suggestion of our state refugee coordinator, with Jody Conner from Workforce Resource and am waiting to hear back.

Also, would you have an hour to meet with us to review a few more questions and other details relating to a proposal submission? It would also give us an opportunity to schedule a visit to our office when you are in Appleton for the Toward One Diversity and Inclusive Conference. (if you are still interested)

Appreciate your assistance and hope to connect next week!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 17:11:23 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Message Recall Failure: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next  
Wednesday, April 19

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 19:52:23 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hi Tami,

It's been a little too hot for spring these couple of days but will cool off soon ☺

I would suggest contacting either of the two or both: Dang Yang ECASD EDI Director):  
[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)  
or Dr. Kaying Xiong: [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu) . You can also visit one of our schools with larger ELL enrollment.

We can definitely meet, will you be here on the 19<sup>th</sup>? Would I be able to answer your questions or who else do you need to be in the meeting? and yes we are still planning to visit you there, if possible April 24<sup>th</sup> around 4:00, if not, April 25<sup>th</sup> after 4:00 .

Looking forward to see you again and meet with your colleagues.

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hello Anoosheh,

Hope you are enjoying Wisconsin weather at its finest! We know it won't last so have to take advantage.

I am planning on returning to Eau Claire next week with two of my colleagues and hoping to schedule a visit with a representative from the ECASD. Do you have a recommendation of a contact to reach out to as there isn't an ELL contact on the website? I have also requested an appointment, per the suggestion of our state refugee coordinator, with Jody Conner from Workforce Resource and am waiting to hear back.

Also, would you have an hour to meet with us to review a few more questions and other details relating to a proposal submission? It would also give us an opportunity to schedule a visit to our office when you are in Appleton for the Toward One Diversity and Inclusive Conference. (if you are still interested)

Appreciate your assistance and hope to connect next week!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 14 Apr 2023 11:15:38 -0500  
**To:** "Melissa Dexter" <mdexter@ecasd.us>; "Dang Yang" <dyang1@ecasd.us>; "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Hello Melissa and Dang,

Tami will be in Eau Claire with 2 of her colleagues on Wednesday April 19<sup>th</sup>, after 9:30 AM. I think if Kaying and Dang can meet in person with Tami any time after 9:30, would be great. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



---

**From:** Melissa Dexter <mdexter@ecasd.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:43 AM  
**To:** Dang Yang <dyang1@ecasd.us>; Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Thank you, Dang! I would be happy to assist with coordinating a meeting--whether it be virtual or in person.

There are some moving pieces in Kaying's schedule over the next couple of weeks--I should know more about these factors by the end of the day today.

If there are good days/times, generally speaking, that work for all of you, please let me know and I will consider those first when looking at scheduling.

**Melissa Dexter**

Executive Assistant | Student Services  
Eau Claire Area School District  
500 Main Street | Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Phone: 715-852-3045|[www.ecasd.us](http://www.ecasd.us)

---

**From:** Dang Yang <[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:27 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu)  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)>; Melissa Dexter <[mdexter@ecasd.us](mailto:mdexter@ecasd.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Tami,

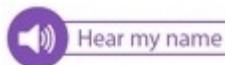
I would be happy to connect and meet with you to discuss this important topic to help you learn more about the Eau Claire Area School District. I am including Melissa Dexter, Dr. Xiong's Executive Assistant to help with scheduling. Once Melissa has the chance to review Dr. Xiong's calendar, would you like her to setup a virtual meeting link for us or would your preference be to meet in person in Eau Claire? I am open to either possibility.

Thank you so much for the outreach. I am eager to connect and learn more about the work you're leading to support refugee families.

Sincerely,



**Dang Yang** (he/him/his)



Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion  
Eau Claire Area School District  
500 Main Street | Eau Claire, WI 54701  
[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us) | 715-852-3069 | [www.ecasd.us](http://www.ecasd.us)

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**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Dang Yang <[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)>; [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu)  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

You don't often get email from [tmclaughlin@wr.org](mailto:tmclaughlin@wr.org). [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Dr. Xiong and Mr. Yang,

Annosheh Hamzehee recommended reaching out to you. I am the Office Director of World Relief Fox Valley, the refugee resettlement agency in the Appleton and Oshkosh area. Our agency is considering opening an office in Eau Claire and in the midst of completing an assessment of the community before making a final decision. Thus far we have a very favorable impression of the Eau Claire community but would like to learn more about the Eau Claire public school district. Would either of both of you be available to meet with myself and two colleagues next Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> for one hour? We would be available any time after 9:30am

Looking forward to hearing from you and hopefully meeting you both!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**ALERT:** This email came from outside ECASD. Use caution when replying, clicking on any links, or opening attachments.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 08:25:55 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Good morning Tami,

Do you want me to touch base with Dang and make an appointment?

Based on his calendar, Chief Rokus is available on Wednesday 11:30 or 1:00 .  
Do you have a list of questions for him I can pass on?

I'd be able to sit with you and Chief or separately. I'll wait for us to schedule the meetings with Dang and Chief Rokus and then with me, I have lots of openings on Wednesday ☐

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 7:35 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Good Morning, Anoosheh!

We have definitely cooled off! Appleton woke up to snow flurries as I suspect Eau Claire did also!

Wanted to touch base again regarding our visit on Wednesday. Was hoping to connect with Dang since Dr. Xiong is not available and as mentioned, I can also give her a call if requested. If I don't hear from Dang today will touch base again.

Do you think it would be possible to schedule a brief meeting with the Chief of Police or other representative from public safety? I can do that on my own if you would refer me to the appropriate person or if they want to join our time with you, would be perfectly appropriate! I was going to ask you some additional, random type questions and if you are not able to answer, can refer me and I'll follow up with phone calls or emails. Also, review next steps with you.

Am digging deeper into housing and will update you on Wednesday.

Let me know what time is convenient for you in Wednesday and will look forward to seeing you then!

Tami

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 7:52 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hi Tami,  
It's been a little too hot for spring these couple of days but will cool off soon ☺

I would suggest contacting either of the two or both: Dang Yang ECASD EDI Director):  
[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)  
or Dr. Kaying Xiong: [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu) . You can also visit one of our schools with larger ELL enrollment.

We can definitely meet, will you be here on the 19<sup>th</sup>? Would I be able to answer your questions or who else do you need to be in the meeting? and yes we are still planning to visit you there, if possible April 24<sup>th</sup> around 4:00, if not, April 25<sup>th</sup> after 4:00 .

Looking forward to see you again and meet with your colleagues.

Anoosheh

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hello Anoosheh,

Hope you are enjoying Wisconsin weather at its finest! We know it won't last so have to take advantage.

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Also, would you have an hour to meet with us to review a few more questions and other details relating to a proposal submission? It would also give us an opportunity to schedule a visit to our office when you are in Appleton for the Toward One Diversity and Inclusive Conference. (if you are still interested)

Appreciate your assistance and hope to connect next week!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 11:00:02 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief meeting with Chief Rokus (April 19th)

World Relief, a refugee resettlement agency, is considering Eau Claire as a potential location to establish a refugee settlement office.

The agency has conducted initial interviews with relevant individuals. As part of the assessment process, the director of the agency based in Appleton, Tami Laughlin, wishes to speak with the Eau Claire police chief. The following is a list of questions that will be discussed during the meeting.

Any anti-immigrant sentiments expressed in the community? If so, how are sentiments managed?

How are immigrants groups isolated or integrated into the community?

Does local law enforcement have a community or cultural liaison?

Any foreseeable barriers from public safety perspective to resettlement in community

Any resources available for language barriers?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 11:16:24 -0500  
**To:** "Dang Yang" <dyang1@ecasd.us>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Good morning Dang,

Would you be available to meet with Tami on Wednesday April 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am? If yes, would you meet her at the district office , 500 Main Street? I'm assisting in coordinating her meetings for her.

Thank you

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



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**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:27 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; kxiong@ecasd.edu  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Melissa Dexter <mdexter@ecasd.us>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Tami,

I would be happy to connect and meet with you to discuss this important topic to help you learn more about the Eau Claire Area School District. I am including Melissa Dexter, Dr. Xiong's Executive Assistant to help with scheduling. Once Melissa has the chance to review Dr. Xiong's calendar, would you like her to setup a virtual meeting link for us or would your preference be to meet in person in Eau Claire? I am open to either possibility.

Thank you so much for the outreach. I am eager to connect and learn more about the work you're leading to support refugee families.

Sincerely,



**Dang Yang** ([he/him/his](#))



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Eau Claire Area School District  
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**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:23 AM  
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**Subject:** [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

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Hello Dr. Xiong and Mr. Yang,

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Looking forward to hearing from you and hopefully meeting you both!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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**ALERT:** This email came from outside ECASD. Use caution when replying, clicking on any links, or opening attachments.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 13:06:35 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hi Tami,

Your meeting with Dang is scheduled at 10:00am, Wednesday April 19<sup>th</sup>.  
Blia Schwahn, School community Liaison who works with family services will be there too.  
The address of District Office is 500 Main Street which is 1 minute away from the City Hall.  
I'll let you know as soon as I hear back from Chief Rokus.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 10:40 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hello Anoosheh,

Yes, would be wonderful if you would touch base with Dane and make an appointment!

Would like to talk with Chief Rokus about the following:

Any anti-immigrant sentiments expressed in the community? If so, how are sentiments managed?

How are immigrants groups isolated or integrated into the community?

Does local law enforcement have a community or cultural liaison?

Any foreseeable barriers from public safety perspective to resettlement in community

Any resources available for language barriers?

Would welcome you to our conversation with hopes we can extend your time for other questions/updates.

Thank you!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 8:26 AM

**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

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Do you want me to touch base with Dang and make an appointment?

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Do you have a list of questions for him I can pass on?

I'd be able to sit with you and Chief or separately. I'll wait for us to schedule the meetings with Dang and Chief Rokus and then with me, I have lots of openings on Wednesday ☐

Anoosheh

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**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 7:35 AM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Good Morning, Anoosheh!

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Do you think it would be possible to schedule a brief meeting with the Chief of Police or other representative from public safety? I can do that on my own if you would refer me to the appropriate person or if they want to join our time with you, would be perfectly appropriate! I was going to ask you some additional, random type questions and if you are not able to answer, can refer me and I'll follow up with phone calls or emails. Also, review next steps with you.

Am digging deeper into housing and will update you on Wednesday.

Let me know what time is convenient for you in Wednesday and will look forward to seeing you then!

Tami

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 7:52 PM

**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hi Tami,

It's been a little too hot for spring these couple of days but will cool off soon ☺

I would suggest contacting either of the two or both: Dang Yang ECASD EDI Director):

[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)

or Dr. Kaying Xiong: [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu) . You can also visit one of our schools with larger ELL enrollment.

We can definitely meet, will you be here on the 19<sup>th</sup>? Would I be able to answer your questions or who else

do you need to be in the meeting? and yes we are still planning to visit you there, if possible

April 24<sup>th</sup>

around 4:00, if not, April 25<sup>th</sup> after 4:00 .

Looking forward to see you again and meet with your colleagues.

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hello Anoosheh,

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Also, would you have an hour to meet with us to review a few more questions and other details relating to a proposal submission? It would also give us an opportunity to schedule a visit to our office when you are in Appleton for the Toward One Diversity and Inclusive Conference. (if you are still interested)

Appreciate your assistance and hope to connect next week!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 14:12:11 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

The meeting with Chief Matt Rokus is scheduled for 1:30-2:30 pm. His office is at the County, 5 minutes from us. I'll attend the meeting too.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 1:55 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hi Anoosheh,

Thank you! We have an appointment with Mary Proznik of Riverbend Rentals and Property Management at 3pm in her office and will head back to Appleton following that meeting. I also had a very encouraging call with Brian Johnson of JCAP this morning so between Mary and Brian will have good information regarding housing.

Will need to do more research on employment but will make those phone calls after our visit on Wednesday.

Whatever you decide regarding Chief Rokus (together or separate) is good with me!

Thank you, again!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 1:07 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hi Tami,

Your meeting with Dang is scheduled at 10:00am, Wednesday April 19<sup>th</sup>. Blia Schwahn, School community Liaison who works with family services will be there too. The address of District Office is 500 Main Street which is 1 minute away from the City Hall. I'll let you know as soon as I hear back from Chief Rokus.

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**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 10:40 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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or Dr. Kaying Xiong: [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu) . You can also visit one of our schools with larger ELL enrollment.

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**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 20 Apr 2023 15:49:48 -0500  
**To:** "James Rashid" <JRashid@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Connect on Monday

Hi James,

It was nice meeting you too. This is how our schedule looks like next week:

Monday:

12:00 -4:00 in Wausau, probably around 5:30 we'll be in Appleton ( we can't meet after 5:30, can we?)

Tuesday:

8:00-5:30 Conference ( we can miss one session and be at World Relief at 1:00?)

Wednesday:

7:30- 1:30 Conference, 2:00 visit Forward service Corp in Menasha ( we can meet with you after?)

We would appreciate if you can walk us through the process of refugee resettlement, I have worked with UNHCR, so have some idea how it works but both of us would like to get a better picture please. If we meet during the day we would love to take a tour of your office too if possible. I don't have any specific question in mind to ask at this time ☐

Please let me know which day and time works better for you.

Thank you,  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** James Rashid <JRashid@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 2:31 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Connect on Monday

Hi Annosheh,

Nice meeting you yesterday and hearing about Eau Claire's eagerness to launch resettlement efforts. I am looking forward to connecting with you while you're in Appleton on Monday. Can you confirm a good time to meet? I was planning to host you at our office. Our address is below:

510 E Wisconsin Ave  
Appleton, WI 54911

Could you also provide a few questions or topics you'd like me to cover for you and your colleague when you visit?

Thanks,

**JAMES RASHID**

Refugee Programs Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | f: 920.301.7275

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 21 Apr 2023 10:35:11 -0500  
**To:** "James Rashid" <JRashid@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Connect on Monday

Hi James,

We'll try to be there on Wednesday at 3:00. Thank you! ☺

---

**From:** James Rashid <JRashid@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 8:50 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Connect on Monday

Hi Anoosheh, thanks for your response. Let's meet after your Forward Service meeting on Wednesday so you can see the office and meet anyone who's around. Do you think that'll be around 3:00 or 3:30 pm? Here's my cell if you need to connect more quickly next Wednesday: 920-851-6399.

Looking forward to it!

## JAMES RASHID

Refugee Programs Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | f: 920.301.7275

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 3:49 PM  
**To:** James Rashid <[JRashid@wr.org](mailto:JRashid@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Connect on Monday

Hi James,

It was nice meeting you too. This is how our schedule looks like next week:

Monday:

12:00 -4:00 in Wausau, probably around 5:30 we'll be in Appleton ( we can't meet after 5:30, can we?)

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**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 2:31 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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Could you also provide a few questions or topics you'd like me to cover for you and your colleague when you visit?

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o: 920.231.3600 | f: 920.301.7275

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 21 Apr 2023 10:47:37 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Date	Time	Plan	Location
24th	9:00	Pick up rental car	2927 Hamilton Ave
24th	10:00	Head out towards Wausau	-
24th	12:00	Meet with Wausau Mayor	407 Grant Street
24th	3:00	Visit Wausau Warming center(Catholic Charities)	540 S 3rd Ave
25th	-	Conference all day	Appleton
26th	7:30	Conference	-
26th	1:30	Skip the Ending	-
26th	2:00	Visit Forward Service Corp (Refugee support Services, Menasha)	1050 Midway Road, in the same building as Subway
26th	3:00	World Relief	510 E Wisconsin Avenue, Contact # 920-851-6399 James

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 21 Apr 2023 11:08:18 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** "James Rashid" <JRashid@wr.org>; "Karen Crisler" <KCrisler@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Thank you!

Hello,

Is this what you were looking for?

*Eau Claire County Workforce Resource Inc. (W2)  
221 W. Madison Street, Suite 140-A  
Eau Claire, WI 54703*

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 12:08 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** James Rashid <JRashid@wr.org>; Karen Crisler <KCrisler@wr.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Thank you!

Hello Anoosheh,

It was great to see you yesterday! We appreciate your continued willingness to serve as our liaison with many of the community stakeholders. Will be in touch as questions arise and will copy you on the requests for support letters.

Sorry I'm travelling next week but James will look forward to meeting you in our Appleton Office at 510 E Wisconsin Avenue.

Take care!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 21 Apr 2023 13:16:46 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

I asked them before, they said no ☐ see the quote below:

“Our financial advocate, Erin, would prefer you not visit on a Monday because it is our walk-in day and could compromise client confidentiality. Our walk-in’s end at 3:00 if you would still be in the area then?”

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 1:09 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Hi Anoosheh – Sorry for this question and I don’t want to mess up plans... I see that there is actually a bus I could take back from Wausau, but it leaves at 3PM. Would there be any chance of going to the Warming Center before 3PM so I could make the bus?

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Awesome schedule! ☐ Ua tsaug for putting this together!

Ka

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 10:48 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Wausau/Appleton days schedule

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Date	Time	Plan	Location
24th	10:00	Head out towards Wausau	-
24th	12:00	Meet with Wausau Mayor	407 Grant Street
24th	3:00	Visit Wausau Warming center(Catholic Charities)	540 S 3rd Ave
25th	-	Conference all day	Appleton
26th	7:30	Conference	-
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26th	2:00	Visit Forward Service Corp (Refugee support Services, Menasha)	1050 Midway Road, in the same building as Subway
26th	3:00	World Relief	510 E Wisconsin Avenue, Contact # 920-851-6399 James

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

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W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 22 Apr 2023 14:59:34 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Tami,

Aaron would know a lot more than I do, and you're welcome to contact him directly

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>

**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 5:50:42 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Anoosheh,

Wrapping this week up while planning next week and would like to schedule calls with 3 – 4 employers in Eau Claire who might be interested in employing refugees. Would Aaron White be the best contact for that information? If so, I can reach out to him directly or would you prefer to?

Hope you know how much I appreciate you!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 24 Apr 2023 17:03:19 -0500  
**To:** "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] refugee resettlement update?

Hi Holly,  
Yes we have heard a lot of good things ☺ , in a few days we will know for sure ☺

---

**From:** Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2023 9:26 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] refugee resettlement update?

Hi Anoosheh,

Have you heard anything from World Relief about the results of the site visit? I'm curious and excited!

Thanks,  
Holly

Holly Hassemer  
Pronouns: she/her/hers  
Dean of Academic Development and Services  
Chippewa Valley Technical College  
715-831-7331

Like Adult Ed & College Prep 

Join the Academic Service FB Group 

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 9 May 2023 12:39:51 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Tami,  
We enjoyed our stay in Appleton, James was a perfect host, and now we're looking forward to hear from you.  
Have you submitted the proposal? When do you expect to hear back from them?

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2023 8:56 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Thanks Anoosheh! Will do.

Hope you enjoy the conference in Appleton. Will look forward to an update from James regarding your World Relief visit]

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 22, 2023 3:00 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Tami,

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---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 5:50:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Anoosheh,

Wrapping this week up while planning next week and would like to schedule calls with 3 – 4 employers in Eau Claire who might be interested in employing refugees. Would Aaron White be the best contact for that information? If so, I can reach out to him directly or would you prefer to?

Hope you know how much I appreciate you!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 10 May 2023 08:27:31 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Good morning Tami,

Yes it was productive, we came back with lots of ideas and recommendations for the City Manager  
Glad to know Eau Claire is selected to be proposed and thank you for the updates.

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 5:43 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Anoosheh,

Glad you enjoyed your stay and hope the conference was productive!

We have decided to propose Eau Claire as our recommendation for a new resettlement site. Everyone we had a conversation with was supportive and the work that your community has already done around welcoming refugees and immigrants has been impressive. It would be an honor to open an office in Eau Claire.

We are preparing the proposal which is due the end of the month and later this week I plan to send emails requesting support letters from stake holders. We expect to receive final approval late summer/early fall but will continue to move forward with plans around hiring and securing office space.

Will be in touch but let me know if you have additional questions. So appreciative of your assistance and support. The fun is just beginning J

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 12:40 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Tami,

We enjoyed our stay in Appleton, James was a perfect host, and now we're looking forward to hear from you.

Have you submitted the proposal? When do you expect to hear back from them?

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**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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Thanks Anoosheh! Will do.

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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 10 May 2023 09:57:52 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Employers

FYI,

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 12:40 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Tami,

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Anoosheh

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**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2023 8:56 AM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

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**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
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**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 5:50:42 PM  
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**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Employers

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World Relief Fox Valley

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 10 May 2023 14:27:59 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

We have been working to evaluate the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees with the aim of fostering a more diverse and multi-cultural community and addressing employee shortages. As part of our collaboration with the World Relief Organization in Appleton, we have been facilitating their communication with all relevant stakeholders in Eau Claire.

We are delighted to announce that Eau Claire has been recommended to World Relief Headquarters as a potential new resettlement site.

While final approval is expected in late summer or early fall, World Relief may begin hiring and securing office space during the summer.

Tami McLaughlin, Director of World Relief in Appleton, stated, "We have decided to propose Eau Claire as our recommendation for a new resettlement site. Everyone we had a conversation with was supportive, and the work that Eau Claire has already done to welcome refugees and immigrants has been impressive. It would be an honor to open an office in Eau Claire."

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 12:32 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Employers

WOW!!! That is so exciting! Thanks for all you did to make this possible. Let me know what I can do. Also, can you write up information that I can share with the Council?

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 9:57:52 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Employers

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Glad you enjoyed your stay and hope the conference was productive!

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We are preparing the proposal which is due the end of the month and later this week I plan to send emails requesting support letters from stake holders. We expect to receive final approval late summer/early fall but will continue to move forward with plans around hiring and securing office space.

Will be in touch but let me know if you have additional questions. So appreciative of your assistance and support. The fun is just beginning J

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 12:40 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Tami,

We enjoyed our stay in Appleton, James was a perfect host, and now we're looking forward to hear from you.

Have you submitted the proposal? When do you expect to hear back from them?

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2023 8:56 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Thanks Anoosheh! Will do.

Hope you enjoy the conference in Appleton. Will look forward to an update from James regarding your World Relief visitJ

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 22, 2023 3:00 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Tami,

Aaron would know a lot more than I do, and you're welcome to contact him directly

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 5:50:42 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Anoosheh,

Wrapping this week up while planning next week and would like to schedule calls with 3 – 4 employers in Eau Claire who might be interested in employing refugees. Would Aaron White be the best contact for that information? If so, I can reach out to him directly or would you prefer to?

Hope you know how much I appreciate you!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 11 May 2023 08:26:14 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Self Evaluation  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-04\_SelfEvaluationCMOffice.docx

Good morning,

My self-evaluation is attached.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 12 May 2023 09:59:52 -0500  
**To:** "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: FLYER Ready to be distributed

Thank you Holly,

The message below is from Tami, the WR director:

**“We have decided to propose Eau Claire as our recommendation for a new resettlement site.**

**Everyone we had a conversation with was supportive and the work that your community has already done around welcoming refugees and immigrants has been impressive. It would be an honor to open an office in Eau Claire.**

**We are preparing the proposal which is due the end of the month and later this week I plan to send emails requesting support letters from stake holders. We expect to receive final approval late summer/early fall but will continue to move forward with plans around hiring and securing office space.”**

---

**From:** Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 8:41 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: FLYER Ready to be distributed

Thanks, Anoosheh! I will share with our Workforce Solutions team, our deans, and others as well.

Any news on the World Relief visit?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 8:15 AM  
**To:** Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>  
**Subject:** FLYER Ready to be distributed  
**Importance:** High

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good morning Holly,

Our flyer for the info. session is attached. Please feel free to distribute.

Thank you

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 12 May 2023 10:28:40 -0500  
**To:** "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: FLYER Ready to be distributed

I think we might wait until it's approved before we share ☐

---

**From:** Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 10:06 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: FLYER Ready to be distributed

Ahh!! I have goosebumps! How exciting.

Is this information that is able to be shared? Or should I keep it quiet until WR announces something? I see that it is not completely a done deal yet. CVTC looks forward to submitting a letter of support.

Thanks for the update!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 10:00 AM  
**To:** Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: FLYER Ready to be distributed

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Thank you Holly,

The message below is from Tami, the WR director:

**“We have decided to propose Eau Claire as our recommendation for a new resettlement site.**

**Everyone we had a conversation with was supportive and the work that your community has already done around welcoming refugees and immigrants has been impressive. It would be an honor to open an office in Eau Claire.**

**We are preparing the proposal which is due the end of the month and later this week I plan to send emails requesting support letters from stake holders. We expect to receive final approval late summer/early fall but will continue to move forward with plans around hiring and securing office space.”**

---

**From:** Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 8:41 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: FLYER Ready to be distributed

Thanks, Anoosheh! I will share with our Workforce Solutions team, our deans, and others as well.

Any news on the World Relief visit?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 8:15 AM  
**To:** Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>  
**Subject:** FLYER Ready to be distributed  
**Importance:** High

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good morning Holly,

Our flyer for the info. session is attached. Please feel free to distribute.

Thank you

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 12:03:50 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Local Governance Letter of Support Template.docx

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 12:03:05 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Good morning Tami,

It's weird, her email address is correct, I'll make sure she has received it.

CVTC (Holley Hassemmer) has also announced their interest in providing a letter of support if you need it at all.

This is Chief Rokus's email: [Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)

Please let me know if there's anything else I can help with.

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:50 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Good Morning, Anoosheh!

Hope you had a nice Mother's Day weekend!

I've copied you on a request to Stephanie for a support letter but it was returned to me. Could you verify the address? Also, am sending a request to Chief Rokus but do not have his email. Would you share his address with me?

I am sending requests to Nancy Weltzin, Marisa Stanley and Deng Yang along with our State Refugee Coordinator and State Refugee Health Coordinator. I don't expect any issues and will include with our proposal which should be completed by the end of May.

Will keep you posted on progress!

As always, appreciate your assistance and support!

Tami

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** [Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov).

**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 13:18:22 -0500  
**To:** "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
"Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Local Public Health Letter of Support Template (1).docx

Just to make sure you have received this email

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov. <marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Marisa,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 13:20:29 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

You have put a dot after gov, probably that's why. I forwarded your email to Elizabeth Giese( Health Director) and Marisa( the deputy Health Director).

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you! I'll send a request to Holly.  
I'm also receiving a notice that Marisa Stanley at Public Health's address is not valid. Will send and copy you!  
Thanks!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:03 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Good morning Tami,

It's weird, her email address is correct, I'll make sure she has received it.

CVTC (Holley Hassemer)has also announced their interest in providing a letter of support if you need it at all.

This is Chief Rokus's email: [Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)

Please let me know if there's anything else I can help with.

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:50 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Good Morning, Anoosheh!

Hope you had a nice Mother's Day weekend!

I've copied you on a request to Stephanie for a support letter but it was returned to me. Could you verify the address? Also, am sending a request to Chief Rokus but do not have his email. Would you share his address with me?

I am sending requests to Nancy Weltzin, Marisa Stanley and Deng Yang along with our State Refugee Coordinator and State Refugee Health Coordinator. I don't expect any issues and will include with our proposal which should be completed by the end of May.

Will keep you posted on progress!

As always, appreciate your assistance and support!

Tami

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** [Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov).  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 13:36:29 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Local Public Health Letter of Support Template (1).docx

FYI,

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:18 PM  
**To:** Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; Elizabeth Geise <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you have received this email

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** [marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov). <[marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Marisa,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you personally have done with refugee health screenings as well as the whole Eau Claire public health team to pave the way for future newcomer communities. We look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**  
Office Director  
World Relief Fox Valley  
[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 13:50:58 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** FW: letter of support

This is what I have so far, I don't have as much info as you have on the 2<sup>nd</sup> part though:

Dear Ms. Herrera:

As Eau Claire's City Manager, I submit this letter of support for World Relief to open a new affiliate site in Eau Claire.

The city started collaborating with World Relief of Appleton in March. This collaboration has involved discussions with all stakeholders in the city, including community members, local businesses, Health Department, Police Chief, Department of Human Services and other government officials. Through these discussions, the benefits of opening a resettlement agency in town were highlighted, and all stakeholders announced their support for the initiative. This collaboration represents a significant step forward in creating a more welcoming and inclusive community for all.

After careful consideration, I believe Eau Claire is well-suited to not only receive refugees but to help them thrive. [DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL EMPLOYMENT, COMMUNITY SUPPORT, STATE PROGRAMS, AND ANY OTHER FACTORS CONDUCIVE TO SUCCESSFUL RESETTLEMENT]

Eau Claire believes that welcoming refugees takes a collective effort. We take pride in resettling refugees from diverse ethnic and national backgrounds, and we look for opportunities to build long term community connection and successful integration for our new neighbors. It is clear from World Relief's work in other locations that they will be a strong partner with us in these efforts, and they provide high quality services to help refugees achieve economic self-sufficiency and integration in their local communities. As such, we support their proposal to open a new office in Eau Claire.

Sincerely,

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:35 PM  
**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** letter of support

Hi Tami,

Stephanie has asked me to draft the letter , I wonder if I can use the results of your research as my cheat sheet to fill the highlighted sections below please?



Office of the City Manager

Phone: 715-839-4900

5/15/2023

Ms. Holly Herrera  
Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
U.S. Department of State

Dear Ms. Herrera:

As Eau Claire's City Manager, I submit this letter of support for World Relief to open a new affiliate site in Eau Claire.

[DESCRIPTION OF CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL OFFICE/AFFILIATE AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS AS APPLICABLE]

After careful consideration, I believe Eau Claire is well-suited to not only receive refugees but to help them thrive. [DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL EMPLOYMENT, COMMUNITY SUPPORT, STATE PROGRAMS, AND ANY OTHER FACTORS CONDUCIVE TO SUCCESSFUL RESETTLEMENT]

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Sincerely,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 14:12:29 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Letter of support  
**Attachments:** Letter of support.docx

This is what I have written so far, it doesn't include many statistics. Do you think it's good enough? If yes, I'll send it to Stephanie for her approval.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 08:03:57 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

FYI, email below from Lieske

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**From:** Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 8:26 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you Anoosheh.  
We will review and be in touch with Tami.  
Do note that this is the type of additional tax levy supported effort from our agency that is so critical that we will have to sort out how to navigate.  
Lieske

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:18 PM  
**To:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you have received this email

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** [marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov). <[marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Marisa,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you personally have done with refugee health screenings as well as the whole Eau Claire public health team to pave the way for future newcomer communities. We look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 08:38:09 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Letter of support.docx

Good morning,  
Draft letter is attached.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Not sure why it would've bounced... Do you want to draft the letter for me to sign?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 21 Jun 2023 14:31:13 -0500  
**To:** "rezajay@hotmail.com" <rezajay@hotmail.com>  
**Subject:** Appraisal goals

Establish new goals for the next 12-month period. (Supervisor & Employee Complete Together)  
These should be specific, measurable and within reach.

Let's think about how you see your role evolving and set related goals... In our meeting we discussed having you think about where you'd like to work towards, including into some kind of leadership or management position. Also, we will be working towards having you have permanent employment after the LTE ARPA funding ends. Future roles could include work in HR, Finance, another function, or some role that combines multiple hats. You definitely have the aptitudes and skills to work towards being a senior manager in the City or in another organization of your choosing. We talked about having you get an HR certification, take leadership managing projects, and expand your skills in data analysis and finance. Also, it would be very helpful to have you serve as a key part of the EDI leadership team, so that there's a larger support system for the EDI Coordinator.

Noteworthy accomplishments during this review period.

- Very exciting work with PERM and World Relief! This will be a lasting accomplishment for decades to come if we can make it all happen...
- Great work with HR, IT, and other divisions.
- Very helpful work on BCCs and other admin functions.
- Very impressed with how Anoosheh takes feedback and tries to operationalize it and largely succeeds. You are definitely very smart and thoughtful and able to learn and adapt.
- Mature, wise, creative leader – learning the nuts and bolts of municipal government, but doing so quickly.
- Appreciate Anoosheh's willingness to be part of the EDI leadership team.

List any areas for constructive feedback (i.e. do more of or less of ....)

- Continue effort to stay positive and assume the best.

## Anoosheh Hamzehee

### Associate Analyst

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701





**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 21 Jun 2023 14:45:01 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Appraisal  
**Attachments:** Performance Appraisal,Anoosheh.pdf

Please see the attached.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 7 Jul 2023 15:03:29 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami,

Hope you are doing fine. How is World Relief Eau Claire project going?  
Have you heard back from the HQ yet? Have you started looking for a place/hiring?

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:13 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you!

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 8 Jul 2023 13:15:26 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 5:33:45 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Anoosheh,

Good to hear from you! We don't expect to receive final approve for the resettlement site until late August but are going to begin recruiting for the site director (position should be posted by the following week). I will also begin looking for office space. Do you have any recommendations regarding location? A top priority is accessibility to public transportation.

Will stay in touch as starting to move forward!

Thanks!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 3:03 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami,

Hope you are doing fine. How is World Relief Eau Claire project going?  
Have you heard back from the HQ yet? Have you started looking for a place/hiring?

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:13 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you!

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 12 Jul 2023 11:09:45 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: potential office space

FYI,

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 6:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: potential office space

Hi Anoosheh,

Thanks for the recommendations. I will follow up; most likely next week.

The site manager position should be posted by the end of the week on the following link. We expect to post several more positions in the next 6 weeks with the hopes of officially opening the office on October 1<sup>st</sup>. All of these dates and plans are tentative dependent on staffing, securing a lease and of course approval which we do expect by the end of summer.

[World Relief Jobs | Explore Opportunities | World Relief](#)

Are you familiar with the Chippewa Valley Multi Cultural Festival? Ginny Close recommended we attend. Wonder if there are other events we should attend or plan?

Keep in touch and will hope to see you before the end of the summer!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 9:18 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** FW: potential office space

Good morning Tami,

According to Aaron these are 3 likely landlords for this group with space in the Downtown, which has the best access to public transportation.  
Where would you post your vacancy/ I would personally be interested to check ☐

Have a great week!  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 9:11 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** potential office space

Here are the 3 I think have the best options:

<p><b>Patrick Hull</b> Greenpoint Properties Owner</p> <p>(715) 833-9625 Work <a href="mailto:patrick@greenpointco.com">patrick@greenpointco.com</a></p>	<p><b>Stuart Schaefer</b> Commonweal Development Corp President</p> <p>(715) 832-8707 Work (715) 828-9900 Mobile <a href="mailto:sschaefer@commonwealdc.com">sschaefer@commonwealdc.com</a></p>
<p><b>John Mogensen</b> Investment Realty Owner</p> <p>(715) 828-1096 Mobile <a href="mailto:john@investmentrealtors.com">john@investmentrealtors.com</a></p>	

If these 3 don't have space, let me know and I can send some additional leads.

## Aaron J. White, MBA

*Community Development Director*

715-839-4914—main desk

715-839-6047—direct line

[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>

<https://www.eauclairedevelopment.com/>

203 S. Farwell St, Eau Claire, WI 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Jul 2023 09:41:27 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief, Eau Claire Site Manager

[World Relief - Site Manager \(lever.co\)](#)

I would like to highlight :

### Requirements

- Mature and personal Christian faith
- Committed to the mission, vision, and values of World Relief
- Desire to serve and empower the Church to impact vulnerable communities
- Able to affirm and/or acknowledge World Reliefs Core Beliefs, Statement of Faith, Christian Identity and National Evangelicals For the Health of The Nation document

### Anoosheh Hamzehee

#### Associate Analyst

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Jul 2023 11:42:14 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: potential office space

Hi Tami,

It is posted now and I have a question for you: Is it possible for individuals who do not have a personal Christian faith but deeply respect the mission of World Relief and can affirm and acknowledge the organization's core beliefs and values to apply for job positions within the organization? We are going to encourage people to apply and I might apply for it, so we need to know ☐

Thank you,  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 6:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
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**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** FW: potential office space

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Where would you post your vacancy/ I would personally be interested to check ☐

Have a great week!  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 9:11 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** potential office space

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<p><b>John Mogensen</b> Investment Realty Owner</p> <p>(715) 828-1096 Mobile <a href="mailto:john@investmentrealtors.com">john@investmentrealtors.com</a></p>	

If these 3 don't have space, let me know and I can send some additional leads.

**Aaron J. White, MBA**  
*Community Development Director*  
715-839-4914—main desk  
715-839-6047—direct line  
[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)  
<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>  
<https://www.eauclairedevelopment.com/>  
203 S. Farwell St, Eau Claire, WI 54701



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Jul 2023 14:06:05 -0500  
**To:** "anoosheh29@gmail.com" <anoosheh29@gmail.com>

[World Relief - Site Manager \(lever.co\)](#)

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 24 Jul 2023 10:22:52 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** copy pasted from personal email

Hi Anoosheh,

Thank you for your interest in World Relief! We wanted to let you know we received your application for Site Manager, and we are delighted that you would consider joining our team.

Our team will review your application and will be in touch if your qualifications match our needs for the role. If you are not selected for this position, keep an eye on our jobs page as we're growing and adding openings.

Best,  
The World Relief Team

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 15 Sep 2023 11:42:32 -0500  
**To:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
"Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
"Cortney Sperber" <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Hi Lieske,

World Relief is in the process of renting an office and hiring staff. They predict the first arrivals to occur at the end of November. I have asked Tami, the Director, for more info. I will share as soon as I receive a response. Meanwhile please let me know if there are any specific details that you would want to know.

Have a great day,  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 11:23 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cortney Sperber <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Greetings.

I wanted to quickly connect to see if you have any updates for us related to the proposed resettlement efforts. I know that depending on what moves forward, there may be considerable involvement of staff and resources across our agencies. I want to be sure we are thinking about that so we have planned strategically.

Let me know what you can share.

Thanks much.

Lieske

*Lieske (Elizabeth) Giese, RN, MSPH | Health Officer - Director*

[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)

P: (715) 839-4718 F: (715) 839-1674 Cell: (715) 514-7881

720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703



[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

***For more immediate response, please contact us at [ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov).  
If there is a public health emergency outside of normal business hours, please contact  
NON-emergency dispatch at (715) 839-4972 and they will connect you with a public health  
official.***

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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 19 Sep 2023 07:11:26 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

FYI,

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 6:27 PM  
**To:** Elizabeth Geise <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Hello Lieske,

Annoosheh forwarded your email and I appreciate your interest in preparing for the arrival of refugees to the Chippewa Valley in the near future. Our team in the Fox Valley is wrapping up fiscal year 2023 in the midst of welcoming a few more individuals and families while also preparing to open our Chippewa Valley office in the next few weeks.

We are on the cusp of finalizing office space and in the process of making offers for several staff positions. We hope most of these details are in place by the middle of October. In addition, we have tentatively scheduled a "partner meeting" for later October and plan to send invites next week which you will receive. With all of these details in place, our best estimate for first arrivals would be late November and could consist of individuals or families. The total number of refugees we have been approved to welcome to the Chippewa Valley for FY2024 is 75 people.

Brittany Fry reached out earlier this summer asking for information regarding Public Health's responsibility in refugee resettlement and following was the response provided by our State Refugee Health Coordinator, Savitri Tsering:

*Hello,*

*I work as the State Refugee Health Coordinator (SRHC) and can address concerns related to refugees coming into your community. I know World Relief Fox Valley (WRFV) will be opening a satellite office in Eau Claire this fall. For refugee services we recommend that the local health department (LHD) be part of the network that works with the resettlement agency (RA) and provides information and updates as needed. In general, it is not expected that LHDs do any more for refugees than they would for others living in their community. You will be viewed as an agency in the know about area health/medical providers.*

*As you are aware there are sponsored humanitarian parolees that are coming into the US that need TB attestation. If they are not eligible for Medicaid (depending on where they are from, they may or may not be eligible), the TB dispensary can cover their TB related screening services.*

*Ways that health departments have helped make connection with the refugee community is in providing education and updates for programs they have such as home visiting, WIC, communicable disease follow-up, child car safety, Well Women programs, etc. – your LHD may or may not have some of those services but the point is, what you offer the general public, in turn offer to the refugee community and make sure you have a seat at the table for understanding and connecting with those doing refugee resettlement in your community.*

*Taking the view broader to all immigrant populations the same will be true – what do you provide to your general population, make sure [your local connection to Covering WI](#) is strong so that full knowledge of healthcare eligibility is there, know the parameters of what services you can provide regardless of documentation status.*

Lieske, I hope this information is helpful. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. We hope to meet you in the near future and look forward to developing a strong partnership and welcoming network for the Chippewa Valley newcomers!

Thank you,

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 8:32 AM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>

**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Thanks for the update Anoosheh.

Someone from our team will be happy to be part of the conversation.

I know that housing also will be an important issue. Not sure if anyone is actively addressing that if a large group of people are coming.

Do you know if this is likely individuals or families? That would help us in thinking who best on our end to engage.

Thanks.

Lieske

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 8:26 AM  
**To:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Good morning Lieske,

Tami will provide you more details this week. They're going to have a partnership meeting the middle of October and in the process of finalizing those plans.

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 11:23 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Greetings.

I wanted to quickly connect to see if you have any updates for us related to the proposed resettlement efforts. I know that depending on what moves forward, there may be considerable involvement of staff and resources across our agencies. I want to be sure we are thinking about that so we have planned strategically.

Let me know what you can share.

Thanks much.

Lieske

*Lieske (Elizabeth) Giese, RN, MSPH | Health Officer - Director*

[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)

P: (715) 839-4718 F: (715) 839-1674 Cell: (715) 514-7881

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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 08:06:45 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

Is it ok to share it with Council members, CM staff, Lieske and Holly from CVTC?

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2023 6:27 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

Hello Anoosheh,

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We are planning on hosting two meetings; a community partner meeting on Wednesday, October 18 which you and several others from the city will receive invitations too, as well as a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23. Following is a link to that event and I am hoping you might be willing to send it to your networks and/or make any recommendations regarding other groups we should send it to?

We are so encouraged by the willingness of the Chippewa Valley community to embrace refugee newcomers and look forward to continuing to build friendships and partnerships around welcoming our new neighbors.

Thanks for your help and will hope to see you the 18<sup>th</sup> and perhaps the 23<sup>rd</sup>!

Tami

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](https://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 09:41:11 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Danya Morman" <Danya.Morman@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Travis Davis" <Travis.Davis@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

FYI,

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2023 6:27 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

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**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**  
Office Director  
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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 11:06:30 -0500  
**To:** "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Upcoming World Relief event

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**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 11:10:33 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

Hi Tami,

I'm glad you're making progress. I shared the event with our Communications specialist, City Manager, Health department and CVTC. I can also share it with our Library Director. Do you want it to be posted in the library for the public? Stephanie will share it with the Council too.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2023 6:27 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

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**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**  
Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley  
[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)  
o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 13:53:49 -0500  
**To:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
"Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Cortney Sperber" <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Upcoming World Relief event

It's up to them. I guess we will know soon ☐

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 12:47 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** Cortney Sperber <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Upcoming World Relief event

Thank you for sharing this.  
Will you want health department participation at the first meeting?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 11:07 AM  
**To:** Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>; Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** Upcoming World Relief event

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**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 13:56:27 -0500  
**To:** "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Cortney Sperber" <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "David Anderson" <prdavea@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

FYI,

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 1:54 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**  
Office Director  
World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 14:03:00 -0500  
**To:** "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
"Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Cortney Sperber" <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Recall: [EXTERNAL] RE: Upcoming World Relief event

Anoosheh Hamzehee would like to recall the message, "[EXTERNAL] RE: Upcoming World Relief event".

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 14:04:25 -0500  
**To:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
"Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Cortney Sperber" <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Upcoming World Relief event

Forwarded you the invite

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 12:47 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** Cortney Sperber <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Upcoming World Relief event

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Will you want health department participation at the first meeting?

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 11:07 AM  
**To:** Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>; Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 14:42:19 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

This is the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, it's not for the public, but we can share with Council members.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 1:54 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**  
Office Director  
World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office  
[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)  
o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 2 Oct 2023 10:08:34 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Danya Morman" <Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan"  
<Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg"  
<dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Interview

I think either you or Tami ?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Danya Morman <Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan  
<Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Interview

I can call them... unless Anoosheh or someone else would like to.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Danya Morman <[Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 9:35:33 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan  
<[Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** World Relief Interview

Got a call from WEAU looking to talk to someone about World Relief. Do you know who the best person would be for that? Person calling was Ellie Pomerleau, email is [Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com) and number is 612-562-5883

Sincerely,

**Danya Morman** *(They, Them, Theirs)*

**Management Analyst Fellow**

(715) 839-4902

[Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 3 Oct 2023 10:34:27 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** How I answered the questions

Ka's professional skills mix, including her passion for social causes, organizational prowess, interpersonal skills, adaptability, and problem-solving abilities, makes her an outstanding candidate for this role. Her dedication to making a positive impact and her ability to lead and manage in diverse environments are qualities that would greatly benefit any organization striving to create a better world.

As an EDI Coordinator, Ka demonstrates an exceptional level of cultural sensitivity in her role. Her deep understanding and respect for diverse backgrounds and perspectives is evident in her interactions and initiatives. She actively promotes an inclusive environment by fostering open dialogue and ensuring that all voices are heard and valued. Ka is not only aware of cultural differences but also actively seeks to learn and educate others about them, contributing to a more inclusive workplace. Her approach to EDI initiatives is grounded in cultural humility, showing a willingness to listen, learn, and adapt.

Yes, I highly recommend Ka for the position of Site Manager at World Relief. Ka brings a wealth of experience and qualifications that make her an exceptional candidate for this role. Having worked as an EDI (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) Coordinator, Ka has a deep understanding of the importance of cultural sensitivity, empathy, and inclusivity. She has successfully fostered inclusive environments in previous roles, which aligns perfectly with the diverse and culturally rich nature of refugee resettlement work. Moreover, Ka's experience working with university students and her background with a Ph.D. in Leadership, Policy, and Administration make her well-equipped to manage and lead teams effectively. Her academic expertise in leadership and administration, combined with practical experience, will enable her to oversee the various aspects of resettlement with a strategic and compassionate approach. Ka is not only dedicated to promoting equity and diversity but also possesses strong communication, organizational, and problem-solving skills. These qualities are essential for managing complex resettlement programs and coordinating with multiple stakeholders, including government agencies, NGOs, and volunteers. In summary, Ka is a highly qualified and dedicated individual with the right blend of skills, experience, and empathy to excel in the role of Site Manager at your refugee resettlement agency. I have no doubt that she will contribute significantly to the success of your organization and the well-being of the refugees you serve.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 3 Oct 2023 16:17:18 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

Yes and I forwarded it to Lieske and Holly H and Stephanie and you?

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 4:11:14 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

Did you receive the invite to the community partner meeting on Oct 18?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 9:41 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Billie Hufford <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Danya Morman <Danya.Morman@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Travis Davis <Travis.Davis@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Nicholas Koerner <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

FYI,

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2023 6:27 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

Hello Anoosheh,

We are making progress with regard to establishing the World Relief Wisconsin Chippewa Valley office and continue to project our first refugees will arrive by the end of November.

We are planning on hosting two meetings; a community partner meeting on Wednesday, October 18 which you and several others from the city will receive invitations too, as well as a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23. Following is a link to that event and I am hoping you might be willing to send it to your networks and/or make any recommendations regarding other groups we should send it to?

We are so encouraged by the willingness of the Chippewa Valley community to embrace refugee newcomers and look forward to continuing to build friendships and partnerships around welcoming our new neighbors.

Thanks for your help and will hope to see you the 18<sup>th</sup> and perhaps the 23<sup>rd</sup>!

Tami

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](https://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 4 Oct 2023 08:23:06 -0500  
**To:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Good morning Holly,

Ellie from WEAU is working on a story about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. As a representative of one of the community partners could you kindly share your perspective on how you envision the story unfolding and shed some light on CVTC's potential role in this endeavor, as you collaborate with Ellie?

Thank you,  
Anoosheh

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 2:33 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Elizabeth Geise <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; Aaron White <Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you for these details! Do you have a specific contact from the school district who you worked with to set up educational programs?

Anoosheh- If you could get me more details about which volunteer groups are helping with the project that would be great.

Let me know if you need anything for me.

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 9:34 AM

**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Elizabeth Geise <[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Ellie and all –

In case they'd like to comment, I'm looping in:

- Anoosheh Hamzehee, who worked with World Relief to help them learn more about Eau Claire.
- Dr. Ka Vang (our EDI Coordinator);
- Aaron White (our Community Development Director);
- Emily Berge (our Council President); and
- Lieske Geise (our Health Director).

Anoosheh, can you connect Ellie with the key volunteer groups?

The City doesn't have a formal role, however, we support initiatives like this that boost our local workforce capacity and that support the City's strategic vision of "promoting a welcoming, inclusive, and diverse community" from our Strategic Plan and Vision. [637110562312000000 \(eauclairewi.gov\)](https://www.eauclairewi.gov)

A number of community partners do play a bit more formal roles, including the Human Services Department and the City/County Health Department. CVTC and the School District have also been involved as they have different educational programs for English Language Learners.

---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi guys,

Thank you for reaching out! I was looking to do a story on World Relief coming to Eau Claire and how that will impact the city.

Stephanie- would you be the best person to speak with me about this decision from the City of Eau Claire? Also, I was wondering what volunteer groups you collaborated with in the community to make this happen.

Tami- Would you be available for an on-camera pre-recorded interview on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 9:30 a.m.? I think it would be great if we could meet in Eau Claire outside of where the resettlement agency will be located. However, let me know what works for you! Also, let me know if you have any footage you could submit from World Relief for the story.

My apologies for the response at 11 p.m. I am working overnights tonight. ☹️ My plan would be to film and edit this story the week of Oct. 16 and then air it that following Monday.

Let me know your thoughts!

Best,

# Ellie Pomerleau



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Subject:** World Relief

Hi Ellie –

I have a message from my staff that you're interested in learning more about the World Relief office opening? I'm CCing Tami, who is from World Relief and can give you more details...

Let us know if we can help with anything else!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 4 Oct 2023 08:44:52 -0500  
**To:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Subject:** Some contacts

Hi Ellie,

One of the very first meetings between World Relief and Eau Claire volunteers was with JONAH and Welcoming New Neighbors. From there on Tami from World Relief (the Director of World Relief at their Appleton location) has been in close contact with Ginny Close from Welcoming New Neighbors who helped with providing contacts and getting information out.

## **Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 5 Oct 2023 12:58:59 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

FYI ☐

---

**From:** Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 12:54 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ellie Pomerleau <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hello Anoosheh and Ellie,

Absolutely. I would be thrilled to talk about World Relief and how CVTC is planning to play a role.

Ellie—would you like a statement via email or something else?

Holly

Holly Hassemer  
Pronouns: she/her/hers  
Dean of Academic Development and Services  
Chippewa Valley Technical College  
715-831-7331

Like Adult Ed & College Prep 

Join the Academic Service FB Group 

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 8:23 AM  
**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>; Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

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Thank you,  
Anoosheh

## Anoosheh Hamzehee

### Associate Analyst

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

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**Ellie Pomerleau**



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News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Subject:** World Relief

Hi Ellie –

I have a message from my staff that you're interested in learning more about the World Relief office opening? I'm CCing Tami, who is from World Relief and can give you more details...

Let us know if we can help with anything else!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 9 Oct 2023 10:35:01 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Yes I have ☐

---

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 9, 2023 10:33 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Hope you registered to attend ☐

---

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 9 Oct 2023 10:40:25 -0500  
**To:** "Courtney Olsom" <olsom@eauclairechamber.org>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

In case you haven't received this email already and you're interested.

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 9, 2023 10:28 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 17 Oct 2023 11:37:00 -0500  
**To:** "Kamaljot Singh" <Kamaljot.Singh@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Lunch?

Hi Kamal,

I'm doing fine, thank you. Ka left for World Relief, yes, she is the site manager of WR now. We can meet her close to her office at Eggroll plus, or we can invite her over to somewhere else, or it could be you and I going for lunch.

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Kamaljot Singh <Kamaljot.Singh@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 11:19 AM  
**To:** Kamaljot Singh; Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** Lunch?  
**When:** Monday, October 23, 2023 12:00 PM-1:00 PM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:**

Hi Anoosheh,

How are you doing? Would you like to go on a lunch on Monday? I saw in Stephanie Hirsch's email last Friday that Ka has left city hall? Is that true? If not, I will send this message to her also.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Thank you,

Kamal

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 14:25:34 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] please send out meeting invites to BIPOC Com for upcoming mtg for oct

---

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 2:24 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] please send out meeting invites to BIPOC Com for upcoming mtg for oct

Anoosheh,

Thanks for showing up for today's WR partners meeting.

Can you send out a meeting invite to all BIPOC Committee including facilitators about meeting for Oct. They all asking for that meeting invite. It also serves as a reminder for them.

Thanks,

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**  
Site Manager  
World Relief Wisconsin  
Chippewa Valley  
[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 14:43:04 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Ka's email to BIPOC

**From:** Dang Yang <dangyang3631@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 2:28 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Anoosheh,

I finally got back to my office and here is the email that Ka sent to the BIPOC Steering Committee, announcing her departure. Let me know if you need anything else. Thank you!

--Dang Yang  
[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Ka Vang** <[Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 11, 2023 at 1:03 PM  
**Subject:** BIPOC Steering Committee updates  
**To:** [atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com) <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>, [tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com) <[tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com)>, [3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com) <[3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com)>, [antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com) <[antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com)>, [jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu) <[jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu)>, [legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com) <[legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com)>, [jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu) <[jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu)>, [leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu) <[leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu)>, [clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu) <[clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu)>, [khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com) <[khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com)>, [efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com) <[efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com)>, [emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us) <[emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us)>, [stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org) <[stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org)>, [addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu) <[addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu)>, [vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com) <[vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com)>, [cpwoodsjr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoodsjr@gmail.com) <[cpwoodsjr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoodsjr@gmail.com)>, [larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org) <[larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org)>, [angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com) <[angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com)>  
**Cc:** [dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com) <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>, Berlye Middleton <[middletonberlye@gmail.com](mailto:middletonberlye@gmail.com)>

All,

I wanted to let you know that the BIPOC Steering Committee now has a website:

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/government/our-departments/administrative-services/edi-equity-diversity-inclusion/bipoc-steering-committee>

This is where you can find all the meeting agendas, packets, minutes and more. Check it out when you get a chance!

I also wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave my position with The City of Eau Claire. Friday, Oct. 13 will be my last day. I will transition to work with World Relief to support new refugees/immigrants coming to Eau Claire. So the good news is I'm not going far, literally across the river ☺.

It's been a pleasure working with all of you. Thank you for doing this work.

The committee will continue as planned: large meeting 1x month, last Thursdays of the month and other subcommittees as organized by you all. Next large meeting is Oct. 26, 6:30pm in the North Conference Room at City Hall.

By the way, my position will be posted soon and I encourage you to apply if interested.

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



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**Dang Yang (he/him/his)**

[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 14:46:13 -0500  
**To:** "Dang Yang" <dangyang3631@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Thank you Dang,

Is the agenda you sent me ready to be shared with the Committee members? I'm going to send an invite for the next meeting and I can include the agenda, or is agenda usually sent by you?

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** Dang Yang <dangyang3631@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 2:28 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Anoosheh,

I finally got back to my office and here is the email that Ka sent to the BIPOC Steering Committee, announcing her departure. Let me know if you need anything else. Thank you!

--Dang Yang  
[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

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**From:** **Ka Vang** <[Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 11, 2023 at 1:03 PM  
**Subject:** BIPOC Steering Committee updates  
**To:** [atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com) <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>, [tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com) <[tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com)>, [3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com) <[3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com)>, [antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com) <[antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com)>, [jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu) <[jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu)>, [legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com) <[legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com)>, [jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu) <[jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu)>, [leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu) <[leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu)>, [clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu) <[clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu)>, [khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com) <[khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com)>, [efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com) <[efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com)>, [emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us) <[emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us)>, [stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org) <[stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org)>, [addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu) <[addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu)>, [vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com) <[vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com)>, [cpwoods jr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoods jr@gmail.com) <[cpwoods jr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoods jr@gmail.com)>, [larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org) <[larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org)>, [angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com) <[angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com)>  
**Cc:** [dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com) <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>, Berlye Middleton <[middletonberlye@gmail.com](mailto:middletonberlye@gmail.com)>

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Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



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**Dang Yang (he/him/his)**

[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:14 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andwerth@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:41:37 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] email contact

Derek.Thomas@eauclairewi.gov

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**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:17 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] email contact

What is Deputy Chief Derek's email?

Thanks

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager  
World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley  
221 W. Madison St, Suite 107  
Eau Claire, WI 54703

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:03:29 -0500  
**To:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Here it is ☐

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2023 10:02 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; 'TMcLaughlin@wr.org' <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – Attached please find a letter of support. So happy to be able to send it!

Let us know if there's anything else we can do on our end.

Stephanie

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:18:25 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Community Gathering

6:00-7:00, link to register:

[Who Is My Neighbor - Community Gathering - World Relief](#)

---

**From:** Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:04 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

What time is it at? Thanks

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

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**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 08:21:47 -0500  
**To:** "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Community Gathering

Thank you for letting me know☺

---

**From:** Charles Johnson <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 8:21 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

I am going to try and attend this meeting.

Thanks,

**Charlie Johnson**

Eau Claire City Council

[Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com)

651.491.5888



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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
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**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 11:49:29 -0500  
**To:** "Dang Yang" <dangyang3631@gmail.com>;  
"middletonberlye@gmail.com" <middletonberlye@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

-Yes, I have invited the JEDI team to come prepared.

-I will make copies of the HR info, the agenda and the minutes for everyone.

-Do you also want copies of EC Health Alliance 2022 report and EDI Strategic plan for all members?

Thank you,  
Anoosheh

**From:** Dang Yang <dangyang3631@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 11:39 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
middletonberlye@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Anoosheh,

As you requested, here are the official meeting minutes from our last meeting in September. You also asked if the agenda was ready for distribution. I've attached the last draft of the agenda to this email. Once you get an approval from Berlye, it can be distributed and published.

Also, you asked in an earlier email who sends the appropriate information. Ka was responsible for sending all committee wide communications. Please distribute the agenda and materials to the committee when the materials are ready for publishing.

Action Items & Follow Up Questions:

1. Anoosheh--did you invite the JEDI team to come prepared to meet with the BIPOC steering committee on Thursday? Please do so. Let me know if you need anything from us to make that invitation.
2. Berlye, review and approve the draft genda (attached)
3. Once approved, Anoosheh will send out the minutes, agenda, and the materials to the committee.
4. Anoosheh, please print out the meeting materials in preparation for Thursday's meeting once they are ready.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Dang Yang  
[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

On Wed, Oct 18, 2023 at 2:46 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Thank you Dang,

Is the agenda you sent me ready to be shared with the Committee members? I'm going to send an invite for the next meeting and I can include the agenda, or is agenda usually sent by you?

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** Dang Yang <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 2:28 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Anoosheh,

I finally got back to my office and here is the email that Ka sent to the BIPOC Steering Committee, announcing her departure. Let me know if you need anything else. Thank you!

--Dang Yang  
[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 11, 2023 at 1:03 PM  
**Subject:** BIPOC Steering Committee updates  
**To:** [atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com) <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>, [tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com) <[tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com)>, [3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com) <[3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com)>, [antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com) <[antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com)>, [jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu) <[jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu)>, [legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com) <[legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com)>, [jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu) <[jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu)>, [leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu) <[leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu)>, [clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu) <[clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu)>, [khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com) <[khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com)>, [efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com) <[efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com)>, [emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us) <[emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us)>, [stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org) <[stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org)>, [addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu) <[addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu)>, [vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com) <[vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com)>, [cpwoods jr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoods jr@gmail.com) <[cpwoods jr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoods jr@gmail.com)>, [larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org) <[larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org)>, [angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com) <[angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com)>  
**Cc:** [dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com) <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>, Berlye Middleton <[middletonberlye@gmail.com](mailto:middletonberlye@gmail.com)>

All,

I wanted to let you know that the BIPOC Steering Committee now has a website:

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/government/our-departments/administrative-services/edi-equity-diversity-inclusion/bipoc-steering-committee>

This is where you can find all the meeting agendas, packets, minutes and more. Check it out when you get a chance!

I also wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave my position with The City of Eau Claire. Friday, Oct. 13 will be my last day. I will transition to work with World Relief to support new refugees/immigrants coming to Eau Claire. So the good news is I'm not going far, literally across the river ☺.

It's been a pleasure working with all of you. Thank you for doing this work.

The committee will continue as planned: large meeting 1x month, last Thursdays of the month and other subcommittees as organized by you all. Next large meeting is Oct. 26, 6:30pm in the North Conference Room at City Hall.

By they way, my position will be posted soon and I encourage you to apply if interested.

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



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**Dang Yang (he/him/his)**

[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

--

**Dang Yang (he/him/his)**  
[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 13:22:32 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference



**EAU CLAIRE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION**

# REGIONAL HOUSING CONFERENCE

**WHEN:**  
**NOVEMBER 1, 2023**  
**8:30AM-3:00PM**

**WHERE:**  
**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN**  
**EAU CLAIRE DAVIES CENTER**  
**OJIBWE GRAND BALLROOM**

**TICKETS:**  
**\$25**

**IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL**  
**LUNCH PROVIDED AT IN-PERSON EVENT**

**BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**  
[ECHOREGIONALHOUSINGCONFERENCE.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://echoregionalhousingconference.eventbrite.com)

**SESSIONS:**

- **KEYNOTE: HOUSING ANALYSIS**  
– DR. KURT PAULSEN
- **FUNDING LOW-INCOME AND WORKFORCE HOUSING**
- **STATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**
- **SOLUTIONS TO HOUSING**
- **REGIONAL ZONING UPDATE**

**CONFERENCE SPONSORS**



**CHIPPEWA VALLEY HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION**

**RANWW**  
Realtors® Association of Northwestern Wisconsin

---

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 1:10 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference

Can you send me the link to the regional housing conference for Nov. 1.

Thanks,

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**  
Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 13:35:50 -0500  
**To:** "Dang Yang" <dangyang3631@gmail.com>;  
"middletonberlye@gmail.com" <middletonberlye@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

I have also forwarded your question for HR to them and have asked for a written response.

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 11:49 AM  
**To:** 'Dang Yang' <dangyang3631@gmail.com>; middletonberlye@gmail.com  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

-Yes, I have invited the JEDI team to come prepared.

-I will make copies of the HR info, the agenda and the minutes for everyone.

-Do you also want copies of EC Health Alliance 2022 report and EDI Strategic plan for all members?

Thank you,  
Anoosheh

**From:** Dang Yang <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 11:39 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>;  
[middletonberlye@gmail.com](mailto:middletonberlye@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Anoosheh,

As you requested, here are the official meeting minutes from our last meeting in September. You also asked if the agenda was ready for distribution. I've attached the last draft of the agenda to this email. Once you get an approval from Berlye, it can be distributed and published.

Also, you asked in an earlier email who sends the appropriate information. Ka was responsible for sending all committee wide communications. Please distribute the agenda and materials to the committee when the materials are ready for publishing.

Action Items & Follow Up Questions:

1. Anoosheh--did you invite the JEDI team to come prepared to meet with the BIPOC steering committee on Thursday? Please do so. Let me know if you need anything from us to make that invitation.
2. Berlye, review and approve the draft genda (attached)

3. Once approved, Anoosheh will send out the minutes, agenda, and the materials to the committee.
4. Anoosheh, please print out the meeting materials in preparation for Thursday's meeting once they are ready.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Dang Yang  
[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

On Wed, Oct 18, 2023 at 2:46 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Thank you Dang,

Is the agenda you sent me ready to be shared with the Committee members? I'm going to send an invite for the next meeting and I can include the agenda, or is agenda usually sent by you?

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** Dang Yang <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 2:28 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Anoosheh,

I finally got back to my office and here is the email that Ka sent to the BIPOC Steering Committee, announcing her departure. Let me know if you need anything else. Thank you!

--Dang Yang  
[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 11, 2023 at 1:03 PM  
**Subject:** BIPOC Steering Committee updates  
**To:** [atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com) <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>, [tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com) <[tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com)>, [3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com) <[3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com)>, [antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com) <[antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com)>, [jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu) <[jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu)>, [legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com) <[legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com)>, [jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu) <[jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu)>, [leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu) <[leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu)>, [clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu) <[clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu)>, [khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com) <[khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com)>, [efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com) <[efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com)>, [emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us) <[emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us)>, [stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org) <[stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org)>

[addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu) <[addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu)>, [vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com) <[vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com)>, [cpwoodsjr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoodsjr@gmail.com) <[cpwoodsjr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoodsjr@gmail.com)>, [larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org) <[larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org)>, [angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com) <[angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com)>  
Cc: [dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com) <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>, Berlye Middleton <[middletonberlye@gmail.com](mailto:middletonberlye@gmail.com)>

All,

I wanted to let you know that the BIPOC Steering Committee now has a website:

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/government/our-departments/administrative-services/edi-equity-diversity-inclusion/bipoc-steering-committee>

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The committee will continue as planned: large meeting 1x month, last Thursdays of the month and other subcommittees as organized by you all. Next large meeting is Oct. 26, 6:30pm in the North Conference Room at City Hall.

By they way, my position will be posted soon and I encourage you to apply if interested.

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



--

**Dang Yang** ([he/him/his](#))  
[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

--

**Dang Yang** ([he/him/his](#))  
[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 13:47:49 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL]

Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov

---

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 1:45 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]

What is Chief Rokus's email?

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 14:01:16 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference

Yes, I'll do so.

---

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 1:40 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference

Thanks.

For the meeting on Monday at 2, can you also invite Chief Rokus and Emily Berge. And maybe Tess if she's available. We're looking for ideas and suggestions on social media messages.

Perhaps we can meet in the Rivers Room.

Thank you!  
Ka

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 1:23 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference



**EAU CLAIRE  
HOUSING  
OPPORTUNITIES  
COMMISSION**

# REGIONAL HOUSING CONFERENCE

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## CONFERENCE SPONSORS



**RANWW**  
Realtors® Association of  
Northwestern Wisconsin

**WHEN:**

**NOVEMBER 1, 2023  
8:30AM-3:00PM**

**WHERE:**

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
EAU CLAIRE DAVIES CENTER  
OJIBWE GRAND BALLROOM**

**SESSIONS:**

- **KEYNOTE: HOUSING ANALYSIS  
- DR. KURT PAULSEN**
- **FUNDING LOW-INCOME AND  
WORKFORCE HOUSING**
- **STATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**
- **SOLUTIONS TO HOUSING**
- **REGIONAL ZONING UPDATES**

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 1:10 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference

Can you send me the link to the regional housing conference for Nov. 1.

Thanks,

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager  
World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 14:27:56 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus"  
<Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Room\_CH\_Rivers" <Room\_CH\_Rivers@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Meet with Tami(WR)

Meet with Tami from World Relief before their Community meeting

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 14:39:37 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference

Done! River's room.

---

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 2:36 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference

Thanks for inviting all the people below to the meeting on Monday.

Ka

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 2:01 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference

Yes, I'll do so.

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 1:40 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 1:23 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference



**EAU CLAIRE  
HOUSING  
OPPORTUNITIES  
COMMISSION**

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- **REGIONAL ZONING UPDATES**

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**From:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 1:10 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference

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Thanks,

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager  
World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:04:27 -0500  
**To:** "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning ☺Thank you Jessica .

---

**From:** Jessica Schoen <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 10:29 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning Anoosheh,

I plan to attend the 10/23 meeting (tomorrow).

Thank you,

Jess

**Jess Schoen**  
City Council Member, District 1  
[Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com)  
(715) 255-0297

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.

Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 09:24:13 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus"  
<Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Room\_CH\_Rivers" <Room\_CH\_Rivers@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Canceled: Meet with Tami(WR)  
**Importance:** High

Meet with Tami from World Relief before their Community meeting

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:03:45 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] FAQ  
**Attachments:** FAQ on Refugee Resettlement Chippewa Valley.pdf

---

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 9:51 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FAQ

Attached is the FAQ WR will have available as handout at the meeting tonight.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:38:11 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] nancy's phone

630-981-1769

---

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 9:21 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] nancy's phone

Can I get Nancy's number.

thanks

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 16:13:13 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** FW: Occupancy for Library

FYI,

---

**From:** Robert Haller <[Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:51 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Occupancy for Library

Hi Stephanie, the total allowable occupancy is 284 persons. The only reason to have an inspector on site would be to count the number of people in the assembly. This can be done by the event organizers to ensure they do not exceed the occupancy. If it appears that too many people are in the room, it would take the support of the people to volunteer to leave or law enforcement would have to assist.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:33:48 PM  
**To:** Robert Haller <[Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matthew Jagggar <[Matt.Jagggar@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Jagggar@eauclairewi.gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer <[shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us](mailto:shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: Occupancy for Library

Thank you, Bob! Does someone from Fire need to be at the meeting?

---

**From:** Robert Haller <[Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:33 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Occupancy for Library

Hi Stephanie,

The fire department does not apply the occupancy rating. The occupancy rating is set by the architect and reviewed by Planning. They may have what the allowable number of people is. Inspector Knecht and I will walk over right now and check it out and get back to you with any additional information.

## Robert Haller

Deputy Chief  
Eau Claire Fire Dept.

216 S. Dewey St. Eau Claire Wi. 54701  
Office. 715-839-2911  
Admin. 715-839-5012  
Cell. 715-579-2330



---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:11 PM  
**To:** Robert Haller <[Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matthew Jaggar <[Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>; Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer <[shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us](mailto:shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Occupancy for Library

Hi Bob - Is there a way you can confirm the allowable occupancy for the Riverview Room in the Library? This relates to the World Relief event tonight. It seems that we may have more people who want to attend than there's space, so it seems we will need someone from Fire there.

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 15 Mar 2023 10:00:01 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch"  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/refugee/pdf/fundedagencies-rev0822.pdf>

check out this list of Refugee Resettlement Agencies....

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 9:48 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

I'm looking into what agencies are working around Appleton that are related to what we're looking for.  
One is **World Relief** that I'm very familiar with, they are a huge **Christian** NGO with branches all over the world, They accept strictly Christian employees, their model of working as a very rich agency can't be a model for us I guess? Also, they're closed on Wednesdays. The other one is a **Muslim** organization with a headquarter in **Pakistan** that helps refugees from Muslim countries, If we want to meet with them we have to email them an official request, I've got the email address. They help the refugees in their area to settle. I can't remember any other entities in Appleton that we're interested in learning more about, do you?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**  
**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4903  
E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)  
203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701





**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 17 Mar 2023 18:05:35 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Meeting request from Eau Claire

Hello Anoosheh,

Thank you for reaching out! We are currently in the process of considering a plan to expand our resettlement work in Wisconsin so your email is timely! The process includes completing an assessment of a community which requires time and we plan to have a decision by early May. Therefore, could we schedule a phone call next week to begin a conversation around this?

Please let me know your availability and the best way to talk.

Thank you!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2023 11:19 AM  
**To:** WRFoxValley <[WRFoxValley@wr.org](mailto:WRFoxValley@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** Meeting request

Good morning,

My name is Anoosheh and I work for the City of Eau Claire. At the City manager's office we're looking at how we can make our city more appealing to refugees and possibility of having a resettlement agency in our town. We'll be in Appleton April 24, in the evening, till April 26<sup>th</sup> for Diversity

conference. We're wondering if we can meet with your Refugee program coordinator, either on April 24<sup>th</sup> evening or April 26<sup>th</sup> afternoon please?

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 17 Mar 2023 20:28:16 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Meeting request from Eau Claire

Hi Anoosheh,  
Wednesday from 8 – 9am would be perfect! Would you like to send a zoom link?  
Have a good weekend and look forward to talking next week!  
Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2023 1:38 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Meeting request from Eau Claire

Hi Tami,

I'm glad and excited to hear that. We can certainly talk next week through webex, zoom or phone, whichever you prefer. My availability:

Monday any time after 11:00  
Tuesday 8:00-10:00  
Wednesday 8:00-11:00  
Thursday 8:30-11:00  
Friday anytime after 10:30

Thank you  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2023 1:06 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Meeting request from Eau Claire

Hello Anoosheh,

Thank you for reaching out! We are currently in the process of considering a plan to expand our resettlement work in Wisconsin so your email is timely! The process includes completing an assessment of a community which requires time and we plan to have a decision by early May. Therefore, could we schedule a phone call next week to begin a conversation around this?

Please let me know your availability and the best way to talk.

Thank you!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2023 11:19 AM

**To:** WRFoxValley <[WRFoxValley@wr.org](mailto:WRFoxValley@wr.org)>

**Subject:** Meeting request

Good morning,

My name is Anoosheh and I work for the City of Eau Claire. At the City manager's office we're looking at how we can make our city more appealing to refugees and possibility of having a resettlement agency in our town. We'll be in Appleton April 24, in the evening, till April 26<sup>th</sup> for Diversity conference. We're wondering if we can meet with your Refugee program coordinator, either on April 24<sup>th</sup> evening or April 26<sup>th</sup> afternoon please?

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 08:07:17 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Invite or Not?

Hi Anoosheh! I think it would be great to include all of those people. If there's any way to gauge their availability, that would be great. Like, if Tami has some flexibility, then you could offer up a few options to the group. You might include a sentence that explains the context too, such as: We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2023 9:23 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Invite or Not?  
**Importance:** High

Good morning Stephanie,

I hope you're enjoying your trip ☺  
I talked to World relief director in Fox Valley.  
She's coming to Eau Claire to visit with us and all the key players.  
Is it ok to invite Katheryn and Lieske, Holley, Deb and Don too?  
Do you think we should have Billie too because she has housing questions for us as well or you will take care of them?

This is the email I'm going to send and I've already booked it on your schedule

"World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. TAMI MCLAUGHLIN is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire to meet with us and do an assessment. I appreciate if you can attend please."

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**  
**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4903  
E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)  
203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** ""Kathryn Schauf" <kathryn.schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>  
<"Kathryn Schauf" <kathryn.schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 13:42:46 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Accepted: Meeting with World Relief  
Resettlement agency

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** ""Billie Hufford" <billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov>" <"Billie Hufford" <billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 08:53:44 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Accepted: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning,

This is an awesome idea! Do we have any preliminary information on needs from a community to host this program? How much housing would a program like this need available? Or is it a program with host families? If housing is needed, what price points? It would be helpful to know what criteria they look at in order to be able to be prepared to answer questions during the meeting.

Billie

**From:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 13:54:11 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Cortney Sperber" <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
"Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement  
agency

Good morning Anoosheh.

I am sharing this with Marisa and Cortney to see if one person may be able to be there. We do have a specific communicable disease role in resettlement and also have an interest more broadly in JEDI issues.

I am not able to participate but we will see who can be available. Otherwise we are interested in outcome.

Lieske

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry Donald; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Giese  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Billie Hufford" <billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 09:10:02 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

I think having an overall view of what is looked at to qualify a City for everyone to come prepared would be helpful.

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 9:05 AM  
**To:** Billie Hufford <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning Billie ☺

It's not a program with host families. The only questions she asked me was the two that I asked you yesterday: how does your affordable housing look like compared to other US cities? Student numbers declining or not? Do you want me to forward your questions to her?

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Billie Hufford <[Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:54 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** Accepted: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
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Good morning,

This is an awesome idea! Do we have any preliminary information on needs from a community to host this program? How much housing would a program like this need available? Or is it a program with host families? If housing is needed, what price points? It would be helpful to know what criteria they look at in order to be able to be prepared to answer questions during the meeting.

Billie

**From:** "Mowry"  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 17:12:09 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Bea Evans" <beaevans2@gmail.com>; "Ginny Close"  
<ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement  
agency

Dear Anoosheh,

I just wanted to let you know that there is also an existing refugee resettlement organization in Eau Claire called Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN). Wnn has been operating under the sponsorship of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan—home office Milwaukee—as a CoSponsorship program. WNN has accepted and settled 7 Afghan men and also supported two Afghan families who came to Eau Claire as a secondary migration. WNN is also moving to become a recognized Refugee Resettlement agency.

Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

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I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 12:39:57 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Want to reach out to Bea and Ginny to ask how a World Relief would relate to what they're trying to do?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:38 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

FYI,

---

**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>; Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Dear Anoosheh,

I just wanted to let you know that there is also an existing refugee resettlement organization in Eau Claire called Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN). Wnn has been operating under the sponsorship of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan—home office Milwaukee—as a CoSponsorship program. WNN has accepted and settled 7 Afghan men and also supported two Afghan families who came to Eau Claire as a secondary migration. WNN is also moving to become a recognized Refugee Resettlement agency.

Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US &

Canada).

**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

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I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 14:59:27 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Bea Evans"  
<beaevans2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hello Anoosheh,

Yes Welcoming New Neighbors is still a volunteer driven organization. From our Afghan welcoming experience, we are exploring expanding to become a 501c3 in support of new immigrants and of those already here.

It is exciting to hear that World Relief is considering EC. All kinds of questions come to mind however and I would like to hear more of the back story of how EC got to be considered as a possible future resettlement location? Would you be available to meet with a few of WNN volunteers prior to April 5 or could a few of us attend that meeting?

Looking forward to working together to become a truly welcoming community.  
Ginny Close

On Thu, Mar 23, 2023, 12:53 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

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Has that changed? How a World relief agency in town would relate with what you're doing? I used to work for DHS and have met a few of the

WNN members and also all the 7 Afghan refugees who were settled then. Are all or some of the Afghan refugees still living in Eau Claire?

I am aware that World Relief will contact Lutheran Social Services before doing the assessment for Eau Claire.

Thank you

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>; Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Dear Anoosheh,

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Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

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Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming

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I'm

g the meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me

know, Tami's schedule is flexible

schedulin

Thank you

Anoosheh

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 00:29:21 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** PRM New Site Development Guide - 2021 Revision - with highlighted sections.docx

Hello Anoosheh,

I enjoyed our discussion yesterday regarding World Relief establishing a refugee resettlement site in Eau Claire. Will look forward to continuing the conversation with a wider network of community stakeholders on Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> and am very thankful for your willingness to coordinate this meeting.

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Regarding housing questions, we would expect to resettle no more than a total of 75 people the first year. (most likely arriving after January 1, 2024). We are currently resettling mainly Congolese in the Fox Valley; singles to families as large as 9 people so renting 1 – 4 bedroom housing, ranging from \$650 - \$1400. Housing is a challenge in all of our communities so will be a priority in the assessment!

Hope this information is helpful as we begin this process. Please feel free to reach out with questions....resettlement is a collaborative and community response and we look forward to developing a strong partnership.

Thank you for your help and I look forward to meeting you soon.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 9:34 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Good morning Tami,

I have invited Health Director, County Director and the city manager, Human Services Director, our housing project coordinator, ELL program Manager from CVTC, and a few more to the meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00. Most of them will be here☐

Our housing project manager asked me a couple of questions to get ready for the meeting, I thought I'll forward them to you:

“Do we have any preliminary information on needs from a community to host this program? How much housing would a program like this need available?  
If housing is needed, what price points? It would be helpful to know what criteria they look at in order to be able to be prepared to answer questions during the meeting. “

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "microsoftexchange329e71ec88ae4615bbc36ab6ce41109e@eauclairewi.gov" on behalf of "Microsoft Outlook"  
<MicrosoftExchange329e71ec88ae4615bbc36ab6ce41109e@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 08:54:33 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Meeting Forward Notification: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

## Your meeting was forwarded

[Billie Hufford](#) has forwarded your meeting request to additional recipients.

### Meeting

Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

### Meeting Time

Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM.

### Recipients

[Aaron White](#)

All times listed are in the following time zone: (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

**From:** ""Aaron White" <aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov>" <"Aaron White" <aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 08:56:10 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Accepted: FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**From:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 11:31:46 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Bea Evans"  
<beaevans2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning Anoosheh,

Thank you for being so welcoming!! ☐ If it would work for you, a few of us would like to meet with you prior to the 5th, perhaps next week? We would especially like to tell you our Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN) 'story'. Also, we would like to share what we have learned, connections we have made, and other immigrant support efforts already at work of which you may or may not already be aware. Learning more of the City of Eau Claire perspective and the World Relief connection would be of great value as WNN envisions our community becoming an even more immigrant welcoming one, working in partnership with those seeking that same outcome.

Anoosheh, in order to proceed with setting up a meeting, could you please give us a couple of choices of days, times, and a meeting place that would work for you? There is such great interest within our Steering Committee, that I would estimate 4-5 of us wanting to join you.

Happy Friday,  
Ginny Close  
WNN Steering Committee Member

On Thu, Mar 23, 2023 at 3:03 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Ginny,

Yes to both, we can meet before April 5<sup>th</sup> and you're welcome to join us  
for that meeting☐

**From:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 2:59 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>; Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hello Anoosheh,

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I am aware that World Relief will contact Lutheran Social Services before doing the assessment for Eau Claire.

Thank you

Anoosheh

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**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>; Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
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Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US &

Canada).

**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

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World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates.

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I'm

during the meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

sche

Thank you

Anoosheh

**From:** "Marisa Stanley" <marisa.stanley@eau Clairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 19:20:51 +0000  
**To:** "Elizabeth Giese" <Elizabeth.Giese@eau Clairecounty.gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Cortney Sperber" <Cortney.Sperber@eau Clairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hi Anoosheh,

I am available to participate in this meeting. Can you please send me the invite?

Thank you!  
Marisa

**Marisa Stanley, MPH** | *Assistant Director*  
Pronouns: she/her/hers  
[Marisa.stanley@eau Clairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.stanley@eau Clairecounty.gov)  
(P) 715-839-4726 (F) 715-839-1674  
720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703  
[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eau Clairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:54 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Cortney Sperber <Cortney.Sperber@eau Clairecounty.gov>; Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eau Clairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning Anoosheh.

I am sharing this with Marisa and Cortney to see if one person may be able to be there. We do have a specific communicable disease role in resettlement and also have an interest more broadly in JEDI issues.

I am not able to participate but we will see who can be available. Otherwise we are interested in outcome.

Lieske

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry Donald; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Giese  
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I'm

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meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "microsoftexchange329e71ec88ae4615bbc36ab6ce41109e@eauclairewi.gov" on behalf of "Microsoft Outlook"  
<MicrosoftExchange329e71ec88ae4615bbc36ab6ce41109e@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 14:26:37 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Meeting Forward Notification: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

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### Meeting

Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

### Meeting Time

Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM.

### Recipients

[Marisa Stanley](#)

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**From:** ""Marisa Stanley" <marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>"  
<"Marisa Stanley" <marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 19:45:37 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Accepted: FW: Meeting with World Relief  
Resettlement agency

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**From:** "Hassemer"  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 13:46:50 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Accepted: Meeting with World Relief  
Resettlement agency

**From:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 13:14:38 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Thanks Anoosheh. This is very helpful. Just fyi I am awaiting more replies from our WNN Steering Committee regarding a meeting with you this week. Can you hold 1pm Thursday for now. That looks like the best day and I just picked 1pm. There are 4 of us thus far but I am hoping Don Mowry and Bea Evans can attend as well.

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On Mon, Mar 27, 2023 at 1:10 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

FYI, attached is a document created by World Relief resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM),

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**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Ginny Close" <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 14:05:34 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

So sorry to keep bothering you! Do you have a preference of Wed or Thurs at 1pm? I am trying to swing a couple over to Wed now that we are split between the two days. ☐

Ginny

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W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 22:41:59 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Thanks Annosheh! Will take review prior to our meeting. Have a good week!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:36 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Hi Tami,

Recently a regional housing study was done and presented here in Eau Claire. I thought that might be a good source for the housing questions. Please see the link below.

[EauClaireOpenHousePosters.pdf | Powered by Box](#)

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 7:29 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

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Thank you for your help and I look forward to meeting you soon.

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**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

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**Associate Analyst**

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203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Ginny Close" <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tue, 28 Mar 2023 08:23:32 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Great! I will confirm that with our folks and we will be at the lobby of City Hall Thursday 1 pm.

Thanks Anoosheh!

Ginny

On Tue, Mar 28, 2023 at 8:20 AM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Good morning,

I have been working remote for 2 days and didn't have access to city manager's calendar, but sent her a message to block her calendar for Thursday at 1:00, I'll make sure she's done it, I'd be in office today afternoon.

**From:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 2:05:34 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

So sorry to keep bothering you! Do you have a preference of Wed or Thurs at 1pm? I am trying to swing a couple over to Wed now that we are split between the two days. ☐

Ginny

On Mon, Mar 27, 2023 at 1:14 PM Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)> wrote:

Thanks Anoosheh. This is very helpful. Just fyi I am awaiting more replies from our WNN Steering Committee regarding a meeting with you this week. Can you hold 1pm Thursday for now. That looks like the best day and I just picked 1pm. There are 4 of us thus far but I am hoping Don Mowry and Bea Evans can attend as well.

Ginny

On Mon, Mar 27, 2023 at 1:10 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

FYI, attached is a document created by World Relief resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM),

as a guide to assess a community's ability to resettle refugees. World Relief will complete the assessment and use it to assist in

determining if they are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 29 Mar 2023 07:07:58 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Feel free to add it to my calendar...

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 4:20:15 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Can you please block your Thursday afternoon, 1:00 pm for meeting with WNN?thank you

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 1:14:38 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Thanks Anoosheh. This is very helpful. Just fyi I am awaiting more replies from our WNN Steering Committee regarding a meeting with you this week. Can you hold 1pm Thursday for now. That looks like the best day and I just picked 1pm. There are 4 of us thus far but I am hoping Don Mowry and Bea Evans can attend as well.

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**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wed, 29 Mar 2023 14:35:34 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hello again,

One last thought before tomorrow. I have not planned any formal agenda but am thinking this as an informal conversation with us learning what the City of EC thoughts are leading up to the 5th meeting and we updating you as to where WNN is in our 'dreaming and scheming'!! ☐

Looking forward to meeting you Anoosheh!  
Ginny

On Tue, Mar 28, 2023 at 12:36 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Great! You can come to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, City Manager's office.

**From:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 8:24 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Great! I will confirm that with our folks and we will be at the lobby of City Hall Thursday 1 pm.

Thanks Anoosheh!

Ginny

On Tue, Mar 28, 2023 at 8:20 AM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Good morning,

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---

**From:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 2:05:34 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

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<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

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determining if they are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wed, 29 Mar 2023 14:59:45 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>;  
"Michelle Harris" <michelle.harris@ecahmaa.org>; "Diane House"  
<house.dianerev@gmail.com>; "Cheryl Lochner Wright"  
<c\_lochnerwright@yahoo.com>; "Anderson, David" <prdavea@gmail.com>;  
"Joyce Anderson" <joyce4334@gmail.com>; "Sharon Evans"  
<evanssk@hotmail.com>; "Donald D." <dmowry@uwec.edu>; "Martha Munger"  
<moonlightfav@aol.com>; "Greg Barnes" <gregleebarnes@gmail.com>;  
"Abdullah Ameen" <abdullah.ameenn@gmail.com>; "Bea Evans"  
<beaevans2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: March 2023 newsletter □

Anoosheh,

I am on the mailing list for this organization as is Bea Evans, I believe. You may already be aware of it. It is geared particularly to assisting cities to become more welcoming. Joining this has not been on our radar due to membership fees and our being in more of a discernment process. However I did see in this newsletter a Rural Communities Initiative and saw that Wausau has joined this. I no longer think of our Eau Claire area as 'rural' but in the scheme of things most of the rest of the US probably does.

Also copied here is our Steering Committee for Welcoming New Neighbors for their information of another growing organization working toward a more welcoming United States.

Cheers!

Ginny

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Welcoming America** <[communications@welcomingamerica.org](mailto:communications@welcomingamerica.org)>

**Date:** Wed, Mar 29, 2023 at 10:03 AM

**Subject:** March 2023 newsletter □

**To:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>

[View this email in your browser](#)



WELCOMING  
AMERICA 



# NEWSLETTER



▣ FEATURED ▣

*Join us*

WELCOMING  
INTERACTIVE

**SAN JOSE, CA**  
**APRIL 26 - 28, 2023**



## #Interactive2023: Registration closed + other opportunities

Registration is now closed for the Welcoming Interactive. You may join the waitlist to secure your spot if one opens up. [Join the waitlist](#)

You can still be part of the action by becoming a **sponsor and/or exhibitor**! See our [sponsorship guide](#) and contact [daniel@welcomingamerica.org](mailto:daniel@welcomingamerica.org) for more information. To be an exhibitor, [submit an application](#).

**Already registered?** Join the virtual info session on April 5 to learn more about what you can expect to find at the Welcoming Interactive, including Community Tours, film screenings, an art installation project, and more: [Register for the info session](#)

---



**#WomenOfWelcoming: Celebrating Women's History Month**

Throughout the month, we highlighted five women in the Welcoming Network who exemplify what it means to lead with welcoming values in their respective communities. Their inspirational stories were further boosted by a social media collaboration with Define American. [Read about the campaign](#)

---

## Farewell, Isha: Parting words from our deputy director

This month, Isha Lee, our deputy director, departed the organization following eight years of service. Read the conversation she has with executive director Rachel Perić in which she shares her reflections and words of wisdom.

[Read blog](#)

## ▣ NEWS & UPDATES ▣



## Our 2023 participants of the Rural Welcoming Initiative

Rural communities lead the way on living out welcoming values. We're thrilled to have 13 organizations from rural communities across the United States participate in this year's Rural Welcoming Initiative. [Learn more](#)

---



Delegation members Miguel Silva Graça (third from left), Abdourahamane Diaby (left of banner), and Cláudia Pires (right of banner) visited Welcoming Network member Culturingua in San Antonio, Texas. Courtesy of Miguel Silva Graça.

## Welcoming Network hosts delegation from Portugal

This month, Welcoming America helped facilitate a countrywide tour for a delegation of Portuguese government officials seeking to learn and share ideas on immigrant integration and inclusion best practices. Stops included Dallas and San Antonio, TX; Austin, MN; Lincoln, NE; and San José, CA, in which the delegation

met with city officials and local nonprofits, many of whom are part of the Welcoming Network. Check out some of the media coverage about this visit, including a visit to the [SPAM museum in Austin](#) and [sharing resettlement ideas in Lincoln](#) (scroll down).

## ▣ WEBINARS ▣

**Webinar**

# Community Sponsorship: Creating Communities of Welcome

**CSH** WELCOMING AMERICA

**Beth Frank**  
Community Sponsorship Hub

**Alivia Halbach**  
Welcoming America

**Ann O'Brien**  
Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services

**Holly Tsang**  
World Relief Chicagoland

**APRIL 11, 2023**

**1:00 - 2:00 PM EST**

**ZOOM**

**wamerica.us/webinarcsh**

## Community Sponsorship: Creating Communities of Welcome

*Tuesday, April 11 from 1-2 p.m. EDT*

In partnership with Community Sponsorship Hub, please join us for a webinar on community sponsorship in the United States. We will identify the broad ecosystem, programs, and actors, as well as how the experiences of these programs have

supported other emergency response programs, and the difference between community sponsorship and other forms of sponsorship.

Speakers:

- Beth Frank, Welcome Corps Director, Community Sponsorship Hub
- Alivia Haibach, Regional Manager, Northeast, Welcoming America
- Ann O'Brien, Director of Sponsorship, Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services
- Holly Tseng, Volunteer Mobilization Director, World Relief Chicagoland

[Register now](#)

---



 **April 13, 2023**

**Advancing Welcoming  
through Community  
Foundations**

 Zoom

  
WELCOMING  
AMERICA  
BUILDING A NATION OF NEIGHBORS

**CFLeads**  
Community Foundations  
Leading Change

**Advancing Welcoming Through Community  
Foundations**

*Thursday, April 13 at 1 p.m. EDT*

Earlier this year, we launched the whitepaper, [\*Advancing Welcoming Through Community Foundations\*](#). Join us for the webinar component with CFLeads to dig deeper into the whitepaper's content, including ways that community foundations can advance the vital work of welcoming newcomers into U.S. communities.

[Register now](#)

**WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS □**

- [Baltimore Association of Nepalese in America](#)
- [City of Topeka, KS](#)
- [City of Wausau, WI](#)
- [Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County, Inc.](#) (Ann Arbor, MI)
- [Latino Education Advancement Fund](#) (Baltimore, MD)
- [Leadership Unlimited](#) (Grand Island, NE)
- [Let's Talk Philly! CC](#) (Philadelphia, PA)
- [New York State Office of Language Access](#) (New York, NY)
- [One World One Love NJ](#) (Summit, NJ)
- [Puertas Abiertas](#) (Grand Rapids, MI)
- [Region 9 Development Commission](#) (Mankato, MN)
- [San Francisco Office of Civic Engagement & Immigrant Affairs](#)
- [Santa Fe Economic Development](#) (Santa Fe, NM)
- [Visit Champaign County](#) (Champaign, IL)

□ View the [Welcoming Network directory and map](#)

□ Apply to [become a member today!](#)

## STORIES □

□ **Redesignated as Certified Welcoming: How Salt Lake County and Louisville renewed their commitment to be welcoming places for all**

In late 2022, Salt Lake County, Utah and Louisville, Kentucky were among the first places to undergo recertification of their Certified Welcoming designations. In these blog posts, new American leaders from each community share more about the process, the challenges, and plans for continuing the work of welcoming.

- [Affirmations and connections in Salt Lake County's recertification journey](#)
- [Partnerships and welcoming infrastructure guide Louisville's welcoming work](#)

## ▣ The role of civil servants in creating welcoming communities

As global migration increases, governments and civil servants need to intentionally create more welcoming environments for migrants. In this article for **Apolitical.co**, our content manager Lindsay Mensch shares tips on how civil servants can act as leaders to foster trust and belonging among public institutions and migrants. [Read article](#)

---

## In the News

- [Immigrant Allies earns grant to launch public transportation service](#)
- [Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Rolls Out Welcome Mat for Immigrants](#)
- [Portuguese delegation visits Austin to exchange ideas on being a welcoming community](#)
- [Louisville among top 5 metros for economic development](#)



**How to Support a More Welcoming  
America**

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Welcoming America sends periodic updates to individuals who share their interest with us.

**Our mailing address is:**

Welcoming America

PO Box 747002

Atlanta, GA 30374

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

**From:** "Google Calendar" <calendar-notification@google.com> on behalf of "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 29 Mar 2023 21:26:53 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Accepted: FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency @ Wed Apr 5, 2023 9am - 10am (CDT) (Anoosheh Hamzehee)  
**Attachments:** invite.ics

FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

ginwinclose@gmail.com has accepted this invitation.

Bea and Ginny,

I am not sure if Anoosheh Hamzehee or any of the other people on this list are aware of Welcoming New Neighbors and the direction this organization is taking regarding refugee resettlement. I have not been as involved with the WNN discussions, but I would be happy to communicate with any or all of these people. I know all of them except I have not yet met Anoosheh and Billie Hufford.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Anoosheh Hamzehee >

Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:41 AM

To: Anoosheh Hamzehee; Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise

Subject: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

When: Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).

Where: Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami Mclaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming

to Eau Claire on April 5th to meet with us and do an assessment. I'm scheduling the meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

## **When**

Wednesday Apr 5, 2023 · 9am – 10am (Central Time - Chicago)

## **Location**

Rivers Conference Room

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 11:26:18 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: update for council

Thanks!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 10:26 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: update for council

We are exploring the feasibility of expanding the City's capacity to welcome immigrants and refugees. Our dual objectives are to address employee shortages and to cultivate a vibrant, multi-cultural community. One potential avenue is the prospect of World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency establishing a new office in Wisconsin. We are thrilled to be one of two candidates under consideration, and Tami McLaughlin, Director of World Relief Fox Valley, will visit Eau Claire in April to conduct an assessment. Additionally, we are actively exploring ways to boost the local workforce by utilizing PERM (employment) visas. To this end, we have engaged with the Chamber, CVTC, and ECD and are in the process of planning an information session for Eau Claire's businesses and employers.

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 8:46 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** update for council

Hi – Can you prepare a paragraph update for the City Council newsletter on the PERM/Refugee efforts?

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:52:44 -0500  
**To:** "Scott Allen" <Scott.Allen@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Christian Bell" <Chris.Bell@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Bob Nelson" <Robert.Nelson@eauclairewi.gov>; "Carrie Riepl" <Carrie.Riepl@eauclairewi.gov>; "Colleen Schian" <Colleen.Schian@eauclairewi.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Lane Berg" <Lane.Berg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Travis Davis" <Travis.Davis@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Danya Morman" <Danya.Morman@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

FYI... Hope you're having a great weekend so far!

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 1, 2023 9:50 AM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; Charles Johnson <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; Jeremy Gragert <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; Jill Christopherson <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; Joshua Miller <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; Kate Felton <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; Larry Mboga <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; Roderick Jones <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; Terry Weld <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; David Solberg <Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Nicholas Koerner <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents

who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update,  
Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update,  
County Health Rankings

- **Council Calendar**

- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 10:37:25 -0500  
**To:** "Kathy Florin" <kathymflorin@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dwayne Voegeli"  
<winonasanctuary@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Reconnecting

Thanks Kathy! All great info. I did not mention it but Anoosheh had reached out to refugee resettlement agencies closest to EC and heard from Fox Valley World Relief that, quite coincidentally, they may be interested in a sub office in Eau Claire. This area is not close enough per federal requirements to resettle folks here. It took almost an 'Act of Congress' to allow Afghan resettlement. I assume Winona had the same challenge and sponsored Afghans through the Sponsor Circle program because of those same restrictions placed on the Agencies in Minnesota. It is MOST disturbing that Agencies cannot cross state lines!! Enough griping!!

Hi again to Dwayne!! Are you two the movers and shakers of the Winona Sheltering Network? I envision that as a hub of a wheel and each of your groups are spokes? Although not yet as well organized, I think of Welcoming New Neighbors as becoming a kind of hub here. I assume Dwayne (Congrats on County Board!!) is in touch with Greg Barnes regarding the Honduran asylum families, Not wanting to steal Greg's thunder, but our Honduran family finally got work permits after almost 2 years.

So many questions come to mind that for sure, let's try to figure out how to update each other.

Happy Day!  
Ginny

On Sat, Apr 1, 2023 at 10:09 AM Kathy Florin <[kathymflorin@gmail.com](mailto:kathymflorin@gmail.com)> wrote:

Good morning everyone,

Ginny, it's nice to hear from you again and I do remember you! Thanks for reaching out.

Anoosheh, it's nice to meet over email.

I'm also including Dwayne Voegeli in this email. He was the main dreamer and mover on purchasing two homes in Winona for newcomers. He has also recently become a member of the Winona County Board.

Yes, the houses are intended as longer-term transitional housing and are less than a block from one another. Currently, there is a Honduran family living in one and an Afghan family living in the other one.

Dwayne can correct me if I'm wrong but.....

The [Winona Sheltering Network](#) (WASN is under the 501c3 of the Winona Sheltering Network) took a loan out on the first house and through fundraising just recently paid it off (!!)

A landlord in town purchased the second house and we are doing a contract for deed with him.

This has been a solution for us with the challenges of adequate and affordable housing, flexible leases, not a need for background checks / credit scores, etc.

Dwayne would know more specific information though.

That's great about your Afghan community growing! We currently have 16 individuals in town and are also working on TPS applications and renewal of work authorizations so there's no gaps. The paperwork seems to never end. ☐

All of our Asylum seekers have had interviews but have not heard back anything yet (and two were more than 150 days ago). None of our SIV cases have had their interviews yet, but their paperwork has been submitted. ☐

I'd love to keep in touch! I enjoy learning about creative solutions that other communities are implementing to help support newcomers, growing the web of support and connections, and in general connecting with people doing work that inspires me.

With warmth,  
Kathy

On Fri, Mar 31, 2023 at 4:01 PM Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi Kathy,

Remember me? Gosh 'how time flies' has a new meaning these days!! Now that our Afghan neighbors in the Eau Claire area are more settled, we of Welcoming New Neighbors are re-inventing ourselves to broaden our mission of welcoming to all newly arriving as well as to those already here.

Kathy, I vaguely remember someone (you?) mentioning that the Winona network had purchased transitional housing. That idea came up yesterday in a meeting with our Eau Claire City Manager Staff. I am wondering if you could connect us with the appropriate person who can tell us more of the process for that? I am copying Anosheh as one of the 'Movers & Shakers' in Eau Claire. :))

For your information, our Afghan population has increased to 19 or so individuals having discovered a family of 8 living in Spring Valley. No one has been granted asylum yet although many are well past the 150 day mark since they went to Chicago hearings. Now applications for Temporary Protective Status and renewed work permits are being submitted to avoid any gaps once their 24 mt parolee period is up.

Would love to hear from you.

Ginny

Welcoming New Neighbors

--

Ginny Close

[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)

715-577-8336

**From:**

"microsoftexchange329e71ec88ae4615bbc36ab6ce41109e@eauclairewi.gov" on behalf of "Microsoft Outlook"

<MicrosoftExchange329e71ec88ae4615bbc36ab6ce41109e@eauclairewi.gov>

**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 07:57:50 -0500

**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"

<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>

**Subject:** Meeting Forward Notification: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

## Your meeting was forwarded

[Stephanie Hirsch](#) has forwarded your meeting request to additional recipients.

### Meeting

Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

### Meeting Time

Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM.

### Recipients

[Larry Mboga](#)

All times listed are in the following time zone: (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

**From:** "Diane Cable" <diane.cable@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 09:55:29 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hi Anoosheh,  
At this time I am not able to attend this meeting, as I have a couple of conflicts. I would like to have a better understanding of the meeting, so I can determine who from the Department might be able to attend. Please let me know if you have a few minutes to connect this afternoon.  
Thank you  
Diane

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Kathryn Schauf <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov> **On Behalf Of** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 8:26 AM  
**To:** Diane Cable  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Are you able to attend this meeting?

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:41 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee; Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry Donald; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Giese  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami Mclaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Diane Cable" <diane.cable@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 16:22:09 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hi- 2:00 this afternoon will work for me. Can you set up a link to connect?  
Thank you  
Diane

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 9:58 AM  
**To:** Diane Cable <Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hi Diane,

I can meet anytime today between 2:00 and 4:00

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Diane Cable <[Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hi Anoosheh,  
At this time I am not able to attend this meeting, as I have a couple of conflicts. I would like to have a better understanding of the meeting, so I can determine who from the Department might be able to attend. Please let me know if you have a few minutes to connect this afternoon.  
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Diane

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)> **On Behalf Of** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 8:26 AM  
**To:** Diane Cable  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Are you able to attend this meeting?

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anooosheh Hamzehee <[Anooosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anooosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:41 AM

**To:** Anooosheh Hamzehee; Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry Donald; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Giese

**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

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World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami Mclaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.

I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anooosheh

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**From:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 15:17:33 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Automatic reply: Meeting with World Relief  
Resettlement agency

Hello. I am out of the office on vacation returning on April 4th.  
Marisa Stanley, Assistant Director, can be contacted in my  
absence. marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov  
If this is urgent, please call me at 715.514.7881 or email ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov  
Thanks.  
Lieske

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**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 15:17:21 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement  
agency

Thank you for your message. I am out of the office until April 5, and will reply to your message then.

Thank you,

Ka Vang

**From:** "Mowry"  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 20:27:56 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Accepted: Meeting with World Relief  
Resettlement agency

**From:** ""Nancy Weltzin" <nancy.weltzin@eauclairecounty.gov>  
<"Nancy Weltzin" <nancy.weltzin@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 15:48:00 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Accepted: Meeting with World Relief  
Resettlement agency

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**From:** "Google Calendar" <calendar-notification@google.com> on behalf of "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 21:50:49 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Accepted: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency @ Wed Apr 5, 2023 9am - 12pm (CDT) (Anoosheh Hamzehee)  
**Attachments:** invite.ics

Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

ginwinclose@gmail.com has accepted this invitation.

Just switching to a larger meeting, we'll meet at the North Conference room.  
Looking forward to see you all ☺

## When

Wednesday Apr 5, 2023 · 9am – 12pm (Central Time - Chicago)

## Location

North Conference Room, City Hall

**From:** ""Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>" <"Ka Vang"  
<ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 16:52:32 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Accepted: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**From:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wed, 5 Apr 2023 15:05:39 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>; "" <wrfoxvalley@wr.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami Mclaughlin World Relief visit

Hello again Anoosheh and Tami,

Anoosheh, thank you so much for including Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN) again into the conversation this morning. I know there is great interest within our steering committee and am looking forward to any and all future conversations welcoming immigrants.

Tami, I did not find an email address for you so I am using the World Relief Fox Valley address. It was so good to meet you this morning, however briefly. Thank you for being open to considering Eau Claire for a World Relief office!

Also, I am wondering if it would be of value to you to meet more of our WNN volunteers? I can safely speak for the larger group being interested in learning more of the World Relief community relationship building model: 'Neighbor to Neighbor'. (Sorry, I did not retain the exact name!!)

WNN meets via zoom the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm. Our next meeting is next Thursday the 13th. At that time, I will introduce World Relief's consideration of Eau Claire as a refugee agency site. BUT it would be of greater value and interest if you or your representative could attend and give a brief introduction to the organization. Of course, our folks would be open to assessment questions you may have regarding the community engagement piece.

Of course, WNN is open to any further conversation at Anoosheh's or your request at anytime by whatever means! We are definitely excited about the possibility for welcoming more new neighbors to Eau Claire and for partnering with World Relief.

Forward!!

Ginny

--

Ginny Close  
[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)  
715-577-8336

**From:** "Ginny Close" <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wed, 5 Apr 2023 15:24:54 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: FW: [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami Mclaughlin World Relief visit

Thanks Anoosheh. Stay in touch and let me know if you want to be on our email list!! Also rather than bury you in email chat threads i.e. the Winona housing question, do shoot any questions our way. Our Steering Committee is made up of the following folks at the moment. If they cannot answer a question, they will certainly pass it on!! Abdullah Ameen lives in Madison but he is a resource to us in all things Afghan. He and his family arrived several years before the evacuated group so he, his wife, and 6? children are well settled. Ginny

Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
Michelle Harris <[michelle.harris@ecahmaa.org](mailto:michelle.harris@ecahmaa.org)>,  
Diane House <[house.dianerev@gmail.com](mailto:house.dianerev@gmail.com)>,  
Cheryl Lochner Wright <[c\\_lochnerwright@yahoo.com](mailto:c_lochnerwright@yahoo.com)>,  
Anderson, David <[prdavea@gmail.com](mailto:prdavea@gmail.com)>,  
Joyce Anderson <[joyce4334@gmail.com](mailto:joyce4334@gmail.com)>,  
Sharon Evans <[evanssk@hotmail.com](mailto:evanssk@hotmail.com)>,  
Bea Evans<[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>,  
Mowry, Donald D <[dmowry@uwec.edu](mailto:dmowry@uwec.edu)>,  
Martha Munger <[moonlightfav@aol.com](mailto:moonlightfav@aol.com)>,  
Greg Barnes <[gregleebarnes@gmail.com](mailto:gregleebarnes@gmail.com)>,  
Abdullah Ameen <[abdullah.ameenn@gmail.com](mailto:abdullah.ameenn@gmail.com)>

On Wed, Apr 5, 2023 at 3:12 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Tami,

I'm forwarding Ginny's email to your address to make sure you receive it and

I'm copying Ginny so that she'll have your email address.

Anoosheh

**From:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 3:06 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; [wrfxvalley@wr.org](mailto:wrfxvalley@wr.org)

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami Mclaughlin World Relief visit

Hello again Anoosheh and Tami,

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Forward!!  
Ginny

--

Ginny Close

[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)

715-577-8336

**From:** "Aaron White" <aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 5 Apr 2023 16:46:29 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Contact info for World Relief  
**Attachments:** Mary Proznik.vcf, John Mogensen.vcf, Alex Padrnos.vcf,  
Michael Halloin.vcf

Hey Anoosheh,

I have attached the vCards for the landlords I had referenced in the meeting today:

<p><b>Mary Proznik</b> Riverbend Rentals &amp; Property Manag... Operations Manager</p> <p>(715) 225-4200 Work (815) 503-4597 Mobile <a href="mailto:mary@riverbendpm.com">mary@riverbendpm.com</a></p>	<p><b>John Mogensen</b> Investment Realty Owner</p> <p>(715) 828-1096 Mobile <a href="mailto:john@investmentrealtors.com">john@investmentrealtors.com</a></p>
<p><b>Alex Padrnos</b> JCAP Project Coordinator</p> <p>715-831-3994 Work <a href="mailto:aleex@jcaprealestate.com">aleex@jcaprealestate.com</a></p>	<p><b>Michael Halloin</b> Landmark Company</p> <p>(715) 834-3411 Work <a href="mailto:michael@landmark-company.com">michael@landmark-company.com</a></p>

I work on getting some of the major employer contacts to you later.

Regards,

**Aaron J. White, MBA**

*Economic Development Manager*

715-839-4914—main desk

715-839-6047—direct line

[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>

<https://www.eauclairedevelopment.com/>

203 S. Farwell St, Eau Claire, WI 54701



\*\*\* Your Economic Development team and the Downtown Eau Claire, Inc. staff are working on efforts to find resources for our community during this time.

For updated information on upcoming business resources and support programs related to COVID-19 financial impacts, go to our web sites: <https://www.eauclaireddevelopment.com/doing-business/financial-assistance/> or <https://www.downtowneauclaire.org/coronavirus-aid-and-support/> and be sure to continue supporting our local businesses.

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Wed, 5 Apr 2023 22:31:07 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>; "Karen Crisler"  
<KCrisler@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami Mclaughlin World Relief  
visit

Thank you Anoosheh and Ginny,

I was very impressed and encouraged by our conversation today and look forward to additional dialogue.

Ginny, our Community Engagement Manager, Karen Crisler, is returning from vacation on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup>. If she is available, I know she would be very interested in participating on your call. Either way, I am available and one or both of us will provide an overview of World Relief and specifically our Good Neighbor Team model. I've copied Karen on this email so please send us both an invite.

We most likely will have additional questions around community engagement and appreciate your willingness to include your group in that discussion. Please advise regarding time allotted as want to be considerate of your agenda that evening.

Thank you again. Looking forward to next steps!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 3:12 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami Mclaughlin World Relief visit

Hi Tami,  
I'm forwarding Ginny's email to your address to make sure you receive it and  
I'm copying Ginny so that she'll have your email address.

Anoosheh

**From:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 3:06 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; [wrfoxvalley@wr.org](mailto:wrfoxvalley@wr.org)  
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Forward!!  
Ginny

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Ginny Close  
[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)  
715-577-8336

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Wed, 5 Apr 2023 23:07:45 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Contact info for World Relief

Wonderful. Thank you for ALL of your assistance. Will be in touch!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 5:49 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fw: Contact info for World Relief

---

**From:** Aaron White  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 4:46:29 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** Contact info for World Relief

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<p><b>Alex Padrnos</b> JCAP Project Coordinator</p> <p>715-831-3994 Work aleex@jcaprealestate.com</p>	<p><b>Michael Halloin</b> Landmark Company</p> <p>(715) 834-3411 Work michael@landmark-company.com</p>

I work on getting some of the major employer contacts to you later.

Regards,

**Aaron J. White, MBA**  
*Economic Development Manager*

715-839-4914—main desk  
715-839-6047—direct line  
[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)  
<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>  
<https://www.eauclairedevelopment.com/>  
203 S. Farwell St, Eau Claire, WI 54701



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For updated information on upcoming business resources and support programs related to COVID-19 financial impacts, go to our web sites: <https://www.eauclairedevelopment.com/doing-business/financial-assistance/> or <https://www.downtowneauclaire.org/coronavirus-aid-and-support/> and be sure to continue supporting our local businesses.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 6 Apr 2023 13:21:14 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Interesting read

I think more newcomers will help create more inclusion and empathy which will, in turn, increase the community's capacity for helping people of all walks of life! IMO, My \$.02. ☐

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 11:03 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Interesting read

[World Relief helps refugees in Wisconsin despite political fights \(thenorthwestern.com\)](https://thenorthwestern.com)

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 6 Apr 2023 15:21:23 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>; "Karen Crisler" <KCrisler@wr.org>  
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[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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715-577-8336

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thu, 6 Apr 2023 22:25:15 +0000  
**To:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
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**To:** "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
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Yes please Tami. Definitely an intro and then any questions and topics you want to get input on. As part of the introduction can you tell us more about the relationship based Good Neighbor Team model. Quite honestly, over our time as co sponsorship with LSS, a few of our folks who had had earlier experience mentoring Hmong families, voiced the concern of a void regarding relationship building in that model. So I am sure the group would be interested in knowing more i.e. how does World Relief go about finding and matching individuals or organizations, expectations beyond the tasks of immediate core services. Personally I am looking for pointers to backup a little with our Afghan folks and see what WNN 'should', 'could' still do to build stronger relationships with each individual or family.

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**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 3:21 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)>; Karen Crisler <[KCrisler@wr.org](mailto:KCrisler@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami Mclaughlin World Relief visit

Great news Tami! We try to keep our meetings to an hour. You and Karen, if available, would be first on the agenda. I would foresee your introduction to World Relief and the Good Neighbor Team Model with question/answer time using 30-45 minutes. At the

moment I do not have any other pressing agenda items and this fits perfectly as we educate ourselves on all things immigration related.

The meeting is Thursday, April 13, 6:30 pm CDT. Here is the zoom link. Anooosheh, please share with anyone you think may be interested.

Looking forward to seeing you again and hopefully meeting Karen.

Ginny

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89073725592?pwd=ZmowT2Q0dXNWcnNFK2tzWVFDWVVGUT09>

Meeting ID: 890 7372 5592

Passcode: 042629

On Wed, Apr 5, 2023 at 5:31 PM Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)> wrote:

Thank you Anooosheh and Ginny,

I was very impressed and encouraged by our conversation today and look forward to additional dialogue.

Ginny, our Community Engagement Manager, Karen Crisler, is returning from vacation on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup>. If she is available, I know she would be very interested in participating on your call. Either way, I am available and one or both of us will provide

an overview of World Relief and specifically our Good Neighbor Team model. I've copied Karen on this email so please send us both an invite.

We most likely will have additional questions around community engagement and appreciate your willingness to include your group in that discussion. Please advise regarding time allotted as want to be considerate of your agenda that evening.

Thank you again. Looking forward to next steps!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 3:12 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Cc:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami Mclaughlin World Relief visit

Hi Tami,

I'm forwarding Ginny's email to your address to make sure you receive it and

I'm copying Ginny so that she'll have your email address.

Anoosheh

**From:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 3:06 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>;  
[wrfoxvalley@wr.org](mailto:wrfoxvalley@wr.org)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami Mclaughlin World Relief visit

Hello again Anoosheh and Tami,

Anoosheh, thank you so much for including Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN) again into the conversation this morning. I know there is great interest within our steering committee and am looking forward to any and all future conversations welcoming immigrants.

Tami, I did not find an email address for you so I am using the World Relief Fox Valley address. It was so good to meet you this morning, however briefly. Thank you for being open to considering Eau Claire for a World Relief office!

Also, I am wondering if it would be of value to you to meet more of our WNN volunteers? I can safely speak for the larger group being interested in learning more of the World Relief community relationship building model: 'Neighbor to Neighbor'. (Sorry, I did not retain the exact name!!)

WNN meets via zoom the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm. Our next meeting is next Thursday the 13th. At that time, I will introduce World Relief's consideration of Eau Claire as a refugee agency site. BUT it would be of greater value and interest if you or your representative could attend and give a brief introduction to the organization. Of course, our folks would be open to assessment questions you may have regarding the community engagement piece.

Of course, WNN is open to any further conversation at Anooosheh's or your request at anytime by whatever means! We are definitely excited about the possibility for welcoming more new neighbors to Eau Claire and for partnering with World Relief.

Forward!!  
Ginny

--

Ginny Close

[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)

715-577-8336

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 21:42:24 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hello Anoosheh,

Hope you are enjoying Wisconsin weather at its finest! We know it won't last so have to take advantage.

I am planning on returning to Eau Claire next week with two of my colleagues and hoping to schedule a visit with a representative from the ECASD. Do you have a recommendation of a contact to reach out to as there isn't an ELL contact on the website? I have also requested an appointment, per the suggestion of our state refugee coordinator, with Jody Conner from Workforce Resource and am waiting to hear back.

Also, would you have an hour to meet with us to review a few more questions and other details relating to a proposal submission? It would also give us an opportunity to schedule a visit to our office when you are in Appleton for the Toward One Diversity and Inclusive Conference. (if you are still interested)

Appreciate your assistance and hope to connect next week!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](https://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 17:02:20 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Yay!!!

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:00:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Who do you think from ECASD would be the best representative?  
Do we know Jody?

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 17:06:23 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Dang Yang" <dyang1@ecasd.us>; "Xiong, Kaying"  
<kxiong@ecasd.us>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Awesome!

Here's a few names:

Dang Yang: [dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)

Dr. Kaying Xiong: [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu)

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:02 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Yay!!!

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---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:00:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang  
<[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Who do you think from ECASD would be the best representative?  
Do we know Jody?

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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Also, would you have an hour to meet with us to review a few more questions and other details relating to a proposal submission? It would also give us an opportunity to schedule a visit to our office when you are in Appleton for the Toward One Diversity and Inclusive Conference. (if you are still interested)

Appreciate your assistance and hope to connect next week!

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**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

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World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 17:11:17 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Dang Yang" <dyang1@ecasd.us>; "Xiong, Kaying"  
<kxiong@ecasd.us>  
**Subject:** Recall: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April  
19

Ka Vang would like to recall the message, "[EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19".

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 17:57:21 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

I would think Kaying and Dang, but Ka may know more. They could also visit a school that has a larger ELL enrollment.

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:00:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

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Appreciate your assistance and hope to connect next week!

Tami

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[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 18:15:27 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Yes they both are my recommendation too!

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**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:57:21 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 18:29:16 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Great minds...

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**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 6:15:27 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

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**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
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World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 14 Apr 2023 15:22:38 +0000  
**To:** "dyang1@ecasd.us" <dyang1@ecasd.us>; "kxiong@ecasd.edu" <kxiong@ecasd.edu>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Hello Dr. Xiong and Mr. Yang,

Annosheh Hamzehee recommended reaching out to you. I am the Office Director of World Relief Fox Valley, the refugee resettlement agency in the Appleton and Oshkosh area. Our agency is considering opening an office in Eau Claire and in the midst of completing an assessment of the community before making a final decision. Thus far we have a very favorable impression of the Eau Claire community but would like to learn more about the Eau Claire public school district. Would either of both of you be available to meet with myself and two colleagues next Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> for one hour? We would be available any time after 9:30am

Looking forward to hearing from you and hopefully meeting you both!

Tami

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[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Dang Yang" <dyang1@ecasd.us>  
**Sent:** Fri, 14 Apr 2023 15:27:15 +0000  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>;  
"kxiong@ecasd.edu" <kxiong@ecasd.edu>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>; "Melissa Dexter" <mdexter@ecasd.us>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Tami,

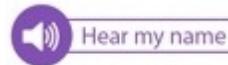
I would be happy to connect and meet with you to discuss this important topic to help you learn more about the Eau Claire Area School District. I am including Melissa Dexter, Dr. Xiong's Executive Assistant to help with scheduling. Once Melissa has the chance to review Dr. Xiong's calendar, would you like her to setup a virtual meeting link for us or would your preference be to meet in person in Eau Claire? I am open to either possibility.

Thank you so much for the outreach. I am eager to connect and learn more about the work you're leading to support refugee families.

Sincerely,



**Dang Yang** ([he/him/his](#))



Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion  
Eau Claire Area School District

500 Main Street | Eau Claire, WI 54701

[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us) | 715-852-3069 | [www.ecasd.us](http://www.ecasd.us)

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Dang Yang <dyang1@ecasd.us>; kxiong@ecasd.edu  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

You don't often get email from [tmclaughlin@wr.org](mailto:tmclaughlin@wr.org). [Learn why this is important](#)

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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**ALERT:** This email came from outside ECASD. Use caution when replying, clicking on any links, or opening attachments.

**From:** "Melissa Dexter" <mdexter@ecasd.us>  
**Sent:** Fri, 14 Apr 2023 15:43:07 +0000  
**To:** "Dang Yang" <dyang1@ecasd.us>; "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Thank you, Dang! I would be happy to assist with coordinating a meeting--whether it be virtual or in person.

There are some moving pieces in Kaying's schedule over the next couple of weeks--I should know more about these factors by the end of the day today.

If there are good days/times, generally speaking, that work for all of you, please let me know and I will consider those first when looking at scheduling.

## Melissa Dexter

Executive Assistant | Student Services  
Eau Claire Area School District  
500 Main Street | Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Phone: 715-852-3045|[www.ecasd.us](http://www.ecasd.us)

---

**From:** Dang Yang <dyang1@ecasd.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:27 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; kxiong@ecasd.edu  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>; Melissa Dexter <mdexter@ecasd.us>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Tami,

I would be happy to connect and meet with you to discuss this important topic to help you learn more about the Eau Claire Area School District. I am including Melissa Dexter, Dr. Xiong's Executive Assistant to help with scheduling. Once Melissa has the chance to review Dr. Xiong's calendar, would you like her to setup a virtual meeting link for us or would your preference be to meet in person in Eau Claire? I am open to either possibility.

Thank you so much for the outreach. I am eager to connect and learn more about the work you're leading to support refugee families.

Sincerely,



**Dang Yang** ([he/him/his](#))



Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion  
Eau Claire Area School District  
500 Main Street | Eau Claire, WI 54701  
[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us) | 715-852-3069 | [www.ecasd.us](http://www.ecasd.us)

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Dang Yang <[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)>; [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu)  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

You don't often get email from [tmclaughlin@wr.org](mailto:tmclaughlin@wr.org). [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Dr. Xiong and Mr. Yang,

Annoosheh Hamzehee recommended reaching out to you. I am the Office Director of World Relief Fox Valley, the refugee resettlement agency in the Appleton and Oshkosh area. Our agency is considering opening an office in Eau Claire and in the midst of completing an assessment of the community before making a final decision. Thus far we have a very favorable impression of the Eau Claire community but would like to learn more about the Eau Claire public school district. Would either of both of you be available to meet with myself and two colleagues next Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> for one hour? We would be available any time after 9:30am

Looking forward to hearing from you and hopefully meeting you both!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**ALERT:** This email came from outside ECASD. Use caution when replying, clicking on any links, or opening attachments.

**From:** "Melissa Dexter" <mdexter@ecasd.us>  
**Sent:** Fri, 14 Apr 2023 16:18:53 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dang Yang" <dyang1@ecasd.us>;  
"Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau  
Claire

Unfortunately, Kaying is attending a previously scheduled conference all day on 4/19.

Is there another time we can look at?

## Melissa Dexter

Executive Assistant | Student Services  
Eau Claire Area School District  
500 Main Street | Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Phone: 715-852-3045|[www.ecasd.us](http://www.ecasd.us)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 11:16 AM  
**To:** Melissa Dexter <mdexter@ecasd.us>; Dang Yang <dyang1@ecasd.us>; Tami McLaughlin  
<TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Hello Melissa and Dang,

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I think if Kaying and Dang can meet in person with Tami any time after 9:30, would be great.  
Please let me know if I can be of any assistance.

## Anoosheh Hamzehee

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



---

**From:** Melissa Dexter <[mdexter@ecasd.us](mailto:mdexter@ecasd.us)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:43 AM  
**To:** Dang Yang <[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Thank you, Dang! I would be happy to assist with coordinating a meeting--whether it be virtual or in person.

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**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:27 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu)  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)>; Melissa Dexter <[mdexter@ecasd.us](mailto:mdexter@ecasd.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

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Sincerely,



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500 Main Street | Eau Claire, WI 54701  
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**To:** Dang Yang <[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)>; [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu)  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

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Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**ALERT:** This email came from outside ECASD. Use caution when replying, clicking on any links, or opening attachments.

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 14 Apr 2023 17:23:25 +0000  
**To:** "Melissa Dexter" <mdexter@ecasd.us>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dang Yang" <dyang1@ecasd.us>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Hello All,

Thank you for your interest in meeting with us. Currently Wednesday is the only day we have scheduled for in person meetings. Would it be possible to meet with Dang and if we have additional questions or Dr. Xiong would also like to meet, we could schedule a virtual meeting after May 1<sup>st</sup> due to travel schedules?

Appreciate your consideration!

Tami

---

**From:** Melissa Dexter <mdexter@ecasd.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 11:19 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Dang Yang <dyang1@ecasd.us>; Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Unfortunately, Kaying is attending a previously scheduled conference all day on 4/19.

Is there another time we can look at?

## Melissa Dexter

Executive Assistant | Student Services  
Eau Claire Area School District  
500 Main Street | Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Phone: 715-852-3045|[www.ecasd.us](http://www.ecasd.us)

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 11:16 AM  
**To:** Melissa Dexter <[mdexter@ecasd.us](mailto:mdexter@ecasd.us)>; Dang Yang <[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Hello Melissa and Dang,

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## Anoosheh Hamzehee

Associate Analyst

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



---

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**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:43 AM

**To:** Dang Yang <[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

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Phone: 715-852-3045|[www.ecasd.us](http://www.ecasd.us)

---

**From:** Dang Yang <[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)>

**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:27 AM

**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu)

**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)>; Melissa Dexter <[mdexter@ecasd.us](mailto:mdexter@ecasd.us)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

Tami,

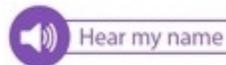
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Sincerely,



**Dang Yang** ([he/him/his](#))



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[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us) | 715-852-3069 | [www.ecasd.us](http://www.ecasd.us)

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Dang Yang <[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)>; [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu)  
**Cc:** Anosheh Hamzehee <[Anosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXT] Refugee Resettlement in Eau Claire

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Hello Dr. Xiong and Mr. Yang,

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Looking forward to hearing from you and hopefully meeting you both!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**  
Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley  
[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)  
o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**ALERT:** This email came from outside ECASD. Use caution when replying, clicking on any links, or opening attachments.

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 12:35:27 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Good Morning, Anoosheh!

We have definitely cooled off! Appleton woke up to snow flurries as I suspect Eau Claire did also!

Wanted to touch base again regarding our visit on Wednesday. Was hoping to connect with Dang since Dr. Xiong is not available and as mentioned, I can also give her a call if requested. If I don't hear from Dang today will touch base again.

Do you think it would be possible to schedule a brief meeting with the Chief of Police or other representative from public safety? I can do that on my own if you would refer me to the appropriate person or if they want to join our time with you, would be perfectly appropriate! I was going to ask you some additional, random type questions and if you are not able to answer, can refer me and I'll follow up with phone calls or emails. Also, review next steps with you.

Am digging deeper into housing and will update you on Wednesday.

Let me know what time is convenient for you in Wednesday and will look forward to seeing you then!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 7:52 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hi Tami,  
It's been a little too hot for spring these couple of days but will cool off soon ☺

I would suggest contacting either of the two or both: Dang Yang ECASD EDI Director): [dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)  
or Dr. Kaying Xiong: [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu) . You can also visit one of our schools with larger ELL enrollment.

We can definitely meet, will you be here on the 19<sup>th</sup>? Would I be able to answer your questions or who else

do you need to be in the meeting? and yes we are still planning to visit you there, if possible  
April 24<sup>th</sup>  
around 4:00, if not, April 25<sup>th</sup> after 4:00 .

Looking forward to see you again and meet with your colleagues.

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hello Anoosheh,

Hope you are enjoying Wisconsin weather at its finest! We know it won't last so have to take advantage.

I am planning on returning to Eau Claire next week with two of my colleagues and hoping to schedule a visit with a representative from the ECASD. Do you have a recommendation of a contact to reach out to as there isn't an ELL contact on the website? I have also requested an appointment, per the suggestion of our state refugee coordinator, with Jody Conner from Workforce Resource and am waiting to hear back.

Also, would you have an hour to meet with us to review a few more questions and other details relating to a proposal submission? It would also give us an opportunity to schedule a visit to our office when you are in Appleton for the Toward One Diversity and Inclusive Conference. (if you are still interested)

Appreciate your assistance and hope to connect next week!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 15:40:03 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hello Anoosheh,

Yes, would be wonderful if you would touch base with Dane and make an appointment!

Would like to talk with Chief Rokus about the following:

Any anti-immigrant sentiments expressed in the community? If so, how are sentiments managed?

How are immigrants groups isolated or integrated into the community?

Does local law enforcement have a community or cultural liaison?

Any foreseeable barriers from public safety perspective to resettlement in community

Any resources available for language barriers?

Would welcome you to our conversation with hopes we can extend your time for other questions/updates.

Thank you!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 8:26 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Good morning Tami,

Do you want me to touch base with Dang and make an appointment?

Based on his calendar, Chief Rokus is available on Wednesday 11:30 or 1:00 .  
Do you have a list of questions for him I can pass on?

I'd be able to sit with you and Chief or separately. I'll wait for us to schedule the meetings with Dang and Chief Rokus and then with me, I have lots of openings on Wednesday ☺

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 7:35 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

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**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 7:52 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

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[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)  
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We can definitely meet, will you be here on the 19<sup>th</sup>? Would I be able to answer your questions or who else do you need to be in the meeting? and yes we are still planning to visit you there, if possible April 24<sup>th</sup>

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**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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Also, would you have an hour to meet with us to review a few more questions and other details relating to a proposal submission? It would also give us an opportunity to schedule a visit to our office when you are in Appleton for the Toward One Diversity and Inclusive Conference. (if you are still interested)

Appreciate your assistance and hope to connect next week!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 12:28:20 -0500  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Meet with World Relief

Hi Matt – Would you be available to meet (probably for just about a half hour) with a representative from a refugee resettlement agency? They are considering setting up an office here in Eau Claire, and they wanted to ask these questions listed below... Let me or Anoosheh know if this time doesn't work! It looks free on your calendar. The agency person is free after 9:30AM on Wednesday.

World Relief, a refugee resettlement agency, is considering Eau Claire as a potential location to establish a refugee settlement office. The agency has conducted initial interviews with relevant individuals. As part of the assessment process, the director of the agency based in Appleton, Tami Laughlin, wishes to speak with the Eau Claire police chief. The following is a list of questions that will be discussed during the meeting.

- Any anti-immigrant sentiments expressed in the community? If so, how are sentiments managed?
- How are immigrant groups isolated or integrated into the community?
- Does local law enforcement have a community or cultural liaison?
- Any foreseeable barriers from public safety perspective to resettlement in community
- Any resources available for language barriers?

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 18:54:53 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hi Anoosheh,

Thank you! We have an appointment with Mary Proznik of Riverbend Rentals and Property Management at 3pm in her office and will head back to Appleton following that meeting. I also had a very encouraging call with Brian Johnson of JCAP this morning so between Mary and Brian will have good information regarding housing.

Will need to do more research on employment but will make those phone calls after our visit on Wednesday.

Whatever you decide regarding Chief Rokus (together or separate) is good with me!

Thank you, again!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 1:07 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hi Tami,

Your meeting with Dang is scheduled at 10:00am, Wednesday April 19<sup>th</sup>. Blia Schwahn, School community Liaison who works with family services will be there too. The address of District Office is 500 Main Street which is 1 minute away from the City Hall. I'll let you know as soon as I hear back from Chief Rokus.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 10:40 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hello Anoosheh,

Yes, would be wonderful if you would touch base with Dane and make an appointment!

Would like to talk with Chief Rokus about the following:

Any anti-immigrant sentiments expressed in the community? If so, how are sentiments managed?

How are immigrants groups isolated or integrated into the community?

Does local law enforcement have a community or cultural liaison?

Any foreseeable barriers from public safety perspective to resettlement in community

Any resources available for language barriers?

Would welcome you to our conversation with hopes we can extend your time for other questions/updates.

Thank you!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 8:26 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Good morning Tami,

Do you want me to touch base with Dang and make an appointment?

Based on his calendar, Chief Rokus is available on Wednesday 11:30 or 1:00 .  
Do you have a list of questions for him I can pass on?

I'd be able to sit with you and Chief or separately. I'll wait for us to schedule the meetings with Dang and Chief Rokus and then with me, I have lots of openings on Wednesday ☐

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 7:35 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Good Morning, Anoosheh!

We have definitely cooled off! Appleton woke up to snow flurries as I suspect Eau Claire did also!

Wanted to touch base again regarding our visit on Wednesday. Was hoping to connect with Dang since Dr. Xiong is not available and as mentioned, I can also give her a call if requested. If I don't hear from Dang today will touch base again.

Do you think it would be possible to schedule a brief meeting with the Chief of Police or other representative from public safety? I can do that on my own if you would refer me to the appropriate person or if they want to join our time with you, would be perfectly appropriate! I was going to ask you some additional, random type questions and if you are not able to answer, can refer me and I'll follow up with phone calls or emails. Also, review next steps with you.

Am digging deeper into housing and will update you on Wednesday.

Let me know what time is convenient for you in Wednesday and will look forward to seeing you then!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 7:52 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hi Tami,  
It's been a little too hot for spring these couple of days but will cool off soon ☺

I would suggest contacting either of the two or both: Dang Yang ECASD EDI Director):  
[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)  
or Dr. Kaying Xiong: [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu) . You can also visit one of our schools with larger ELL enrollment.

We can definitely meet, will you be here on the 19<sup>th</sup>? Would I be able to answer your questions or who else do you need to be in the meeting? and yes we are still planning to visit you there, if possible April 24<sup>th</sup> around 4:00, if not, April 25<sup>th</sup> after 4:00 .

Looking forward to see you again and meet with your colleagues.

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hello Anoosheh,

Hope you are enjoying Wisconsin weather at its finest! We know it won't last so have to take advantage.

I am planning on returning to Eau Claire next week with two of my colleagues and hoping to schedule a visit with a representative from the ECASD. Do you have a recommendation of a contact to reach out to as there isn't an ELL contact on the website? I have also requested an appointment, per the suggestion of our state refugee coordinator, with Jody Conner from Workforce Resource and am waiting to hear back.

Also, would you have an hour to meet with us to review a few more questions and other details relating to a proposal submission? It would also give us an opportunity to schedule a visit to our office when you are in Appleton for the Toward One Diversity and Inclusive Conference. (if you are still interested)

Appreciate your assistance and hope to connect next week!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 13:58:07 -0500  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Meet with World Relief

Hi Matt – Would you be available to meet (probably for just about a half hour) with a representative from a refugee resettlement agency? They are considering setting up an office here in Eau Claire, and they wanted to ask these questions listed below... Let me or Anoosheh know if this time doesn't work! It looks free on your calendar. The agency person is free after 9:30AM on Wednesday.

World Relief, a refugee resettlement agency, is considering Eau Claire as a potential location to establish a refugee settlement office. The agency has conducted initial interviews with relevant individuals. As part of the assessment process, the director of the agency based in Appleton, Tami Laughlin, wishes to speak with the Eau Claire police chief. The following is a list of questions that will be discussed during the meeting.

- Any anti-immigrant sentiments expressed in the community? If so, how are sentiments managed?
- How are immigrant groups isolated or integrated into the community?
- Does local law enforcement have a community or cultural liaison?
- Any foreseeable barriers from public safety perspective to resettlement in community
- Any resources available for language barriers?

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 22:03:34 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Thanks Anoosheh!

One of our staff is friends with the Eau Claire Campus Director of Campus Crusade for Christ and we are attempting to schedule an 11:30 meeting with him to get an overview of the Church landscape in Eau Claire.

Did I mention last Thursday evening we participated on a call with the Welcoming New Neighbor group? Very much enjoyed our conversation with them.

Continue to be impressed and encouraged by the Eau Claire community!

Thanks for your help today. See you on Wednesday at 1:30!

Tami

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 2:12 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

The meeting with Chief Matt Rokus is scheduled for 1:30-2:30 pm. His office is at the County, 5 minutes from us. I'll attend the meeting too.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 1:55 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hi Anoosheh,

Thank you! We have an appointment with Mary Proznik of Riverbend Rentals and Property Management at 3pm in her office and will head back to Appleton following that meeting. I also had a very encouraging call with Brian Johnson of JCAP this morning so between Mary and Brian will have good information regarding housing.

Will need to do more research on employment but will make those phone calls after our visit on Wednesday.

Whatever you decide regarding Chief Rokus (together or separate) is good with me!

Thank you, again!

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 1:07 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hi Tami,

Your meeting with Dang is scheduled at 10:00am, Wednesday April 19<sup>th</sup>.  
Blia Schwahn, School community Liaison who works with family services will be there too.  
The address of District Office is 500 Main Street which is 1 minute away from the City Hall.  
I'll let you know as soon as I hear back from Chief Rokus.

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**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 10:40 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 7:35 AM  
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**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

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Am digging deeper into housing and will update you on Wednesday.

Let me know what time is convenient for you in Wednesday and will look forward to seeing you then!

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**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

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I would suggest contacting either of the two or both: Dang Yang ECASD EDI Director):

[dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)

or Dr. Kaying Xiong: [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu) . You can also visit one of our schools with larger ELL enrollment.

We can definitely meet, will you be here on the 19<sup>th</sup>? Would I be able to answer your questions or who else

do you need to be in the meeting? and yes we are still planning to visit you there, if possible

April 24<sup>th</sup>

around 4:00, if not, April 25<sup>th</sup> after 4:00 .

Looking forward to see you again and meet with your colleagues.

Anoosheh

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**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

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Also, would you have an hour to meet with us to review a few more questions and other details relating to a proposal submission? It would also give us an opportunity to schedule a visit to our office when you are in Appleton for the Toward One Diversity and Inclusive Conference. (if you are still interested)

Appreciate your assistance and hope to connect next week!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley  
[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)  
o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thu, 20 Apr 2023 17:07:38 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "James Rashid" <JRashid@wr.org>; "Karen Crisler"  
<KCrisler@wr.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Thank you!

Hello Anoosheh,

It was great to see you yesterday! We appreciate your continued willingness to serve as our liaison with many of the community stakeholders. Will be in touch as questions arise and will copy you on the requests for support letters.

Sorry I'm travelling next week but James will look forward to meeting you in our Appleton Office at 510 E Wisconsin Avenue.

Take care!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "James Rashid" <jrashid@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thu, 20 Apr 2023 19:31:21 +0000  
**To:** "anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov"  
<anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Connect on Monday

Hi Annosheh,

Nice meeting you yesterday and hearing about Eau Claire's eagerness to launch resettlement efforts. I am looking forward to connecting with you while you're in Appleton on Monday. Can you confirm a good time to meet? I was planning to host you at our office. Our address is below:

510 E Wisconsin Ave  
Appleton, WI 54911

Could you also provide a few questions or topics you'd like me to cover for you and your colleague when you visit?

Thanks,

**JAMES RASHID**

Refugee Programs Director  
World Relief Fox Valley  
[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)  
o: 920.231.3600 | f: 920.301.7275  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "James Rashid" <jrashid@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 21 Apr 2023 13:50:09 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Connect on Monday

Hi Anoosheh, thanks for your response. Let's meet after your Forward Service meeting on Wednesday so you can see the office and meet anyone who's around. Do you think that'll be around 3:00 or 3:30 pm? Here's my cell if you need to connect more quickly next Wednesday: 920-851-6399.

Looking forward to it!

**JAMES RASHID**

Refugee Programs Director  
World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | f: 920.301.7275

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 3:49 PM

**To:** James Rashid <JRashid@wr.org>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Connect on Monday

Hi James,

It was nice meeting you too. This is how our schedule looks like next week:

Monday:

12:00 -4:00 in Wausau, probably around 5:30 we'll be in Appleton ( we can't meet after 5:30, can we?)

Tuesday:

8:00-5:30 Conference ( we can miss one session and be at World Relief at 1:00?)

Wednesday:

7:30- 1:30 Conference, 2:00 visit Forward service Corp in Menasha ( we can meet with you after?)

We would appreciate if you can walk us through the process of refugee resettlement, I have worked with

UNHCR, so have some idea how it works but both of us would like to get a better picture please. If we

meet during the day we would love to take a tour of your office too if possible. I don't have any specific question in mind to ask at this time ☐

Please let me know which day and time works better for you.

Thank you,

Anoosheh

---

**From:** James Rashid <JRashid@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 2:31 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Connect on Monday

Hi Annosheh,

Nice meeting you yesterday and hearing about Eau Claire's eagerness to launch resettlement efforts. I am looking forward to connecting with you while you're in Appleton on Monday. Can you confirm a good time to meet? I was planning to host you at our office. Our address is below:

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Could you also provide a few questions or topics you'd like me to cover for you and your colleague when you visit?

Thanks,

**JAMES RASHID**

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[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)  
o: 920.231.3600 | f: 920.301.7275  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 21 Apr 2023 10:56:07 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Awesome schedule! ☺ Ua tsaug for putting this together!

Ka

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 10:48 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Date	Time	Plan	Location
24th	9:00	Pick up rental car	2927 Hamilton Ave
24th	10:00	Head out towards Wausau	-
24th	12:00	Meet with Wausau Mayor	407 Grant Street
24th	3:00	Visit Wausau Warming center(Catholic Charities)	540 S 3rd Ave
25th	-	Conference all day	Appleton
26th	7:30	Conference	-
26th	1:30	Skip the Ending	-
26th	2:00	Visit Forward Service Corp (Refugee support Services, Menasha)	1050 Midway Road, in the same building as Subway
26th	3:00	World Relief	510 E Wisconsin Avenue, Contact # 920-851-6399 James

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)  
203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 21 Apr 2023 13:09:19 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Hi Anoosheh – Sorry for this question and I don't want to mess up plans... I see that there is actually a bus I could take back from Wausau, but it leaves at 3PM. Would there be any chance of going to the Warming Center before 3PM so I could make the bus?

---

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

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**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 21 Apr 2023 13:37:35 -0500  
**To:** "Kevin Burch" <kburch@cclse.org>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Hi Kevin –

A group of us are heading to Wausau on Monday (on the way to the Toward One conference). I have to be back for a Council meeting on Monday night, but was hoping to tour the Day Center or anything else interesting in Wausau before I catch a bus back at 3PM. Do you have any suggestions of what we might do between around 1 and 3PM? We are really up for anything that will help us understand municipal government! ☐

Thanks in advance and sorry for the late request...

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 1:17 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
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**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 21 Apr 2023 22:50:42 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Anoosheh,

Wrapping this week up while planning next week and would like to schedule calls with 3 – 4 employers in Eau Claire who might be interested in employing refugees. Would Aaron White be the best contact for that information? If so, I can reach out to him directly or would you prefer to?

Hope you know how much I appreciate you!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

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Thank you, Stephanie. We look forward to your visit and hope it sheds some light on our operations and partnerships in Wausau.

**Anoosheh-** I apologize for the initial response you received. This is a public campus during the day. Although we and many of our partners will be in operation on Monday, there is no better time to visit than that. It is a public and welcoming campus. Whether that be clients or people wanting a tour to see us in action! ☐

Thank you and safe travels!

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Hope you enjoy the conference in Appleton. Will look forward to an update from James regarding your World Relief visit]

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 22, 2023 3:00 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Tami,  
Aaron would know a lot more than I do, and you're welcome to contact him directly

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 5:50:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Anoosheh,

Wrapping this week up while planning next week and would like to schedule calls with 3 – 4 employers in Eau Claire who might be interested in employing refugees. Would Aaron White be the best contact for that information? If so, I can reach out to him directly or would you prefer to?

Hope you know how much I appreciate you!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 24 Apr 2023 09:20:32 -0500  
**To:** "Kevin Burch" <kburch@cclse.org>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Thank you, Kevin! We are excited!

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**From:** Kevin Burch <kburch@cclse.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 22, 2023 11:52:25 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Billie Hufford <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Thank you, Stephanie. We look forward to your visit and hope it sheds some light on our operations and partnerships in Wausau.

**Anoosheh-** I apologize for the initial response you received. This is a public campus during the day. Although we and many of our partners will be in operation on Monday, there is no better time to visit than that. It is a public and welcoming campus. Whether that be clients or people wanting a tour to see us in action! ☐

Thank you and safe travels!

*Kevin Burch*  
*Director – Housing Services*

**Catholic Charities**  
**La Crosse, WI 54601**  
**T: 608.519.8021**

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 4:26 PM  
**To:** Kevin Burch <kburch@cclse.org>; Billie Hufford <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Thanks so much, Kevin! It'll be three of us – me, Anoosheh, and Ka (though I'm CCing Billie in case she's able to juggle her schedule to join... and if not we'll bring back good notes.)

---

**From:** Kevin Burch <[kburch@cclse.org](mailto:kburch@cclse.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 3:40 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Hi Stephanie,

I've arranged for you to receive a tour of the Community Partners Campus (CPC) in Wausau. Jeff Hancock, our Regional Director for Wausau operations, will be able to help guide you on that tour. Please contact him when you arrive on-site (364 Grand Ave, Wausau WI 54403). His phone number is 715.301.3339. Jeff will also attempt to connect with the day shelter, Open Door, to see if he can also take you there for a tour. I'm not certain if it will be possible but he is going to reach out to them. Those two locations, with questions, will most likely fill the 2-hour timeframe you are free. Just for planning purposes, how large of a group would be coming?

Thank you and have a great weekend!

*Kevin Burch*  
*Director – Housing Services*

**Catholic Charities**  
**La Crosse, WI 54601**  
**T: 608.519.8021**

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 1:38 PM  
**To:** Kevin Burch <[kburch@cclse.org](mailto:kburch@cclse.org)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Hi Kevin –

A group of us are heading to Wausau on Monday (on the way to the Toward One conference). I have to be back for a Council meeting on Monday night, but was hoping to tour the Day Center or anything else interesting in Wausau before I catch a bus back at 3PM. Do you have any suggestions of what we might do between around 1 and 3PM? We are really up for anything that will help us understand municipal government! ☺

Thanks in advance and sorry for the late request...

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 1:17 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang

<[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

I asked them before, they said no ☐ see the quote below:

“Our financial advocate, Erin, would prefer you not visit on a Monday because it is our walk-in day and could compromise client confidentiality. Our walk-in’s end at 3:00 if you would still be in the area then?”

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 1:09 PM

**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Hi Anoosheh – Sorry for this question and I don’t want to mess up plans... I see that there is actually a bus I could take back from Wausau, but it leaves at 3PM. Would there be any chance of going to the Warming Center before 3PM so I could make the bus?

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 10:56 AM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Awesome schedule! ☐ Ua tsaug for putting this together!

Ka

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 10:48 AM

**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Date	Time	Plan	Location
24th	9:00	Pick up rental car	2927 Hamilton Ave
24th	10:00	Head out towards Wausau	-
24th	12:00	Meet with Wausau Mayor	407 Grant Street
24th	3:00	Visit Wausau Warming center(Catholic Charities)	540 S 3rd Ave

Date	Time	Plan	Location
25th	-	Conference all day	Appleton
26th	7:30	Conference	-
26th	1:30	Skip the Ending	-
26th	2:00	Visit Forward Service Corp (Refugee support Services, Menasha)	1050 Midway Road, in the same building as Subway
26th	3:00	World Relief	510 E Wisconsin Avenue, Contact # 920-851-6399 James

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Hassemer"  
**Sent:** Mon, 24 Apr 2023 14:26:15 +0000  
**To:** "anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] refugee resettlement update?

Hi Anoosheh,

Have you heard anything from World Relief about the results of the site visit? I'm curious and excited!

Thanks,  
Holly

Holly Hassemer  
Pronouns: she/her/hers  
Dean of Academic Development and Services  
Chippewa Valley Technical College  
715-831-7331

Like Adult Ed & College Prep 

Join the Academic Service FB Group 

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Tue, 9 May 2023 22:43:02 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Anoosheh,

Glad you enjoyed your stay and hope the conference was productive!

We have decided to propose Eau Claire as our recommendation for a new resettlement site. Everyone we had a conversation with was supportive and the work that your community has already done around welcoming refugees and immigrants has been impressive. It would be an honor to open an office in Eau Claire.

We are preparing the proposal which is due the end of the month and later this week I plan to send emails requesting support letters from stake holders. We expect to receive final approval late summer/early fall but will continue to move forward with plans around hiring and securing office space.

Will be in touch but let me know if you have additional questions. So appreciative of your assistance and support. The fun is just beginning J

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 12:40 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Tami,  
We enjoyed our stay in Appleton, James was a perfect host, and now we're looking forward to hear from you.  
Have you submitted the proposal? When do you expect to hear back from them?

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2023 8:56 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Thanks Anoosheh! Will do.

Hope you enjoy the conference in Appleton. Will look forward to an update from James regarding your World Relief visit]

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**Sent:** Saturday, April 22, 2023 3:00 PM  
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**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Employers

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Hope you know how much I appreciate you!

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**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 10 May 2023 12:31:40 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Employers

WOW!!! That is so exciting! Thanks for all you did to make this possible. Let me know what I can do. Also, can you write up information that I can share with the Council?

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 9:57:52 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Employers

FYI,

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 5:43 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

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**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Employers

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**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Employers

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Office Director  
World Relief Fox Valley  
[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)  
o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Hassemer"  
**Sent:** Fri, 12 May 2023 13:40:31 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: FLYER Ready to be distributed

Thanks, Anoosheh! I will share with our Workforce Solutions team, our deans, and others as well.

Any news on the World Relief visit?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 8:15 AM  
**To:** Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>  
**Subject:** FLYER Ready to be distributed  
**Importance:** High

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good morning Holly,

Our flyer for the info. session is attached. Please feel free to distribute.

Thank you

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Hassemer"  
**Sent:** Fri, 12 May 2023 15:06:19 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: FLYER Ready to be distributed

Ahh!! I have goosebumps! How exciting.

Is this information that is able to be shared? Or should I keep it quiet until WR announces something? I see that it is not completely a done deal yet. CVTC looks forward to submitting a letter of support.

Thanks for the update!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 10:00 AM  
**To:** Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: FLYER Ready to be distributed

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Thank you Holly,

The message below is from Tami, the WR director:

**“We have decided to propose Eau Claire as our recommendation for a new resettlement site.**

**Everyone we had a conversation with was supportive and the work that your community has already done around welcoming refugees and immigrants has been impressive. It would be an honor to open an office in Eau Claire.**

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---

**From:** Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 8:41 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Hassemer"  
**Sent:** Fri, 12 May 2023 15:34:42 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: FLYER Ready to be distributed

Smart. Thanks, Anoosheh!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 10:29 AM  
**To:** Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: FLYER Ready to be distributed

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I think we might wait until it's approved before we share ☐

---

**From:** Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 10:06 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: FLYER Ready to be distributed

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**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

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203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 16:37:52 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov."  
<Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Local Governance Letter of Support Template.docx

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 16:50:23 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Local Governance Letter of Support Template.docx

Good Morning, Anoosheh!

Hope you had a nice Mother's Day weekend!

I've copied you on a request to Stephanie for a support letter but it was returned to me. Could you verify the address? Also, am sending a request to Chief Rokus but do not have his email. Would you share his address with me?

I am sending requests to Nancy Weltzin, Marisa Stanley and Deng Yang along with our State Refugee Coordinator and State Refugee Health Coordinator. I don't expect any issues and will include with our proposal which should be completed by the end of May.

Will keep you posted on progress!

As always, appreciate your assistance and support!

Tami

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov.  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 12:11:29 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Not sure why it would've bounced... Do you want to draft the letter for me to sign?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 12:11:15 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "TMcLaughlin@wr.org"  
<TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
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**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)  
o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:12:23 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you! I'll send a request to Holly.

I'm also receiving a notice that Marisa Stanley at Public Health's address is not valid. Will send and copy you!

Thanks!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:03 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Good morning Tami,

It's weird, her email address is correct, I'll make sure she has received it.

CVTC (Holley Hassemmer) has also announced their interest in providing a letter of support if you need it at all.

This is Chief Rokus's email: [Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)

Please let me know if there's anything else I can help with.

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:50 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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---

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**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** [Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov).  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:12:38 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you!

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:14:26 +0000  
**To:** "marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov."  
<marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Local Public Health Letter of Support Template (1).docx

Hello Marisa,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 01:25:41 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Marisa Stanley"  
<Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you Anoosheh.

We will review and be in touch with Tami.

Do note that this is the type of additional tax levy supported effort from our agency that is so critical that we will have to sort out how to navigate.

Lieske

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:18 PM  
**To:** Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; Elizabeth Giese  
<Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you have received this email

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** [marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov). <[marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Marisa,

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This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 13:33:57 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you!!!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:20 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

You have put a dot after gov, probably that's why. I forwarded your email to Elizabeth Giese( Health Director) and Marisa( the deputy Health Director).

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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Thanks!

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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Anoosheh

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**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:50 AM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 08:51:34 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Nice letter! Let me see how to work it out with the Council.

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Good morning,  
Draft letter is attached.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Not sure why it would've bounced... Do you want to draft the letter for me to sign?

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We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future

newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 19 May 2023 19:28:20 +0000  
**To:** "TMcLaughlin@wr.org" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch"  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "Marisa Stanley"  
<Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter of support - Health Department  
**Attachments:** World Relief LOS 2023.pdf

Greetings.

As requested, the letter of support for World Relief to open an affiliate in Eau Claire is attached. Please let me know if you have questions.  
Lieske

*Lieske (Elizabeth) Giese, RN, MSPH | Health Officer - Director*  
[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)  
P: (715) 839-4718 F: (715) 839-1674 Cell: (715) 514-7881  
720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703  
[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

***For more immediate response, please contact us at [ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov). If there is a public health emergency outside of normal business hours, please contact NON-emergency dispatch at (715) 839-4972 and they will connect you with a public health official.***



This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 22 May 2023 14:30:42 +0000  
**To:** "Elizabeth Giese" <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch"  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "Marisa Stanley"  
<Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Letter of support - Health Department

Dear Lieske,

Thank you! We look forward to partnering with you.

Tami

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 19, 2023 2:28 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephanie Hirsch  
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P: (715) 839-4718 F: (715) 839-1674 Cell: (715) 514-7881  
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or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 22 May 2023 10:02:04 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"TMcLaughlin@wr.org" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hi Tami – Attached please find a letter of support. So happy to be able to send it!

Let us know if there's anything else we can do on our end.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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Tami

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Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)



**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 22 May 2023 16:19:32 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you, Stephanie.

Anoosheh's assistance and your support are appreciated. We very much look forward to this partnership!

Tami

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2023 10:02 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 21 Jun 2023 12:39:02 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Appraisal  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-04\_EvaluationCMOffice-Anoosheh.docx

Hi – Can you want to add comments, combine it into a PDF with your self-appraisal, sign it, and then send it to me to sign and forward to HR?

Thanks and let me know if you think anything should be changed!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 28 Jun 2023 19:46:46 -0500  
**To:** "Colleen Schian" <Colleen.Schian@eauclairewi.gov>; "Carrie Riepl" <Carrie.Riepl@eauclairewi.gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Travis Davis" <Travis.Davis@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Lane Berg" <Lane.Berg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Cortney Sperber" <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Matthew Jaggar" <Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Cory Tietz" <Cory.Tietz@eauclairewi.gov>; "Jennifer Pempek" <Jennifer.Pempek@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Agenda for EDI EauStat Admin Meeting  
**Attachments:** 2023-06-29\_EDIEauStatAgenda.docx

Hello all –

Attached is an agenda for the EDI EauStat meeting tomorrow.

As mentioned in other communications, we are trying to split EauStat meetings into three different types:

- Admin Meetings (IT, HR, Finance, and eventually Law) that happen in the first week of the month and that shape the topics for the operational meetings.
- Operational Meetings (Community Services, Police, Fire, etc. etc.) that happen in the last two weeks of the month.
- Project meetings that are less structured and happen at different times of the month.

EDI probably falls somewhere between an Admin Meeting (since it relates to all departments) and a project meeting.

Anyway, thank you for bearing with us as we make these adjustments!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 7 Jul 2023 22:33:45 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Anoosheh,

Good to hear from you! We don't expect to receive final approve for the resettlement site until late August but are going to begin recruiting for the site director (position should be posted by the following week). I will also begin looking for office space. Do you have any recommendations regarding location? A top priority is accessibility to public transportation.

Will stay in touch as starting to move forward!

Thanks!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 3:03 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami,

Hope you are doing fine. How is World Relief Eau Claire project going?  
Have you heard back from the HQ yet? Have you started looking for a place/hiring?

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:13 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee  
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**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you!

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin  
<[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 9 Jul 2023 10:22:34 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

What a bummer about the religious requirement... That seems like it would be a really fun job!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 8, 2023 1:15 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 5:33:45 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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<Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Anoosheh – I'd suggest working with Aaron on possible locations!

---

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<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

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**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Tue, 11 Jul 2023 23:41:35 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: potential office space

Hi Anoosheh,

Thanks for the recommendations. I will follow up; most likely next week.

The site manager position should be posted by the end of the week on the following link. We expect to post several more positions in the next 6 weeks with the hopes of officially opening the office on October 1<sup>st</sup>. All of these dates and plans are tentative dependent on staffing, securing a lease and of course approval which we do expect by the end of summer.

[World Relief Jobs | Explore Opportunities | World Relief](#)

Are you familiar with the Chippewa Valley Multi Cultural Festival? Ginny Close recommended we attend. Wonder if there are other events we should attend or plan?

Keep in touch and will hope to see you before the end of the summer!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 9:18 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** FW: potential office space

Good morning Tami,

According to Aaron these are 3 likely landlords for this group with space in the Downtown, which has the best access to public transportation.  
Where would you post your vacancy/ I would personally be interested to check ☐

Have a great week!  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 9:11 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** potential office space

Here are the 3 I think have the best options:

<p><b>Patrick Hull</b> Greenpoint Properties Owner</p> <p>(715) 833-9625 Work patrick@greenpointco.com</p>	<p><b>Stuart Schaefer</b> Commonweal Development Corp President</p> <p>(715) 832-8707 Work (715) 828-9900 Mobile sschaefer@commonwealdc.com</p>
<p><b>John Mogensen</b> Investment Realty Owner</p> <p>(715) 828-1096 Mobile john@investmentrealtors.com</p>	

If these 3 don't have space, let me know and I can send some additional leads.

## **Aaron J. White, MBA**

*Community Development Director*

715-839-4914—main desk

715-839-6047—direct line

[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>

<https://www.eauclairedevelopment.com/>

203 S. Farwell St, Eau Claire, WI 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Jul 2023 09:48:28 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief, Eau Claire Site Manager

Geeze.

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 9:41 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief, Eau Claire Site Manager

[World Relief - Site Manager \(lever.co\)](#)

I would like to highlight :

### Requirements

- Mature and personal Christian faith
- Committed to the mission, vision, and values of World Relief
- Desire to serve and empower the Church to impact vulnerable communities
- Able to affirm and/or acknowledge World Reliefs Core Beliefs, Statement of Faith, Christian Identity and National Evangelicals For the Health of The Nation document

### Anoosheh Hamzehee

#### Associate Analyst

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701





**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 14 Jul 2023 19:29:45 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: potential office space

Hi Anoosheh,

You have been very helpful this week! Thanks for sending all of the emails relating to office space and events. Eau Claire is a "happening place" and I look forward to becoming more familiar with the community and residents.

As mentioned, I will most likely attend the cultural event on August 20<sup>th</sup> and tentatively thinking of spending the night and making appointments to view office spaces on Monday. If you think there are other individuals I should meet with on that visit, please let me know.

Regarding our hiring policy, we are a faith based organization and therefore hire individuals whose faith beliefs align with the organization. I believe you have visited the website but the link follows and goes into much depth around our hiring process.

[World Relief Jobs | Explore Opportunities | World Relief](#)

Hope this is helpful. Let me know if you have additional questions.

Have a great weekend!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 11:42 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: potential office space

Hi Tami,

It is posted now and I have a question for you: Is it possible for individuals who do not have a personal Christian faith but deeply respect the mission of World Relief and can affirm and acknowledge the organization's core beliefs and values to apply for job positions within the organization? We are going to encourage people to apply and I might apply for it, so we need to know ☐

Thank you,  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 6:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: potential office space

Hi Anoosheh,

Thanks for the recommendations. I will follow up; most likely next week.

The site manager position should be posted by the end of the week on the following link. We expect to post several more positions in the next 6 weeks with the hopes of officially opening the office on October 1<sup>st</sup>. All of these dates and plans are tentative dependent on staffing, securing a lease and of course approval which we do expect by the end of summer.

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Are you familiar with the Chippewa Valley Multi Cultural Festival? Ginny Close recommended we attend. Wonder if there are other events we should attend or plan?

Keep in touch and will hope to see you before the end of the summer!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 9:18 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** FW: potential office space

Good morning Tami,

According to Aaron these are 3 likely landlords for this group with space in the Downtown, which has the best access to public transportation.  
Where would you post your vacancy/ I would personally be interested to check ☐

Have a great week!  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 9:11 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** potential office space

Here are the 3 I think have the best options:

<p><b>Patrick Hull</b> Greenpoint Properties Owner</p> <p>(715) 833-9625 Work patrick@greenpointco.com</p>	<p><b>Stuart Schaefer</b> Commonweal Development Corp President</p> <p>(715) 832-8707 Work (715) 828-9900 Mobile sschaefer@commonwealdc.com</p>
<p><b>John Mogensen</b> Investment Realty Owner</p> <p>(715) 828-1096 Mobile john@investmentrealtors.com</p>	

If these 3 don't have space, let me know and I can send some additional leads.

## **Aaron J. White, MBA**

*Community Development Director*

715-839-4914—main desk

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[aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>

<https://www.eauclairedevelopment.com/>

203 S. Farwell St, Eau Claire, WI 54701



**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 15 Sep 2023 16:31:18 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Thank you for your e-mail. I am out of the office on vacation followed by business travel until Monday, Spetember 18. I will attempt to repsond to your request prior to my return but if this is an urgent matter, please contact James Rashid at jrashid@wr.org.

Thank you and God bless!

Tami

**Tami McLaughlin**  
Director, World Relief Fox  
Valley  
E [tmclaughlin@wr.org](mailto:tmclaughlin@wr.org)  
T 920-560-  
1847 [www.worldrelieffoxv  
alley.org](http://www.worldrelieffoxvalley.org)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 18 Sep 2023 15:55:26 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

When you get more details, I'll include it in the newsletter. I think this is a big accomplishment!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 11:43 AM  
**To:** Elizabeth Geise <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cortney Sperber <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Hi Lieske,

World Relief is in the process of renting an office and hiring staff. They predict the first arrivals to occur at the end of November. I have asked Tami, the Director, for more info. I will share as soon as I receive a response. Meanwhile please let me know if there are any specific details that you would want to know.

Have a great day,  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Elizabeth Geise <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 11:23 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Greetings.

I wanted to quickly connect to see if you have any updates for us related to the proposed resettlement efforts. I know that depending on what moves forward, there may be considerable involvement of staff and resources across our agencies. I want to be sure we are thinking about that so we have planned strategically.

Let me know what you can share.

Thanks much.

Lieske

*Lieske (Elizabeth) Geise, RN, MSPH | Health Officer - Director*

[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)

P: (715) 839-4718 F: (715) 839-1674 Cell: (715) 514-7881

720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703



Eau Claire City-County  
Health Department

[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

***For more immediate response, please contact us at [ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov).  
If there is a public health emergency outside of normal business hours, please contact  
NON-emergency dispatch at (715) 839-4972 and they will connect you with a public health  
official.***

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 18 Sep 2023 23:27:23 +0000  
**To:** "Elizabeth Giese" <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Hello Lieske,

Anoosheh forwarded your email and I appreciate your interest in preparing for the arrival of refugees to the Chippewa Valley in the near future. Our team in the Fox Valley is wrapping up fiscal year 2023 in the midst of welcoming a few more individuals and families while also preparing to open our Chippewa Valley office in the next few weeks.

We are on the cusp of finalizing office space and in the process of making offers for several staff positions. We hope most of these details are in place by the middle of October. In addition, we have tentatively scheduled a "partner meeting" for later October and plan to send invites next week which you will receive. With all of these details in place, our best estimate for first arrivals would be late November and could consist of individuals or families. The total number of refugees we have been approved to welcome to the Chippewa Valley for FY2024 is 75 people.

Brittany Fry reached out earlier this summer asking for information regarding Public Health's responsibility in refugee resettlement and following was the response provided by our State Refugee Health Coordinator, Savitri Tsering:

*Hello,*

*I work as the State Refugee Health Coordinator (SRHC) and can address concerns related to refugees coming into your community. I know World Relief Fox Valley (WRFV) will be opening a satellite office in Eau Claire this fall. For refugee services we recommend that the local health department (LHD) be part of the network that works with the resettlement agency (RA) and provides information and updates as needed. In general, it is not expected that LHDs do any more for refugees than they would for others living in their community. You will be viewed as an agency in the know about area health/medical providers.*

*As you are aware there are sponsored humanitarian parolees that are coming into the US that need TB attestation. If they are not eligible for Medicaid (depending on where they are from, they may or may not be eligible), the TB dispensary can cover their TB related screening services.*

*Ways that health departments have helped make connection with the refugee community is in providing education and updates for programs they have such as home visiting, WIC, communicable disease follow-up, child car safety, Well Women programs, etc. – your LHD may or may not have some of those services but the point is, what you offer the general public, in turn offer to the refugee community and make sure you have a seat at the table for understanding and connecting with those doing refugee resettlement in your community.*

*Taking the view broader to all immigrant populations the same will be true – what do you provide to your general population, make sure [your local connection to Covering WI](#) is strong so that full knowledge of healthcare eligibility is there, know the parameters of what services you can provide regardless of documentation status.*

Lieske, I hope this information is helpful. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. We hope to meet you in the near future and look forward to developing a strong partnership and welcoming network for the Chippewa Valley newcomers!

Thank you,

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 8:32 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Thanks for the update Anoosheh.  
Someone from our team will be happy to be part of the conversation.  
I know that housing also will be an important issue. Not sure if anyone is actively addressing that if a large group of people are coming.  
Do you know if this is likely individuals or families? That would help us in thinking who best on our end to engage.  
Thanks.  
Lieske

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 8:26 AM  
**To:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber

<[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Good morning Lieske,

Tami will provide you more details this week. They're going to have a partnership meeting the middle of October and in the process of finalizing those plans.

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 11:23 AM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>

**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Greetings.

I wanted to quickly connect to see if you have any updates for us related to the proposed resettlement efforts. I know that depending on what moves forward, there may be considerable involvement of staff and resources across our agencies. I want to be sure we are thinking about that so we have planned strategically.

Let me know what you can share.

Thanks much.

Lieske

*Lieske (Elizabeth) Giese, RN, MSPH | Health Officer - Director*

[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)

P: (715) 839-4718 F: (715) 839-1674 Cell: (715) 514-7881

720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703



[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

***For more immediate response, please contact us at [ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov). If there is a public health emergency outside of normal business hours, please contact NON-emergency dispatch at (715) 839-4972 and they will connect you with a public health official.***

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recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

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**Subject:** Update from the Manager's Office - Week of 9/25/2023

Hello City Staff – We in the City Manager’s Office, with help from the IT Department, are working on reformatting the weekly newsletter... The goal is to send one newsletter that works for the City Council, City staff, and members of the public who are interested. (Additional notices outside of the weekly newsletter will also get sent for employee-specific news.) Also, we hope to make it possible for you to sign up to receive the updates on your personal email account, which may help those people who are part of teams that don’t regularly access City email. Below is how we are picturing it’ll look on a weekly basis. Stay tuned, and please feel free to share feedback on this new, proposed format! (You may get a duplicate of this email once we set up the new system, FYI...)

- **CITY UPDATES:** Here’s some news from around the city.

- **Cannery District Construction:** Our Parks Manager, Steve Plaza, shared this update on what’s happening with the construction of Cannery Park, which is in the “Cannery” neighborhood, close to the Children’s Theater, High Bridge, and the Brewing Projekt: “Cannery Park has been seeing a transformation this past month. Contractors have been grading the sledding hill, playground area, open spaces, and skatepark. The restroom has been framed and its inside painted, and it’s now visible if you take a tour in that area. The ADA walkway next to the Madison Street Bridge has been staked, as has the walkway and canoe slide to a scenic viewpoint. Footing is being prepared to be poured for concrete for the stairs and the sign. The completion of the park is scheduled for early summer 2024. Market & Johnson is the General Contractor for the project, and Cory Tietz is the City’s Project Manager for the park construction.”



- **One Book, One Community 2023:** The L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library is launching its community read for 2023. They write: “This highly-anticipated, annual program encourages residents to unite around a single book that delves into critical

social and environmental issues affecting the region. The chosen title for this year is New York Times bestseller Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard, by Douglas Tallamy. The book is a compelling exploration of biodiversity loss and the role each of us can play in preserving our natural world. The main event will be an Author Talk with Douglas Tallamy at the Chippewa Valley Book Festival on Saturday, October 14th at 9:30AM in the Riverview Room. Registration and additional events can be found here:

[www.ecpubliclibrary.info/onebook](http://www.ecpubliclibrary.info/onebook)

- **Resettlement Agency Coming to Eau Claire:** The City of Eau Claire has recently worked with partners, including resident volunteer groups, the CVTC, the Department of Human Services, and the Health Department, to explore opening an Eau Claire branch of an agency called World Relief. The organization is currently securing office space and hiring staff. They expect to be all situated by this fall, and they will begin to welcome refugees for settlement in Eau Claire in 2024. They write that: "The total number of refugees we have been approved to welcome to the Chippewa Valley for FY2024 is 75 people." New residents of Eau Claire will help fill gaps in our very tight labor market and will bring a richness of perspectives and contributions to our community.

- **QUESTION AND ANSWERS:** Here are some questions that have come through the City Manager's Office this week. *Have a question you'd like answered?* [Submit it here.](#)

### **TDS Installation Impact**

Question: "How is TDS repairing areas of grass or landscaping that have been damaged due to the installation of fiber?"

Answer from City Staff: City Engineer Dave Solberg shared: "We have worked with TDS to ensure that they complete restoration within the existing permitted areas and provide us with a timeline for restoration. We have been tracking locations based on e-mails and calls and relaying those restoration locations to TDS/Tilson daily. Last week, we started inspection of the restoration complaint locations, and that will continue through this process. TDS/Tilson is on track to have their restoration brought into compliance by the beginning of October. We've seen great improvement with the new restoration sub-contractor and their work towards meeting the restoration requirements over the past two weeks."

### **EV Charging on Forest Street**

Question: "I was wondering what the timeline is for the EV charging at Forest Street. I have seen it used by vehicles, but I have noticed that the site is not completed. and the canopy structure by Solar Forma is not yet installed."

Answer from City Staff: Planning Manger Ned Noel said: "EV charging has been going on over a year there, but the Solar Forma Design has had some business issues and delays. They have proposed to complete the project by end of October."

## Trail from Mayo

Question: “Any updates on the Half Moon Lake Trail construction from Folsom Street south to West Madison Street?”

Answer from City Staff: City Engineer Dave Solberg said: “We ran into a problem in the right of way that the City purchased 30+ years ago...but we have worked through it. Unfortunately, WisDOT’s budget is tight, and if we don’t get the contract awarded by late October, construction may not start until 2026... so we’re really pushing to get it bid ASAP!”

## Jeffers Road Trail

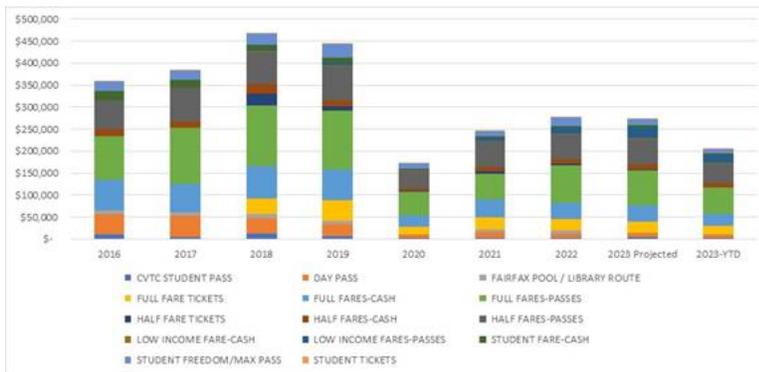
Question: “I noticed utility poles in the middle of the trail on the southern end of the Jeffers Road reconstruction, looking south toward the North Crossing. Will these be moved?”

Answer from City Staff: City Engineer Dave Solberg said: “Xcel Energy wasn’t able to move the poles this year, so we made sure we had four-foot clearance around them and paved the trail. Next year, Xcel Energy will saw a square of the trail out, move the poles, and repave the concrete square they removed.”

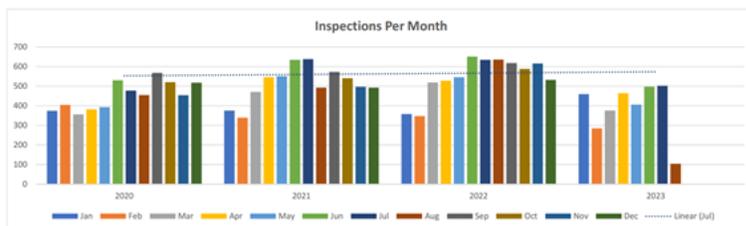


**EC STATS**: The City holds weekly meetings with departments to talk about their data, their goals, and any challenges they may be facing. Read on below for some data from the meetings we held this week.

**Transit:** Transit EauStat met last week, and here's what we discussed. In our Transit Division, so far for 2023, we are seeing an increase in ridership as compared to 2022. At this same time last year, there had been 256,688 riders. In 2023, there have been 392,336 riders, which is an increase by 52.8 percent. While numbers have been trending upward since the pandemic, ridership has been significantly lower than pre-pandemic ridership. Fare revenue for 2023 appears to be on track to be similar to fare revenue collected in 2022. The Transit team has been hard at work on several projects, including the Community Pass Pilot, which is a project aimed at exploring creative transit projects to increase access and make transit more equitable. Other projects include working on bus tracking, arranging for demand response services, and exploring marketing opportunities.



**Inspections:** Inspections EauStat also met last week. We have seen record construction years in recent years, and this year is on pace with only a slight decrease. The same hot market that has driven up our inspections numbers has also impacted our ability to staff our Inspections Division positions. In particular, the City has faced a significant challenge in hiring a Plumbing Inspector, due to the competition from the private sector, where master plumbers can earn in excess of \$100K per year. We continue to seek solutions to this gap. (If you know a plumber, please share this link with them and encourage them to apply: [Job Openings | Sorted by Posting Date descending | JOB OPENINGS \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)) Our Inspections staff are working extremely hard to keep up with the incredible pace of permits pulled, and we appreciate how they have weathered these unbelievably busy years!



**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:** We have the best employees! Get to know one of them this week. (And [submit your suggestion for an employee to spotlight here...](#))

Today we highlight **Tess Morgan**. A co-worker said this about Tess: “Tess is a huge part of communication successes for the community. She is dedicated to helping make sure news from the City is communicated through multiple channels. More importantly, she recognizes the need to help some of our community partners get out the message of needs, often resulting in the news further carrying the stories. Tess is also a joy to work with, and she has a great sense of humor and an amazing knowledge of the City's past endeavors. She also makes a mighty fine pizza!”

Here's some more information about Tess:

- Your Position: “For a bit over five years, I've been the Media & Communications Specialist for the City. I send out meeting notices and news releases, handle our social media accounts and the website, monitor news/social media, etc., develop messaging for us, and design the images seen on the big monitors in City Hall, plus a few other things.”
- Something People May Not Know: “In the last 10 years or so, I've learned to downhill ski, snorkeled, become certified to captain a sailboat, won first place in a dance competition, left my life-long career to start working with the City, and got married last year. It's NEVER too late to try new things and begin new chapters of your life – ‘comparison is the thief of joy’, so don't limit yourself just because others have done things sooner in life.” (Theodore Roosevelt quote)
- Favorite Activity: “Bicycling Wisconsin's amazing rails-to-trails system (especially in spring and fall) and cooking for people.”
- Best Thing about Working for City: “We have a really great quality of life in Eau Claire, and it's an honor to work with the amazing people who make that happen – it's truly mind blowing HOW MUCH gets done with the number of employees we have. I also appreciate the opportunities for growth and career development.”
- Life Philosophy: “There isn't a single phrase that really sums it all up, but I think it's important to act with integrity and honesty, follow the Golden Rule, and always just do the best you can -- some days that ends up being more than other days, and that's okay ;)”
- Anything else? “To borrow a quote – ‘There is more that unites us than divides us.’ We are not as divided as the extreme headlines on some news outlets and Facebook memes may lead you to believe, so please don't give them too much attention.”



**SHOUT OUTS:** Here's some reports of employees who went above and beyond.

**911 Caller:** On August 22nd, a community member made a frantic 911 call believing she had an intruder in her home. She advised that when she attempted to use her attic access door, someone pushed back down on the door from above which then struck her in the head. She fled the house immediately. Based on the call nature, several officers rushed to the scene to assist. What unfolded during the incident is best described in the homeowner's letter which was showcased in the Leader Telegram's Voice of the People on September 15th.

"On Aug. 22, I experienced the biggest fear of my life. I was home alone and believed I had an intruder who was trying to hurt me.

I vacated my house and called 911.

Everyone from the 911 operator to the officers who came to clear my home treated me in an exemplary manner. The kindness, compassion and thoroughness with which I was listened to, and then when my home was searched, matched and indeed surpassed all my expectations.

I was never made to feel as though I was a woman home alone with her husband out of town who was imagining things. In fact, when I was feeling silly about calling the police, I was reassured that they would rather check out something that ended up being nothing than have me *not* call and it be something that was indeed a threat. The officers discovered that my attic trap door counterweight system had failed and crashed down on me, not that anyone was up there trying to hurt me.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the way I was treated. I felt protected, valued and safe. I am proud to live in a city that has such an excellent police department watching over and protecting me.”

The Eau Claire Police Department takes pride in serving the community with care and compassion. We thank the personnel involved for demonstrating our values, including Telecommunicators Melissa Stone and Brittany Bowe, Officers Derek Jack, Austin Summers, Rogelio Gonzales, and Brian Leach, and Sergeant Olivia Erl.

**Spirit Award:** Attached is a picture of Human Resources Director Colleen Schian and retired Deputy Fire Chief Al Bertrang receiving awards last week at the Peer Support Conference. In the photo, Colleen’s award says “Spirit Award 2023” and Al’s says “Meritorious Service Award 2023.” Both awards were given in recognition of Colleen and Al’s contributions to the Peer Support team and related endeavors. The Peer Support team is a program in which Police and Fire staff work with co-workers to ensure they are able to process and bear the trauma and stress that come with being a first responder.



## **CITY COUNCIL CALENDAR**

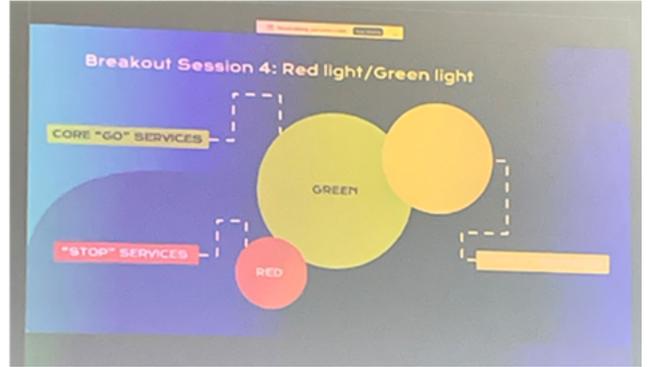
- Monday, September 25th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
- Tuesday, September 26th: Council Meeting
  - Work Session: Boards Committees, Commissions and outreach strategies
- *September 29th – City Council receives 2024 Proposed Operating Budget*
- Monday, October 9th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
  - Public Hearing #1 on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget and State of the City
- Tuesday, October 10th: Council Meeting
  - City Council Operating Budget Work Session #3 (Department Directors)
- Monday, October 23rd: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
- Tuesday, October 24th: Council Meeting
  - Housing Study Presentation (tentative)
  - City Council Operating Budget Work Session #4 – Amendment Discussion
- *November 3rd – City Council Budget Amendments Due*
- Monday, November 6th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion
- Monday, November 13th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
  - Public Hearing #2 on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget
- Tuesday, November 14th: Council Meeting
  - City Council action on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget and levy
- Monday, December 18th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion

## **Additional Dates:**

- Thursday, September 28th: First BIPOC Committee Meeting
- Friday, September 29th: Eggs and Issues Legislative Breakfast
- Tuesday, October 3rd: Voices of the Valley
- Wednesday – Friday, October 18th -20th: League Conference

## **PHOTOS FROM AROUND TOWN**

**Library Strategic Planning:** Pictured here are some images from the Library's Strategic Planning process. Staff were reviewing constituent feedback and working to prioritize the different services and programming the Library provides. The City as a whole is hoping to replicate this process for all its divisions and departments.



**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thu, 28 Sep 2023 23:26:34 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

Hello Anoosheh,

We are making progress with regard to establishing the World Relief Wisconsin Chippewa Valley office and continue to project our first refugees will arrive by the end of November.

We are planning on hosting two meetings; a community partner meeting on Wednesday, October 18 which you and several others from the city will receive invitations too, as well as a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23. Following is a link to that event and I am hoping you might be willing to send it to your networks and/or make any recommendations regarding other groups we should send it to?

We are so encouraged by the willingness of the Chippewa Valley community to embrace refugee newcomers and look forward to continuing to build friendships and partnerships around welcoming our new neighbors.

Thanks for your help and will hope to see you the 18<sup>th</sup> and perhaps the 23<sup>rd</sup>!

Tami

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](https://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Nicholas Koerner" <nicholas.koerner@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 09:41:11 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

I will be out of the office until 9/29. If you need immediate assistance, call 715-839-4913.

**From:** "Marisa Stanley" <marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 16:06:49 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Automatic reply: Upcoming World Relief event

Thank you for your email. I am out of the office until Monday, October 2nd and will not be checking email until I return.

For anything urgent, please call the health department at 715-839-4718.

Thank you!

Marisa Stanley  
Assistant Director  
Eau Claire City-County Health Department

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 17:46:54 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Marisa Stanley"  
<Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Cortney Sperber" <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Upcoming World Relief event

Thank you for sharing this.  
Will you want health department participation at the first meeting?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 11:07 AM  
**To:** Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; Marisa Stanley  
<Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; Elizabeth Giese  
<Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Upcoming World Relief event

Good morning,

I'm pleased to let you know that World Relief is making progress with regard to establishing the World Relief Wisconsin Chippewa Valley office and continues to project their first refugees will arrive by the end of November.

They are planning on hosting two meetings; a community partner meeting on Wednesday, October 18 which some from the city will receive invitations to, as well as a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23. Following is a link to that event

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



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**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 18:53:56 +0000  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Bcc:** "matt.rokus@eauclairewi.gov" <matt.rokus@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov" <billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov" <aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### TAMI MCLAUGHLIN

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)



**From:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 18:54:07 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: [EXTERNAL] RE: Upcoming World Relief event

Hello. I am out of the office through October 2nd.

If this is urgent, please call me at 715.514.7881 or call or email our general health department contacts and one of our team will help you: 715.839.4718 or ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov

Thanks.  
Lieske

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 18:59:26 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

Hi Anoosheh,

Thank you for sharing the community gathering with your network. You should have also received an invite for the partner meeting so please use your discretion with regard to whom to invite to either one or both of the events! We are asking for RSVP's so we know how many to plan for but should have plenty of space for both as hosting in the large meeting room at the library.

Appreciate your help and hope you have a great weekend!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 11:11 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

Hi Tami,

I'm glad you're making progress. I shared the event with our Communications specialist, City Manager, Health department and CVTC. I can also share it with our Library Director. Do you want it to be posted in the library for the public? Stephanie will share it with the Council too.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2023 6:27 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

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Thanks for your help and will hope to see you the 18<sup>th</sup> and perhaps the 23<sup>rd</sup>!

Tami

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Hassemer"  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 19:56:52 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Upcoming World Relief event

Excellent!! We are very excited. ☺

Holly Hassemer  
Pronouns: she/her/hers  
Dean of Academic Development and Services  
Chippewa Valley Technical College  
715-831-7331

Like Adult Ed & College Prep   
Join the Academic Service FB Group 

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 11:07 AM  
**To:** Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; Marisa Stanley  
<Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; Elizabeth Geise  
<elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Upcoming World Relief event

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good morning,

I'm pleased to let you know that World Relief is making progress with regard to establishing the World Relief Wisconsin Chippewa Valley office and continues to project their first refugees will arrive by the end of November.

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<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 2 Oct 2023 09:54:40 -0500  
**To:** "Danya Morman" <Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Interview

I can call them... unless Anoosheh or someone else would like to.

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**From:** Danya Morman <Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 9:35:33 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Interview

Got a call from WEAU looking to talk to someone about World Relief. Do you know who the best person would be for that? Person calling was Ellie Pomerleau, email is [Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com) and number is 612-562-5883

Sincerely,

**Danya Morman** *(They, Them, Theirs)*

**Management Analyst Fellow**

(715) 839-4902

[Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 2 Oct 2023 10:10:05 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Danya Morman"  
<Danya.Morman@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan"  
<Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg"  
<dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Interview

Okay! I'll reach out to her to see if she has already been in touch with Tami for the details...

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:09 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Danya Morman  
<Danya.Morman@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Dave  
Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Interview

I think either you or Tami ?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Danya Morman <[Danya.Morman@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan  
<[Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Dave Solberg <[dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Interview

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Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

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**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 9:35:33 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan  
<[Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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Sincerely,

**Danya Morman** *(They, Them, Theirs)*

Management Analyst Fellow

(715) 839-4902

[Danya.Morman@EauclaireWI.gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauclaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI 54701



**From:** "Hassemer"  
**Sent:** Mon, 2 Oct 2023 15:17:34 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Upcoming World Relief event

Hi Anoosheh,

We will be there!

Holly Hassemer  
Pronouns: she/her/hers  
Dean of Academic Development and Services  
Chippewa Valley Technical College  
715-831-7331

Like Adult Ed & College Prep 

Join the Academic Service FB Group 

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 11:07 AM  
**To:** Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; Marisa Stanley  
<Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; Elizabeth Geise  
<elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
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**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 2 Oct 2023 10:51:36 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch"  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Danya Morman"  
<Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan"  
<Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Interview

I'm sorry but I'm not familiar with World Relief...probably wouldn't be a good interviewee

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:09 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Danya Morman  
<Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Dave  
Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Interview

I think either you or Tami ?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Danya Morman <[Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan  
<[Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee

<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov)>; Dave Solberg <[dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Interview

I can call them... unless Anoosheh or someone else would like to.

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---

**From:** Danya Morman <[Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 9:35:33 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWI.Gov)>; Tess Morgan <[Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.Gov)>  
**Subject:** World Relief Interview

Got a call from WEAU looking to talk to someone about World Relief. Do you know who the best person would be for that? Person calling was Ellie Pomerleau, email is [Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com) and number is 612-562-5883

Sincerely,

**Danya Morman** (*They, Them, Theirs*)

**Management Analyst Fellow**

(715) 839-4902

[Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 3 Oct 2023 09:34:39 -0500  
**To:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>; "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Ellie and all –

In case they'd like to comment, I'm looping in:

- Anoosheh Hamzehee, who worked with World Relief to help them learn more about Eau Claire.
- Dr. Ka Vang (our EDI Coordinator);
- Aaron White (our Community Development Director);
- Emily Berge (our Council President); and
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---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi guys,

Thank you for reaching out! I was looking to do a story on World Relief coming to Eau Claire and how that will impact the city.

Stephanie- would you be the best person to speak with me about this decision from the City of Eau Claire? Also, I was wondering what volunteer groups you collaborated with in the community to make this happen.

Tami- Would you be available for an on-camera pre-recorded interview on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 9:30 a.m.? I think it would be great if we could meet in Eau Claire outside of where the resettlement agency will be located. However, let me know what works for you! Also, let me know if you have any footage you could submit from World Relief for the story.

My apologies for the response at 11 p.m. I am working overnights tonight. ☐ My plan would be to film and edit this story the week of Oct. 16 and then air it that following Monday.

Let me know your thoughts!

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Subject:** World Relief

Hi Ellie –

I have a message from my staff that you're interested in learning more about the World Relief office opening? I'm CCing Tami, who is from World Relief and can give you more details...

Let us know if we can help with anything else!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 3 Oct 2023 10:54:22 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: How I answered the questions

Wow I want to meet this person ☐  
Thanks for your kind words

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 10:34:27 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** How I answered the questions

Ka's professional skills mix, including her passion for social causes, organizational prowess, interpersonal skills, adaptability, and problem-solving abilities, makes her an outstanding candidate for this role. Her dedication to making a positive impact and her ability to lead and manage in diverse environments are qualities that would greatly benefit any organization striving to create a better world.

As an EDI Coordinator, Ka demonstrates an exceptional level of cultural sensitivity in her role. Her deep understanding and respect for diverse backgrounds and perspectives is evident in her interactions and initiatives. She actively promotes an inclusive environment by fostering open dialogue and ensuring that all voices are heard and valued. Ka is not only aware of cultural differences but also actively seeks to learn and educate others about them, contributing to a more inclusive workplace. Her approach to EDI initiatives is grounded in cultural humility, showing a willingness to listen, learn, and adapt.

Yes, I highly recommend Ka for the position of Site Manager at World Relief. Ka brings a wealth of experience and qualifications that make her an exceptional candidate for this role. Having worked as an EDI (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) Coordinator, Ka has a deep understanding of the importance of cultural sensitivity, empathy, and inclusivity. She has successfully fostered inclusive environments in previous roles, which aligns perfectly with the diverse and culturally rich nature of refugee resettlement work. Moreover, Ka's experience working with university students and her background with a Ph.D. in Leadership, Policy, and Administration make her well-equipped to manage and lead teams effectively. Her academic expertise in leadership and administration, combined with practical experience, will enable her to oversee the various aspects of resettlement with a strategic and compassionate approach. Ka is not only dedicated to promoting equity and diversity but also possesses strong communication, organizational, and problem-solving skills. These qualities are essential for managing complex resettlement programs and coordinating with multiple

stakeholders, including government agencies, NGOs, and volunteers. In summary, Ka is a highly qualified and dedicated individual with the right blend of skills, experience, and empathy to excel in the role of Site Manager at your refugee resettlement agency. I have no doubt that she will contribute significantly to the success of your organization and the well-being of the refugees you serve.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 3 Oct 2023 16:11:14 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

Did you receive the invite to the community partner meeting on Oct 18?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 9:41 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Billie Hufford <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Danya Morman <Danya.Morman@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Travis Davis <Travis.Davis@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Nicholas Koerner <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

FYI,

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2023 6:27 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

Hello Anoosheh,

We are making progress with regard to establishing the World Relief Wisconsin Chippewa Valley office and continue to project our first refugees will arrive by the end of November.

We are planning on hosting two meetings; a community partner meeting on Wednesday, October 18 which you and several others from the city will receive invitations too, as well as a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23. Following is a link to that event and I am hoping you might be willing to send it to your networks and/or make any recommendations regarding other groups we should send it to?

We are so encouraged by the willingness of the Chippewa Valley community to embrace refugee newcomers and look forward to continuing to build friendships and partnerships around welcoming our new neighbors.

Thanks for your help and will hope to see you the 18<sup>th</sup> and perhaps the 23<sup>rd</sup>!

Tami

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 3 Oct 2023 16:18:23 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

Sorry can you forward that invite to me again.  
thnx

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 4:17 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

Yes and I forwarded it to Lieske and Holly H and Stephanie and you?

---

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 4:11:14 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

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Billie Hufford <[Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Danya Morman  
<[Danya.Morman@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Travis Davis <[Travis.Davis@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Travis.Davis@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Nicholas  
Koerner <[Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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Tami

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](https://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <ellie.pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Wed, 4 Oct 2023 07:33:02 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise"  
<elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Aaron White"  
<Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-  
citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you for these details! Do you have a specific contact from the school district who you worked with to set up educational programs?

Anoosheh- If you could get me more details about which volunteer groups are helping with the project that would be great.

Let me know if you need anything for me.

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

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News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Elizabeth Geise <[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
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[Facebook](#)

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News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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Let us know if we can help with anything else!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise"  
<elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Aaron White"  
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**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

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Let me know your thoughts!

Best,

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[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:16 AM

**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Subject:** World Relief

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Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 4 Oct 2023 05:07:03 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Anoosheh - Could you connect Ellie to the CVTC person we've been working with?

---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 2:33 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Elizabeth Geise <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; Aaron White <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

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[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 9:34 AM  
**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Elizabeth Geise <[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
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A number of community partners do play a bit more formal roles, including the Human Services Department and the City/County Health Department. CVTC and the School District have also been involved as they have different educational programs for English Language Learners.

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**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Hassemer"  
**Sent:** Thu, 5 Oct 2023 17:53:44 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ellie Pomerleau"  
<Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hello Anoosheh and Ellie,

Absolutely. I would be thrilled to talk about World Relief and how CVTC is planning to play a role.

Ellie—would you like a statement via email or something else?

Holly

Holly Hassemer  
Pronouns: she/her/hers  
Dean of Academic Development and Services  
Chippewa Valley Technical College  
715-831-7331

Like Adult Ed & College Prep



Join the Academic Service FB Group



---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 8:23 AM  
**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>; Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good morning Holly,

Ellie from WEAU is working on a story about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. As a representative of one of the community partners could you kindly share your perspective on how you envision the story unfolding and shed some light on CVTC's potential role in this endeavor, as you collaborate with Ellie?

Thank you,  
Anoosheh

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



---

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News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 9 Oct 2023 15:28:27 +0000  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Bcc:** "matt.rokus@eauclairewi.gov" <matt.rokus@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov" <billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov" <aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting -  
please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 9 Oct 2023 10:33:26 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Hope you registered to attend ☐

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[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <ellie.pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Wed, 11 Oct 2023 09:04:28 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Some contacts

Thank you!

## Ellie Pomerleau



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

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News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Subject:** Some contacts

Hi Ellie,

One of the very first meetings between World Relief and Eau Claire volunteers was with JONAH and Welcoming New Neighbors. From there on Tami from World Relief (the Director of World Relief at their Appleton location) has been in close contact with Ginny Close from Welcoming New Neighbors who helped with providing contacts and getting information out.

## **Anoosheh Hamzehee**

### **Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



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<emily.bee@eauclairewi.gov>; "erin.klaus2@eauclairewi.gov"  
<erin.klaus2@eauclairewi.gov>; "mariah.hallen@eauclairewi.gov"  
<mariah.hallen@eauclairewi.gov>

**Subject:** City Manager's Weekly Update 10/13/2023: Regional Growth, Creative Problem Solving, Covid Updates

**Attachments:** image003.jpg, image007.jpg, image011.png, image015.jpg, image018.jpg, image020.jpg, image022.png, image024.jpg, image002.jpg

Hi all – We're working on getting you directly registered to receive this, however, in the meantime, here's this week's newsletter! This new version will go out to staff, the Council, and the public each Friday.

\*\*

Hello City of Eau Claire residents, staff, and Council Members,

I'm writing to share news from the City of Eau Claire. We are using a new format to send news out. [Prior updates can be found here](#). Take a look at our weekly newsletter to stay on top of what we are working on. Pass it along to friends who can [sign up for different City updates here](#). We welcome you at Council Meetings, Neighborhood Association Meetings, Library Events, and anywhere else that City work takes place. Bear with us as we work out any kinks of this new approach! Also, feel free to [send me feedback](#).

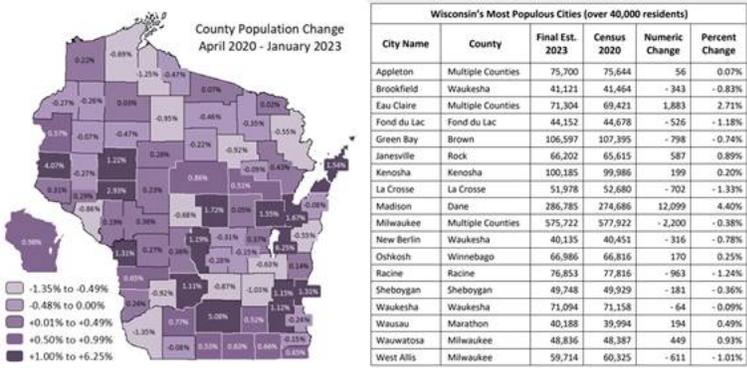
**CITY UPDATES:** Here's some news from around the city.

**2024 Budget Development Continues:** This past week, we held a public hearing and a work session on the 2024 budget. This included an overview of the finances, along with a list of changes we are proposing in the 2024 budget. We also shared accomplishments from 2023 and goals for 2024. Please find the material here: [Budget | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#) We welcome you to join the conversation at a second public hearing on the budget, which is scheduled for Monday, November 13th

**Seventh Biggest City:** This week, the Wisconsin Department of Administration released final population estimates for counties and municipalities as of January 1st, 2023. The City of Eau Claire and Eau Claire County continue to show strong growth: This document provides the most basic summary: [https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/Final\\_Ests\\_Summary\\_2023.pdf](https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/Final_Ests_Summary_2023.pdf)

The City of Eau Claire, according to this estimate, has now passed the City of Waukesha, to become the seventh largest city in the State of Wisconsin. Compared to the 2020 Census, the City of Eau Claire has gained 1,883 residents, a 2.71 percent increase, second only to Madison in both numerical gain and percentage increase for cities above 40,000 people in the state. Perhaps even more interesting, there isn't a single other city above 40,000 people that grew by even 1 percent during this period, and most cities (10 of the 18) above 40,000 people actually lost population during this period. Note that the City of Altoona has had incredible growth between

the 2020 Census and January 1st, 2023: An increase of 1,027 people, or 12.38 percent! (Thank you to Council Member Gragert for creating this summary).



**COVID-19 Continues to be High:** As of this week, COVID-19 activity in Eau Claire remained higher than in previous months, according to wastewater data. Right now, the amount of COVID being found in Eau Claire's wastewater remains at a "very high" level (on a scale of very low to very high). The updated fall COVID vaccine is in the process of being made available to the public. As it's being distributed to vaccinators, vaccine supply is temporarily limited, and appointment availability will vary from provider to provider. We expect availability to increase soon and vaccine appointments to become widely available in Eau Claire County in the coming weeks.

People who have health insurance should plan to get the vaccine at their doctor's office or local pharmacy. Most health insurance plans will fully cover the cost of getting the fall COVID vaccine at an in-network provider. The Health Department is not offering mass COVID vaccination clinics this fall, but people who don't have health insurance or people whose insurance doesn't cover vaccinations can get a fall COVID vaccine at the Health Department at no cost through the federal Bridge to Access Program. For those who are uninsured or those whose health insurance doesn't cover vaccinations, please call us at 715-839-4718 to schedule a vaccination appointment. Not sure if you're up to date on your COVID vaccines? [Find out here.](#)

Another round of free mail-order COVID tests is now available! Every household can place an order to get four rapid home tests delivered for free to their home. To order, visit [www.covid.gov/tests](http://www.covid.gov/tests) or call 1-800-232-0233. You can sign up to get these emails directly if you are interested. Please do not hesitate to contact our department if you are interested in more information: [ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov) or through our general phone number: 715-839-4718.

**Voices of the Valley:** Students from a CVTC class recently presented stories of immigration, including stories of their homelands, their moves to the United States, and their lives in Eau Claire. They had worked with an English Language Instructor from CVTC, Alyssa Hedenstrom,

to refine the stories and compile them to share. You can read all of their stories here: [CVTC Blog | Chippewa Valley Technical College](#)

### CVTC BLOG ARTICLES



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
EMINE AKIN TUNALI



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
OUMOU TANGARA



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
KEUM HEE (ROSA) CHOI

The event, called "CVTC Voices of the Valley," was held at the Library. Deputy City Manager Dave Solberg and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator Dr. Ka Vang also shared comments on immigration. Here's the text of Ka and Dave's comments:

#### **From Dr. Ka Vang (EDI Coordinator)**

“As a refugee myself, I am so excited to support the Voices of the Valley event tonight. The promise of new opportunities and brighter future was enough to entice my parents to make the decision to bring our whole family to America in 1979, after the Secret War in Laos. As we continue to embrace our new home and carve our path, I will never forget the sacrifices my parents made so that I can be here.

There is a common theme from Voices of the Valley: Immigrant Stories from Students of Chippewa Valley Technical College -- leaving everything you know behind and learning to adjust to:

- new home,
- new country,
- new people,
- new customs,
- new, new, ect.,

all for various reasons... like leaving due to war and violence or leaving because of a love connection.

Just know that what you have written in this collection is not finished. Your journey just started. There will be more to your story. I encourage you to continue to document and write your story. Leave your footprint here in the Chippewa Valley for generations to come. Your stories and your voices add to the richness of The City of Eau Claire. Thank you for choosing to make the Chippewa Valley your home.”

#### **From Dave Solberg (Deputy City Manager)**

“As a father of two immigrants and a staff member of the City of Eau Claire, I wanted to express how important the immigrant community is to western Wisconsin, the City of Eau Claire, and myself personally. A diverse community is a strong community. The fabric of who we are as a society is made up of so many different colors, shapes, sizes, and fabrics...it’s the diversity of everyone that makes us a colorful, strong, vibrant community. Reading the stories in the collection, it is also striking how similar the stories are to everyday life in our area. We’re all humans with stories to tell.

It is common for students going on to secondary education and young adults entering the workforce to struggle with the transition...now consider attempting this while learning the English language at the same time. The achievements that they have made are remarkable given their challenges. Their achievements are testaments to their hard work, character, resilience, and desire to make themselves better and make us all better. In fact, these are the exact qualities we look for in employees at the City, and I hope a number of our new friends consider bringing their diversity and talents to our organization!”

**QUESTION AND ANSWERS:** Here are some questions that have come through the City Manager’s Office this week. *Have a question you’d like answered? [Submit it here.](#)*

### **Traffic Law Enforcement**

Question: “How does the Police Department handle traffic enforcement?”

Answer: Chief Matt Rokus shared the following information: “Resident concerns about speeding and traffic safety are frequently shared with us. Concerns related to speed and traffic safety are triaged and prioritized amongst other types of issues and complaints, such as burglaries, car prowlers, drug houses, quality of life issues associated with homelessness, loud parties, underage alcohol consumption, and others.

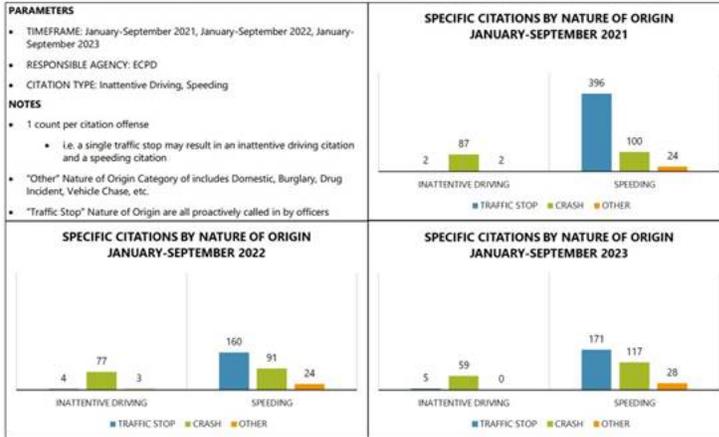
Our Patrol Officers and their supervisors do their best to prioritize proactive traffic safety efforts in geographic areas where we have more crashes, as determined by data analysis, resident complaints, and officer observations. To provide the proactive focus, we allocate officer time to enforcement in the target areas. However, their time available is limited given the percent of time they are obligated responding to calls for service.

The table below contains some basic information related to traffic citations. The two main categories of traffic enforcement come from two types of incidents -- proactive traffic stops or enforcement following traffic-related incidents, most likely crashes.”



**SPECIFIC CITATIONS BY NATURE OF ORIGIN**  
JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2021-2023

CITATION TYPE	JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2021			JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2022			JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2023		
	TRAFFIC STOP	CRASH	OTHER	TRAFFIC STOP	CRASH	OTHER	TRAFFIC STOP	CRASH	OTHER
INATTENTIVE DRIVING	2	87	2	4	77	3	5	59	0
SPEEDING	396	100	24	160	91	24	171	117	28



## Trick-or-Treating

Question: “Will the City share information about trick-or-treating protocols?”

Answer: Media and Communications Specialist Tess Morgan shared: “The City of Eau Claire does not designate official tick-or-treat hours for the community. Aside from some safety reminders for kids and motorists, and helping to publicize the DECI Downtown event, we don’t post about Halloween. In the past, individual neighborhoods have chosen to hold their own events when it’s convenient for their area, but otherwise it’s generally understood that trick-or-treating occurs on the holiday itself, October 31st, with the hours of 5-7:30PM still being relatively light out and therefor safer for kids to be visiting neighbors.”

## Park Planning

Question: “Could a park be changed significantly without a public planning process?”

Answer: Our Parks Manager, Steve Plaza, shared the following feedback: “Any proposed changes to parks go through a planning process that includes review by nearby neighborhoods, the Waterways and Parks Commission, and the City Council. In general, park developments try to follow the parks and open space master plan, which will be updated this year. The purpose of the plan is described on page 11:

‘Parks and recreation programs and services are important to the overall quality of life and Eau Claire Parks, Recreation, and Forestry plays an integral role in the quality of life of all of Eau Claire’s citizens and visitors. The purpose of the System Master Plan is to serve as a guide for all programming, services, and operations of the department. Further, the System Master Plan will provide insight into ongoing industry trends and changes within the community, serve to assess

levels of service provided to the community, evaluate available resources, and develop a prioritized action plan approved by the City Manager and City Council.”

**EAUSTAT NEWS:** The City holds weekly meetings with departments to talk about their data, their goals, and any challenges they may be facing. This program is called "EauStat". Read on below for some data from the meetings we held this week.

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** This past week, we held an EDI EauStat meeting at which we discussed the many big projects underway in this department. We are sad to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley.

Starting Monday, Ka will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, CVTC, other community organizations, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited an EDI Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy. Ka is pictured below (on the left) with a student tour.

Please spread the word about our search for our next EDI Coordinator! [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) This person will have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive.



**Human Resources:** This past week, we held an HR EauStat meeting. In our EauStat meetings, we talk about the work that the HR Department does. One of their main duties is to recruit, hire, and work to retain employees. With the current labor shortage and dramatic increase in wages due to inflation, municipalities have been struggling to recruit and retain employees. Our HR Department has done a great job trying to manage these challenges. We regularly monitor the number of recruitments underway (see image below for our numbers for 2023 YTD). The bulk of our recruitments are for the numerous seasonal employees we have, and this takes a lot of effort, however, it also provides a critical service to constituents, while also helping to mentor many

young people. We are working to develop and monitor a “retention rate” metric, as we work to identify metrics for all of our departments. Also, we are working with a consultant to create an “Employer of Choice” plan to try to increase retention and quality of life for our employees.

# Positions Filled	# Filled Internally	# Filled Externally
264	129	135

**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:** We have the best employees! Get to know one of them this week. (And [submit your suggestion for an employee to spotlight here...](#))

Today we highlight **Renae Casper**. A co-worker said this about Renae: “Renae answers lot of tough questions from residents, many of whom are animated, and answers them politely and with aplomb. Renae has also worked very hard with her predecessor, Rebecca Draeger, to put on employee appreciation events. The employee appreciation lunch was a big success and even brought in some retired employees. The cornhole tournament was also a hit. Renae has also helped fill in for her coworkers when they are absent and is very reliable.”

Here’s some more information about Renae (pictured below with her family and dog):

- Your Position: “I am one of two Administrative Associates for the Engineering Department. I’ve been with the city since January of this year.”
- Something People May Not Know: “I was born and lived in Cheyenne, WY until I was nine years old.
- Favorite Activity: “I enjoy traveling, going to Minnesota sporting events, attending music festivals and concerts. I enjoy playing volleyball and attending CrossFit classes.”
- Thing about Working for City: “I love that I am proud of where I work. Everyone here does what they can day in and day out to really make Eau Claire thrive. I also feel that I am supported in any decisions that I make and that my co-workers genuinely care about my well-being, both personally and professionally.”
- Life Philosophy: “Always be kind. You never know who you are talking to.”
- Anything else? “I am obsessed with dogs, so feel free to stop by with yours to say hello!”



## **SHOUT-OUTS**

**Creative Problem Solving:** Our Streets Division does not get as many shout-outs as they deserve, in part because the work they do is more specialized and behind-the-scenes than some other divisions. Here's an awesome shout-out to a team from the Streets Division that captures how creative they are in finding technical solutions in our budget-constrained environment. Read about both the original, unique, way to clean the street sweeper and then the much-improved method that our very skilled tradespeople built...

Community Services Director Lane Berg wrote:

“I want to share some work that was done by our Street Division recently that I am extremely proud of. I am continually amazed by the vast skill set of our employees and this is a shining example of that!

Some of our street sweepers have a ‘not so great’ system for washing them out at the end of a shift. It requires operating a fire hydrant and discharging water onto the pavement. The sweeper must drive over the wet pavement and vacuum up the water. The load of water and debris is then dumped and the process is repeated until the machine is deemed clean. As you can imagine, this is an inefficient system and is also disruptive to any neighboring properties.

Our employees reached out to supervisor Tim Anderson to see if they could work on coming up with a better system, and they were granted approval. The group was led by Jeff Wilczek, who sought input from many of his co-workers. The team developed a concept, designed the system, and built it with no help from outside contractors or designers, thus saving the City thousands of dollars. The new system (shown in pictures below) is a station that the sweeper backs into. A ball valve is opened which floods the basin, and the sweeper vacuums up the water. The water is then turned off, a drain valve is opened for the basin, and the sweeper dumps the water and debris, while remaining in the same location, and the contents drain to a holding pond. The

process can be repeated, if necessary, in just a couple minutes. This system is so efficient and will save time for years to come at no disruption to residents.

I am so incredibly proud of this for several reasons. We had a system that was not very functional, and our employees wanted to improve it. We have so many talented people, and they were allowed to use their skills and knowledge to make this happen. All involved were able to voice their opinions, and the final design reflected this input.

Special thanks to this group of talented people: Tim Anderson, Jeff Wilczek, Rich Bauer, Don Diesterhaft, Ryan Yule, Paul Rosolack, Brady Johnson, Jake Clauson, Joel Thompson, Cory Wright, Justin Meinen, Jericho Jurewicz, and John Rademacher.”



**Water Plant Kudos:** On September 20<sup>th</sup>, the Sustainability Advisory Committee held their monthly meeting at the Water Plant. City staff gave them an in-depth tour of the facility and showed them some of the sustainable features that have been added recently. Staff and the Committee had a great dialogue and used the opportunity to discuss ideas for improved sustainability in the future. Truly a great collaborative effort!

Pictured L to R: Ben Spanel, (Utilities Manager), Cole Cloutier, (Utilities Engineer), Cameron Bump, Brian Graff, James Schumacher, Janis Tyler, Gary Pesicka (Committee Members) and Joe Dahl, (Water Plant Supervisor).



## **COUNCIL CALENDAR**

- Monday, October 23rd: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
- Tuesday, October 24th: Council Meeting (City Council Operating Budget Work Session #4 – Amendment Discussion)
- *November 3rd – City Council Budget Amendments Due*
- Monday, November 6th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion (with Housing Study presentation)
- Monday, November 13th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night (Public Hearing #2 on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget)
- Tuesday, November 14th: Council Meeting (City Council action on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget and levy)
- Monday, December 18th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion

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## CVTC BLOG ARTICLES



**VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
EMINE AKIN TUNALI**

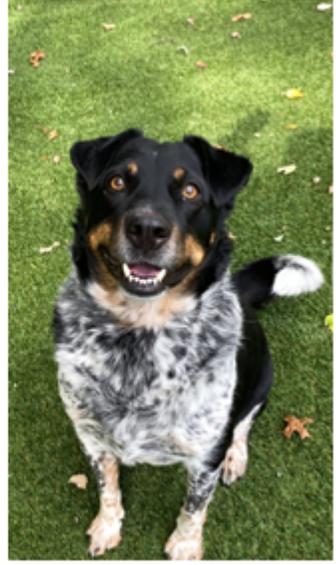


**VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
OUMOUM TANGARA**



**VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
KEUM HEE (ROSA) CHOI**





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**CVTC BLOG ARTICLES**



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
EMINE AKIN TUNALI



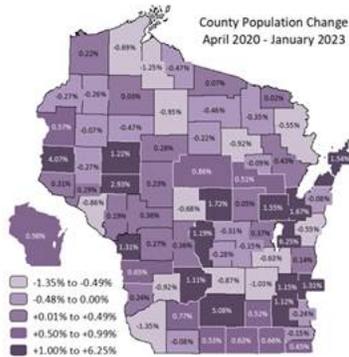
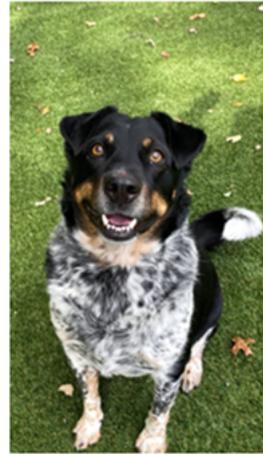
VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
OUMOUM TANGARA



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
KEUM HEE (ROSA) CHOI

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Wisconsin's Most Populous Cities (over 40,000 residents)					
City Name	County	Final Est. 2023	Census 2020	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Appleton	Multiple Counties	75,700	75,644	56	0.07%
Brookfield	Waukesha	41,121	41,464	-343	-0.83%
Eau Claire	Multiple Counties	71,304	69,421	1,883	2.71%
Fond du Lac	Fond du Lac	44,152	44,678	-526	-1.18%
Green Bay	Brown	106,597	107,395	-798	-0.74%
Janesville	Rock	66,202	65,615	587	0.89%
Kenosha	Kenosha	100,185	99,986	199	0.20%
La Crosse	La Crosse	51,978	52,680	-702	-1.33%
Madison	Dane	286,785	274,686	12,099	4.40%
Milwaukee	Multiple Counties	575,722	577,922	-2,200	-0.38%
New Berlin	Waukesha	40,135	40,451	-316	-0.78%
Ozaukee	Winnebago	66,966	66,816	170	0.25%
Racine	Racine	76,853	77,816	-963	-1.24%
Sheboygan	Sheboygan	49,748	49,929	-181	-0.36%
Waukesha	Waukesha	71,094	71,158	-64	-0.09%
Wausau	Marathon	40,188	39,994	194	0.49%
Wauwatosa	Milwaukee	48,836	48,387	449	0.93%
West Allis	Milwaukee	59,714	60,325	-611	-1.01%

**From:** "Kamaljot Singh" <kamaljot.singh@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 17 Oct 2023 13:03:21 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Lunch?

Hi Anoosheh,

I am absolutely fine either way. We can meet Ka also if she would be available on Monday. I don't have her contact information now. If you have it, kindly ask if she will be able to join us. I like Eggroll plus, please let me know if you like it as well? Otherwise I will be okay with anything. I was also thinking if Eggroll Plus place have a Dine-In option?

Thank you ☐

*Kamaljot Singh, Accountant*

Finance Department|City of Eau Claire  
203 S. Farwell Street, Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Phone : 715-214-0104  
Email : [Kamaljot.singh@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Kamaljot.singh@eauclairewi.gov)



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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 11:37 AM  
**To:** Kamaljot Singh <Kamaljot.Singh@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Lunch?

Hi Kamal,

I'm doing fine, thank you. Ka left for World Relief, yes, she is the site manager of WR now. We can meet her close to her office at Eggroll plus, or we can invite her over to somewhere else, or it could be you and I going for lunch.

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Kamaljot Singh <[Kamaljot.Singh@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Kamaljot.Singh@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 11:19 AM  
**To:** Kamaljot Singh; Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** Lunch?  
**When:** Monday, October 23, 2023 12:00 PM-1:00 PM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:**

Hi Anoosheh,

How are you doing? Would you like to go on a lunch on Monday? I saw in Stephanie Hirsch's email last Friday that Ka has left city hall? Is that true? If not, I will send this message to her also.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Thank you,

Kamal

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 14:17:55 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "atkins77@gmail.com" <atkins77@gmail.com>;  
"tamishabutler@gmail.com" <tamishabutler@gmail.com>;  
"3davism.d@gmail.com" <3davism.d@gmail.com>; "antoinehill@yahoo.com"  
<antoinehill@yahoo.com>; "jacksosm@uwec.edu" <jacksosm@uwec.edu>;  
"legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com"  
<legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com>; "jdjones@uwec.edu"  
<jdjones@uwec.edu>; "leemai@uwec.edu" <leemai@uwec.edu>;  
"clindstrom6@cvtc.edu" <clindstrom6@cvtc.edu>; "khp\_95@hotmail.com"  
<khp\_95@hotmail.com>; "efren.martinez@icloud.com"  
<efren.martinez@icloud.com>; "emitchell@ecasd.us" <emitchell@ecasd.us>;  
"stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org" <stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org>;  
"addison.vang@wisc.edu" <addison.vang@wisc.edu>; "vuenc123@hotmail.com"  
<vuenc123@hotmail.com>; "cpwoods jr@gmail.com" <cpwoods jr@gmail.com>;  
"larkong@hmongchamber.org" <larkong@hmongchamber.org>;  
"angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com" <angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com>; "Dang Yang"  
<dyang1@ecasd.us>; "Berlye Middleton" <middletonberlye@gmail.com>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Kavang37@yahoo.com" <Kavang37@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** EDI Position and Interview Committee - Please consider  
applying or serving on interview panel

Hello BIPOC Committee –

I know Ka reached out, and here's a follow-up note. As Ka mentioned, she has moved over to manage the World Relief agency that just moved to Eau Claire. More about Ka's time at the City and about her new role is below.

I'm writing to ask two things...

**Spread the Word:** First, with Ka's transition, the EDI Coordinator position is now open and accepting applications through 10/22. Please consider applying yourself and/or spread the word about the opening. More information is here: [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) Our EDI Coordinator will continue to have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive. We have the \$810K set aside to spend on transforming the Chippewa Valley to work on these goals. As City Manager, I consider this work one of my highest priorities, and I'm committed to being part of the EDI team, along with other staff, at every step. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions!

**Serve on Selection Committee:** Next, if you are not interested in applying, would you consider serving on the interview committee? The interviews will be held on Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Depending on the number of candidates, they will last several hours. Please let me know if you're willing!

Thanks in advance for considering these requests!

Stephanie

\*\*

More about Dr. Ka Vang & Position...

**Farewell to Ka and Position Open:** We are sad to say farewell to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley. Starting Monday, Ka has started work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, CVTC, other community organizations, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited an EDI Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy.

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 19:24:29 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] please send out meeting invites to BIPOC Com for upcoming mtg for oct

Anoosheh,

Thanks for showing up for today's WR partners meeting.

Can you send out a meeting invite to all BIPOC Committee including facilitators about meeting for Oct. They all asking for that meeting invite. It also serves as a reminder for them.

Thanks,

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Dang Yang" <dangyang3631@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 14:28:05 -0500  
**To:** "" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Anoosheh,

I finally got back to my office and here is the email that Ka sent to the BIPOC Steering Committee, announcing her departure. Let me know if you need anything else. Thank you!

--Dang Yang  
[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Ka Vang** <[Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 11, 2023 at 1:03 PM  
**Subject:** BIPOC Steering Committee updates  
**To:** [atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com) <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>, [tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com) <[tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com)>, [3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com) <[3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com)>, [antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com) <[antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com)>, [jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu) <[jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu)>, [legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com) <[legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com)>, [jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu) <[jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu)>, [leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu) <[leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu)>, [clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu) <[clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu)>, [khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com) <[khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com)>, [efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com) <[efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com)>, [emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us) <[emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us)>, [stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org) <[stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org)>, [addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu) <[addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu)>, [vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com) <[vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com)>, [cpwoods jr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoods jr@gmail.com) <[cpwoods jr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoods jr@gmail.com)>, [larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org) <[larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org)>, [angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com) <[angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com)>  
**Cc:** [dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com) <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>, Berlye Middleton <[middletonberlye@gmail.com](mailto:middletonberlye@gmail.com)>

All,

I wanted to let you know that the BIPOC Steering Committee now has a website:

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/government/our-departments/administrative-services/edi-equity-diversity-inclusion/bipoc-steering-committee>

This is where you can find all the meeting agendas, packets, minutes and more. Check it out when you get a chance!

I also wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave my position with The City of Eau Claire. Friday, Oct. 13 will be my last day. I will transition to work with World Relief to support new refugees/immigrants coming to Eau Claire. So the good news is I'm not going far, literally across the river ☺.

It's been a pleasure working with all of you. Thank you for doing this work.

The committee will continue as planned: large meeting 1x month, last Thursdays of the month and other subcommittees as organized by you all. Next large meeting is Oct. 26, 6:30pm in the North Conference Room at City Hall.

By they way, my position will be posted soon and I encourage you to apply if interested.

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



--

**Dang Yang** ([he/him/his](mailto:he/him/his))  
[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 15:28:57 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Looks good – thanks! That fits with my email...

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 2:43 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Ka's email to BIPOC

**From:** Dang Yang <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 2:28 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Anoosheh,

I finally got back to my office and here is the email that Ka sent to the BIPOC Steering Committee, announcing her departure. Let me know if you need anything else. Thank you!

--Dang Yang  
[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 11, 2023 at 1:03 PM  
**Subject:** BIPOC Steering Committee updates  
**To:** [atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com) <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>, [tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com) <[tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com)>, [3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com) <[3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com)>, [antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com) <[antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com)>, [jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu) <[jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu)>, [legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com) <[legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com)>, [jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu) <[jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu)>, [leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu) <[leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu)>, [clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu) <[clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu)>, [khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com) <[khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com)>, [efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com) <[efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com)>, [emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us) <[emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us)>, [stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org) <[stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org)>, [addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu) <[addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu)>, [vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com) <[vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com)>, [cpwoods jr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoods jr@gmail.com) <[cpwoods jr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoods jr@gmail.com)>, [larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org) <[larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org)>, [angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com) <[angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com)>  
**Cc:** [dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com) <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>, Berlye Middleton <[middletonberlye@gmail.com](mailto:middletonberlye@gmail.com)>

All,

I wanted to let you know that the BIPOC Steering Committee now has a website:

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/government/our-departments/administrative-services/edi-equity-diversity-inclusion/bipoc-steering-committee>

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I also wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave my position with The City of Eau Claire. Friday, Oct. 13 will be my last day. I will transition to work with World Relief to support new refugees/immigrants coming to Eau Claire. So the good news is I'm not going far, literally across the river ☺.

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Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



--

**Dang Yang (he/him/his)**

[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:15 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: World Relief Community Gathering

I'm out of town and will be checking email again Monday 10/23.

**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 14:16:44 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] email contact

What is Deputy Chief Derek's email?

Thanks

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager  
World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley  
221 W. Madison St, Suite 107  
Eau Claire, WI 54703

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Joshua Miller" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 10:20:28 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-1669577877655b988a69f-eda6-4b6a-850b-bdf0ccbcb17d.png, OutlookEmoji-16695778776554c6f8599-a515-4030-a5c0-ae8f8b6b91f.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765511ee105e-32ca-4a3e-b791-52384c65906d.png

Anoosheh,

I plan on attending the meeting. In case you hadn't seen it, here is the registration page:

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Thanks,

**Joshua Miller**  
**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.

Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:09:57 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

Thank you, I am going to attend the evening gathering at the library.

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
[715-271-2489](tel:715-271-2489)

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

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Thank you,

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**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:39:00 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus"  
<Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
Claire

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

Chief Rokus, do you have thoughts on safety? Dave may have more insight on this situation as well...

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
Claire

I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?

Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

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**From:** meyersdm 1 <meyersdm 1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning <jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie <gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad <John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield <mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider <katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel <tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk <kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson <missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county

government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting,  
October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 13:57:05 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Thanks Stephanie:

I have two Events I am attending tonight, so I am not able to make it.

I think the biggest concern I keep hearing is that refugees coming to the community will not be vetted. That is certainly not true. I do think strongly, pushing back on that and making sure people know the truth will help.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 19, 2023, at 12:39 PM, Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

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**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee  
Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

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**From:** meyersdm 1 <meyersdm 1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Larry Hoekstra  
<Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook  
<dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson  
<steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk  
<Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren  
<Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey  
<nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto  
<nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy  
<Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell  
<connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar  
<nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch

<David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue  
<Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning  
<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine  
Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin  
Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather  
DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi  
Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami  
Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle  
Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy  
Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>

**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in  
Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau  
Claire County. Do not click any links or  
attachments unless you know the sender.**

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee  
Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called  
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World Relief is required to conduct, including local  
residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no  
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that the required meetings took place this spring. When I  
asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami  
McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a

voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

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Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come

from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 14:31:21 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Hi - I learned that Tami McLaughlin from World Relief will attend tonight to dispel inaccuracies and Dave has been conferring with the ECPD

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 1:57:05 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Thanks Stephanie:

I have two Events I am attending tonight, so I am not able to make it.

I think the biggest concern I keep hearing is that refugees coming to the community will not be vetted. That is certainly not true. I do think strongly, pushing back on that and making sure people know the truth will help.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 19, 2023, at 12:39 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

Chief Rokus, do you have thoughts on safety? Dave may have more insight on this situation as well...

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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?  
Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm 1 <meyersdm 1@baldwin-telecom.net>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM

**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Larry Hoekstra  
<Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook  
<dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson  
<steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk  
<Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren  
<Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey  
<nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto  
<nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy  
<Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell  
<connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar  
<nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch  
<David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue  
<Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning  
<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine  
Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin  
Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather  
DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi  
Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami  
Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle  
Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy  
Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in  
Eau Claire

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Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

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Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

## Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)

1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT-Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:04:21 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

What time is it at? Thanks

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM

**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch

**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.

Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:45:29 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

Thank you! I am going to try to come - may have a work event but I think I may be able to get out of it. Registering.

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:18:25 PM  
**To:** Emily Anderson  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Community Gathering

6:00-7:00, link to register:

[Who Is My Neighbor - Community Gathering - World Relief](#)

---

**From:** Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:04 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
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**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

**From:** "Dang Yang" <dangyang3631@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 11:52:05 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "middletonberlye@gmail.com" <middletonberlye@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Yes, please print and provide copies of the EC Health Alliance 2022 report, as well as the EDI Strategic Plan draft for everyone, as well. Please be sure that Stephanie is okay for the EDI Strategic Plan document to be shared because once it is shared, it enters the public domain. :-)

--Dang

On Fri, Oct 20, 2023 at 11:49 AM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

-Yes, I have invited the JEDI team to come prepared.

-I will make copies of the HR info, the agenda and the minutes for everyone.

-Do you also want copies of EC Health Alliance 2022 report and EDI Strategic plan for all members?

Thank you,

Anoosheh

**From:** Dang Yang <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 11:39 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
[middletonberlye@gmail.com](mailto:middletonberlye@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Anoosheh,

As you requested, here are the official meeting minutes from our last meeting in September. You also asked if the agenda was ready for distribution. I've attached the last draft of the agenda to this email. Once you get an approval from Berlye, it can be distributed and published.

Also, you asked in an earlier email who sends the appropriate information. Ka was responsible for sending all committee wide communications. Please distribute the agenda and materials to the committee when the materials are ready for publishing.

Action Items & Follow Up Questions:

1. Anoosheh--did you invite the JEDI team to come prepared to meet with the BIPOC steering committee on Thursday? Please do so. Let me know if you need anything from us to make that invitation.
2. Berlye, review and approve the draft agenda (attached)
3. Once approved, Anoosheh will send out the minutes, agenda, and the materials to the committee.
4. Anoosheh, please print out the meeting materials in preparation for Thursday's meeting once they are ready.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Dang Yang

[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

On Wed, Oct 18, 2023 at 2:46 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Thank you Dang,

Is the agenda you sent me ready to be shared with the Committee members? I'm going to send an invite for the next

meeting and I can include the agenda, or is agenda usually sent by you?

Thank you

Anoosheh

**From:** Dang Yang <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 2:28 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Anoosheh,

I finally got back to my office and here is the email that Ka sent to the BIPOC Steering Committee, announcing her departure. Let me know if you need anything else. Thank you!

--Dang Yang

[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ka Vang** <[Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Oct 11, 2023 at 1:03 PM  
Subject: BIPOC Steering Committee updates  
To: [atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com) <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>, [tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com)  
<[tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com)>, [3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com) <[3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com)>,

[antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com) <[antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com)>, [jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu) <[jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu)>, [legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com) <[legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com)>, [jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu) <[jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu)>, [leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu) <[leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu)>, [clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu) <[clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu)>, [khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com) <[khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com)>, [efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com) <[efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com)>, [emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us) <[emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us)>, [stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org) <[stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org)>, [addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu) <[addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu)>, [vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com) <[vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com)>, [cpwoods jr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoods jr@gmail.com) <[cpwoods jr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoods jr@gmail.com)>, [larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org) <[larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org)>, [angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com) <[angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com)>  
Cc: [dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com) <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>, Berlye Middleton <[middletonberlye@gmail.com](mailto:middletonberlye@gmail.com)>

All,

I wanted to let you know that the BIPOC Steering Committee now has a website:

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/government/our-departments/administrative-services/edi-equity-diversity-inclusion/bipoc-steering-committee>

This is where you can find all the meeting agendas, packets, minutes and more. Check it out when you get a chance!

I also wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave my position with The City of Eau Claire. Friday, Oct. 13 will be my last day. I will transition to work with World Relief to support new refugees/immigrants coming to Eau Claire. So the good news is I'm not going far, literally across the river ☺.

It's been a pleasure working with all of you. Thank you for doing this work.

The committee will continue as planned: large meeting 1x month, last Thursdays of the month and other subcommittees as organized by you all. Next large meeting is Oct. 26, 6:30pm in the North Conference Room at City Hall.

By they way, my position will be posted soon and I encourage you to apply if interested.

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



--

**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 18:09:41 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference

Can you send me the link to the regional housing conference for Nov. 1.

Thanks,

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager  
World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 18:40:15 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference

Thanks.

For the meeting on Monday at 2, can you also invite Chief Rokus and Emily Berge. And maybe Tess if she's available. We're looking for ideas and suggestions on social media messages.

Perhaps we can meet in the Rivers Room.

Thank you!  
Ka

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 1:23 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference



**EAU CLAIRE  
HOUSING  
OPPORTUNITIES  
COMMISSION**

# REGIONAL HOUSING CONFERENCE

**TICKETS:  
\$25**

**IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL  
LUNCH PROVIDED AT IN-PERSON EVENT**

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[ECHOREGIONALHOUSINGCONFERENCE.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/eau-claire-regional-housing-conference-2023)**

## CONFERENCE SPONSORS



**RANWW**  
Realtors® Association of  
Northwestern Wisconsin

**WHEN:**

**NOVEMBER 1, 2023  
8:30AM-3:00PM**

**WHERE:**

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
EAU CLAIRE DAVIES CENTER  
OJIBWE GRAND BALLROOM**

**SESSIONS:**

- **KEYNOTE: HOUSING ANALYSIS  
- DR. KURT PAULSEN**
- **FUNDING LOW-INCOME AND  
WORKFORCE HOUSING**
- **STATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**
- **SOLUTIONS TO HOUSING**
- **REGIONAL ZONING UPDATES**

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 1:10 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference

Can you send me the link to the regional housing conference for Nov. 1.

Thanks,

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager  
World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 18:45:28 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]

What is Chief Rokus's email?

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 19:36:22 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference

Thanks for inviting all the people below to the meeting on Monday.

Ka

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 2:01 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference

Yes, I'll do so.

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 1:40 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference

Thanks.

For the meeting on Monday at 2, can you also invite Chief Rokus and Emily Berge. And maybe Tess if she's available. We're looking for ideas and suggestions on social media messages.

Perhaps we can meet in the Rivers Room.

Thank you!  
Ka

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 1:23 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] link to housing conference



**EAU CLAIRE  
HOUSING  
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**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager  
World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 19:11:18 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-1681925522775e5b73dda-0ca0-4c7e-80c8-fb66a3cb24b2.jpg

Hello Anoosheh,

I will be attending the event on Monday. I am sorry for my late reply, I wasn't great at checking my email while at the League conference.

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Jessica Schoen" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 10:28:30 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning Anoosheh,

I plan to attend the 10/23 meeting (tomorrow).

Thank you,  
Jess

**Jess Schoen**

City Council Member, District 1  
Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com  
(715) 255-0297

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

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Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701





**From:**

"microsoftexchange329e71ec88ae4615bbc36ab6ce41109e@eauclairewi.gov" on behalf of "Microsoft Outlook"

<MicrosoftExchange329e71ec88ae4615bbc36ab6ce41109e@eauclairewi.gov>

**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:45:13 -0500

**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"

<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>

**Subject:** Meeting Forward Notification: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

## Your meeting was forwarded

[Stephanie Hirsch](#) has forwarded your meeting request to additional recipients.

**Meeting**

Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**Meeting Time**

Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM.

**Recipients**

[Larry Mboga](#)

All times listed are in the following time zone: (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

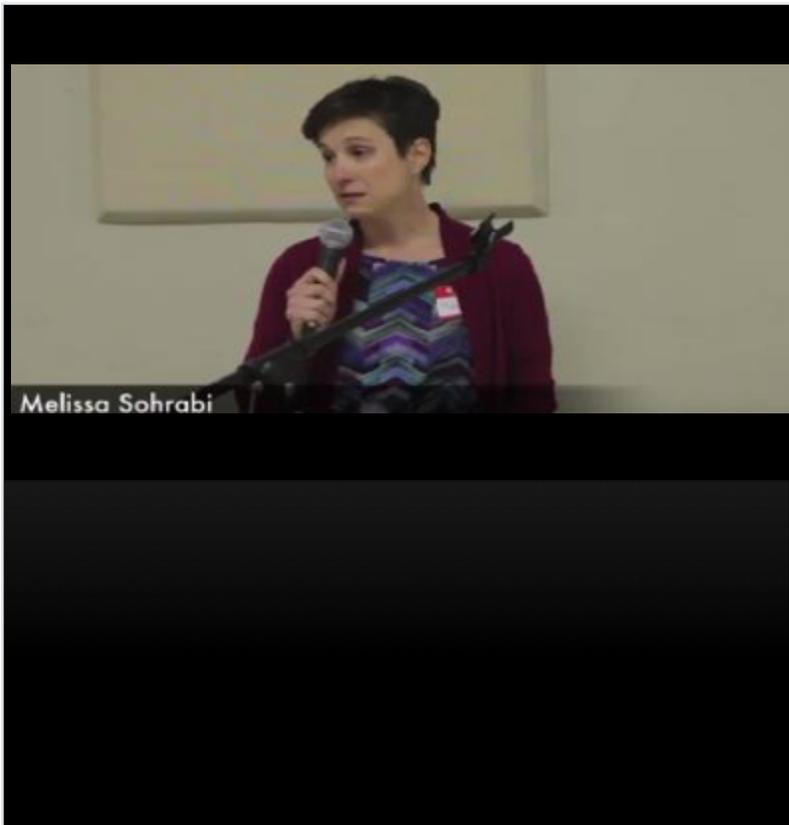
**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



**World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down  
Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.**

**Marty**

My name is Melody Boberg from the Cumberland – Rice Lake area. I am writing to you today about a World Relief refugee office that I heard is opening in Eau Claire. I found out that the gulag this office will create will be a 100-mile radius, which could easily include where I'm from. I am quite concerned as my community cannot afford refugees, and we've seen what these gulags have done to places in MN like Wilmer, Austin, and St. Cloud. These towns have been shredded fiscally, and property taxes continue to jump. I am, also, concerned about our safety. No one knows where these refugees are coming from. It was said the federal government vetted them, and seeing what a "great" job they're doing on our southern border, we all have reason to be greatly concerned. Has anyone from your city council looked at how crime has been affected in one of these gulag cities like St. Cloud since inception?

I am very upset this World Relief office was approved without talking to the taxpayers and all of the stakeholders about it. Is that even legal? What is a big influx of refugees going to do to our schools and health care system and police stations when all the refugees' family members come the second year? I am troubled and concerned for my community and me. Please prevent the opening of this refugee office before we all suffer the consequences.

Sincerely,

Melody Boberg  
[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)  
2112 13 ¼ Street  
Cumberland, WI 54829

---

**From:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 5:35 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 4:58 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

President Berge, I would like to clarify a couple of things that I just learned.

An official from World Relief admitted that she never spoke with any members of the city council, only the city manager. If the city manager did not bring it to the board's attention, that is another matter.

The official from World Relief also confirmed that the refugees will be coming from Somalia. I attended the stakeholder's meeting last week and the word Somalia was never mentioned. That is at least the third lie I have caught them in.

This is not about the refugees it is about the process. World Relief believes that speaking with the local government is speaking with bureaucrats, while many of us believe speaking with local governments is speaking with elected officials. I can also tell you that no one in the county I have spoken to knows anything about this.

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

On Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 03:45:07 PM CDT, Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)> wrote:

President Berge,

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. Did they happen? If so where are the minutes fore these meetings? I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement.

I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for. Did you direct her to sign the document or has she gone rogue...again? If not do you have the authority to approve this action? Is the goal here to keep any blame for this off of the city council?

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? Not what World Relief has told you, but what the actual country of origin is? I was told it was one of two countries.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this.

I look forward to your response

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:23:37 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Statement

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 7:35 PM  
**To:** Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Statement

Here's what I'm thinking we could do about World Relief.

Do a pretty simple statement, and then circulate it to people like these who come to my mind to sign, in addition to me and Emily, and then do a press release.

David Minor  
Nancy Coffey  
Kathryn Schauf  
Luke Hanson  
Mike Golat  
Sunem Beaton-Garcia  
Jim Schmidt  
Benny Anderson

Our organizations work to promote a strong Chippewa Valley. We hope for a strong, healthy, lively, and inclusive community. Our region is growing faster than the rest of the state, and we hope it will continue to be a vibrant place where many people want to live and contribute their talents to its future growth and change. We welcome residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. They may be coming for college, for a job, for the trails, for the safety, or for the four amazing seasons of recreation.

We support and celebrate World Relief as they work to welcome new residents of Eau Claire. Like most of the people who moved here before us and before them, they will make a home here and contribute to the future of Eau Claire. Each person and each life brings gifts to share, friendships to form, stories to tell, work to contribute to our local economy, at a time when employers are struggling to hire, and even taxes to chip in to keep our government bodies running.

Please join us in welcoming our new residents, wherever they may come from.

**Stephanie Hirsch**

City Manager  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701  
Office: 715-839-6045



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:44:26 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

FYI...

---

**From:** Kathryn Schauf <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 7:08 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Thank you Stephanie – I will use what you share to keep our board apprised as well. Let me know if you have a desire for county participation in any discussions.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:10 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <[CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg <[Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephen Nick <[stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov)>; Nicholas Koerner <[Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan <[Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Douglas Hoffer <[Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov)>; Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Angela Weideman <[Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Nancy Coffey <[nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

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[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:21:15 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau ClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] nancy's phone

Can I get Nancy's number.

thanks

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:51:02 +0000  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FAQ  
**Attachments:** FAQ on Refugee Resettlement Chippewa Valley.pdf

Attached is the FAQ WR will have available as handout at the meeting tonight.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 12:15:46 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Refugee resettlement Q&A 2nd draft  
**Attachments:** Refugee Resettlement Q&A - SH.docx

Just added a few...

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 11:42 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Refugee resettlement Q&A 2nd draft

## Anoosheh Hamzehee

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:05:21 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Information on World Relief

FYI, □

---

**From:** Kate Felton <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief

Hey Stephanie,

Just wanted to leave you a word of appreciation for your work to welcome World Relief, thereby welcoming new neighbors to our city. We have been getting some emails about this, and though of course not everyone in our community will support these actions, the resounding message I've gotten over my 8 years in service is that our community wants to lead with compassion, kindness, and generosity. I fully support the work you're doing here and I have good reason to believe that the majority of our council and our community support this work too.

Thank you! Keep up this good work!

**KATE FELTON** (formerly Kate Beaton)  
Eau Claire City Council, Member At-Large  
[Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com](mailto:Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com)  
Phone: 715-252-2544

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:09:31 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg; Steve Nick; Nicholas Koerner; Tess Morgan; Anoosheh Hamzehee; Doug Hoffer; Elizabeth Geise; Angela Weideman; Kathryn Schauf; Nancy Coffey; Matt Rokus  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 15:10:36 -0500  
**To:** "Robert Haller" <Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov>; "Matthew Jaggar" <Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer" <shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Occupancy for Library

Hi Bob - Is there a way you can confirm the allowable occupancy for the Riverview Room in the Library? This relates to the World Relief event tonight. It seems that we may have more people who want to attend than there's space, so it seems we will need someone from Fire there.

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 15:33:48 -0500  
**To:** "Robert Haller" <Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Matthew Jaggar" <Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer" <shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** RE: Occupancy for Library

Thank you, Bob! Does someone from Fire need to be at the meeting?

---

**From:** Robert Haller <Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:33 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Occupancy for Library

Hi Stephanie,

The fire department does not apply the occupancy rating. The occupancy rating is set by the architect and reviewed by Planning. They may have what the allowable number of people is. Inspector Knecht and I will walk over right now and check it out and get back to you with any additional information.

## Robert Haller

Deputy Chief  
Eau Claire Fire Dept.  
216 S. Dewey St. Eau Claire Wi. 54701  
Office. 715-839-2911  
Admin. 715-839-5012  
Cell. 715-579-2330



---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:11 PM  
**To:** Robert Haller <[Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matthew Jaggar <[Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>; Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer <[shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us](mailto:shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 16:09:29 -0500  
**To:** "Robert Haller" <Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Matthew Jaggar" <Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer" <shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** RE: Occupancy for Library

Thank you, Bob!

---

**From:** Robert Haller <Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:51 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Occupancy for Library

Hi Stephanie, the total allowable occupancy is 284 persons. The only reason to have an inspector on site would be to count the number of people in the assembly. This can be done by the event organizers to ensure they do not exceed the occupancy. If it appears that too many people are in the room, it would take the support of the people to volunteer to leave or law enforcement would have to assist.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:33:48 PM  
**To:** Robert Haller <[Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matthew Jaggar <[Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer <[shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us](mailto:shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: Occupancy for Library

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**From:** Robert Haller <[Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:33 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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# Robert Haller

Deputy Chief  
Eau Claire Fire Dept.  
216 S. Dewey St. Eau Claire Wi. 54701  
Office. 715-839-2911  
Admin. 715-839-5012  
Cell. 715-579-2330



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**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:11 PM  
**To:** Robert Haller <[Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matthew Jaggar <[Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>; Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer <[shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us](mailto:shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Occupancy for Library

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Stephanie Hirsch  
City Manager  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701  
Office: 715-839-6045





**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:48:29 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Not a sad good bye  
**Attachments:** image003.png, image006.jpg

You will be excellent in this new role but I'm sad to see you leaving the city where your work on EDI has been so needed! However I can support you let me know and thanks for all you do !

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 13, 2023, at 2:40 PM, Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) *Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023*

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network

<image003.png>

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23: <https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>

<image006.jpg>



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)



**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 11:40:12 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR community meeting Monday

Hello Ka: Yeah! I can come to this! What an exciting thing. Just checking, will there be security ?

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 18, 2023, at 3:31 PM, Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org> wrote:

Andrew,

Just wondering if you would have time to attend this gathering and say a few words of support at the beginning before attending Council meeting? Please let me know your thoughts on this.

Also, would it be a good idea for WR to attend the Council meeting on Monday to provide some general information about the federal government's vetting process for refugees? Or to just explain the process of how Eau Claire was chosen as a refugee site?

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

**Thanks,**

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 11:48:12 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR community meeting Monday

I do. A city employee who is also a veteran spoke at council last week making some incredibly irrational and frankly concerning arguments saying that refugees are "not Vetted" and talking about the southern boarder, Hamas, and etc. I'm now seeing an email from Scott Bolstad as well which I will send to you.

If people truly think this is a threat, which i believe they do, I think it would be wise to have someone there from PD.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 19, 2023, at 11:42 AM, Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org> wrote:

Awesome that you can come. Do you think we will need security at the library? At this point we know the police chief is aware of this meeting.

Ka

---

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:40 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR community meeting Monday

Hello Ka: Yeah! I can come to this! What an exciting thing. Just checking, will there be security ?

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 18, 2023, at 3:31 PM, Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)> wrote:

Andrew,

Just wondering if you would have time to attend this gathering and say a few words of support at the beginning before attending Council meeting? Please let me know your thoughts on this.

Also, would it be a good idea for WR to attend the Council meeting on Monday to provide some general information about the federal government's vetting process for refugees? Or to just explain the process of how Eau Claire was chosen as a refugee site?

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

**Thanks,**

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 11:49:32 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?

Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM

**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning <jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie <gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad <John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield <mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider <katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel <tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk <kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson <missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>

**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)

1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 11:55:10 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** meyersdm 1 <meyersdm 1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning

<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary  
<robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka  
<heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch  
<Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson  
<Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>

**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

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Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting,  
October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 13:57:05 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Thanks Stephanie:

I have two Events I am attending tonight, so I am not able to make it.

I think the biggest concern I keep hearing is that refugees coming to the community will not be vetted. That is certainly not true. I do think strongly, pushing back on that and making sure people know the truth will help.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 19, 2023, at 12:39 PM, Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

Chief Rokus, do you have thoughts on safety? Dave may have more insight on this situation as well...

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>

**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT

**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee  
Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?  
Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm 1 <meyersdm 1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Larry Hoekstra  
<Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook  
<dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson  
<steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk  
<Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren  
<Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey  
<nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto  
<nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy  
<Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell  
<connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar  
<nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch

<David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue  
<Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning  
<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine  
Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin  
Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather  
DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi  
Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami  
Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle  
Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy  
Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>

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**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 12:21:17 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR community meeting Monday

Hi Ka:

Could we chat briefly this afternoon. Please let me know the best number to reach you ! Thanks !

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 18, 2023, at 3:31 PM, Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org> wrote:

Andrew,

Just wondering if you would have time to attend this gathering and say a few words of support at the beginning before attending Council meeting? Please let me know your thoughts on this.

Also, would it be a good idea for WR to attend the Council meeting on Monday to provide some general information about the federal government's vetting process for refugees? Or to just explain the process of how Eau Claire was chosen as a refugee site?

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Thanks,

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 18:21:45 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Member Update  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-16819255227759d57b9e4-6957-4f72-aa11-e05d12f78597.jpg

Hi Emily:

That works for me! Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 21, 2023, at 1:44 PM, Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com> wrote:

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**

***Eau Claire City Council President***

<OutlookEmoji-16819255227759d57b9e4-6957-4f72-aa11-e05d12f78597.jpg>

[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*



**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 18:33:28 -0500  
**To:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

Thanks Scott:

I'll check with our attorney to be clear but I'm fairly certain the Council has know jurisdiction over the matter of this private faith based entity. I could be wrong but I'll check.

I'll also check if the City manager signed anything but I can tell you now I highly doubt it. My guess is that this private faith based group did planning like any other private group would leading up to their opening and could make public entities aware, and it seems from your email some communication had happened.

My biggest concern around this is that there seems to be a lot of misinformation being put out about the vetting process these folks go through so whatever we can do to dispel that and to address the fear that some of our community feels about this we should work to do it. I know I will. New refugees over the years, be they European, south East Asian, middle eastern, etc, often face high levels of backlash and fear when they first arrive. It's a sad truth about some folks and how change is hard. But ultimately they make our community stronger and history tells that story over and over again in America.

Thanks again and if I hear back that the council has any sort of purview on this or that the manager somehow green lit this in any way, I will circle back to let you know. I'll also check if the communication by this entity was sufficient according to US Code you cite.

Best  
Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 21, 2023, at 5:20 PM, Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com> wrote:

### Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of

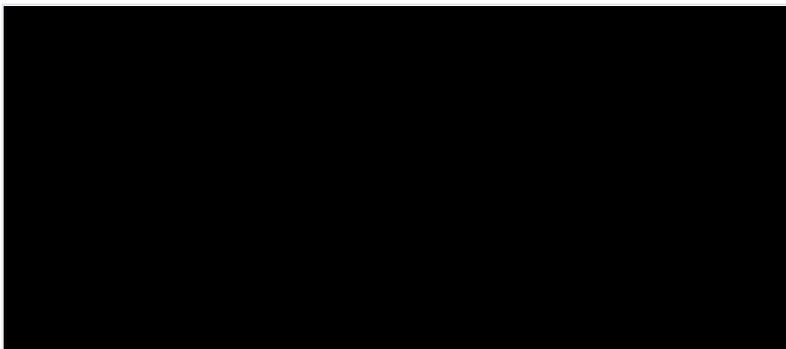
our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible  
for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 21:05:10 -0500  
**To:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

Thanks Scott.

That's helpful context. That helps me as I dig in to fine out more info.

Best  
Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 21, 2023, at 8:01 PM, Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
wrote:

Andrew, thanks for your response.

The refugee resettlement program is a State Department program and the local government absolutely has a say in this. There are three signatories on the abstract, the feds, the state and the local government. I do not consider the city manager to represent the local government. I consider you to represent the local government because you were elected. The private Christian group is doing work on behalf of the State Department.

This issue has nothing to do with refugees, it has everything to do with process. If they have been working on this for a year and most people don't know anything about it, that is a problem.

Thanks for getting back to me.

Scott

On Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 06:33:38 PM CDT, Andrew Werthmann  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com> wrote:

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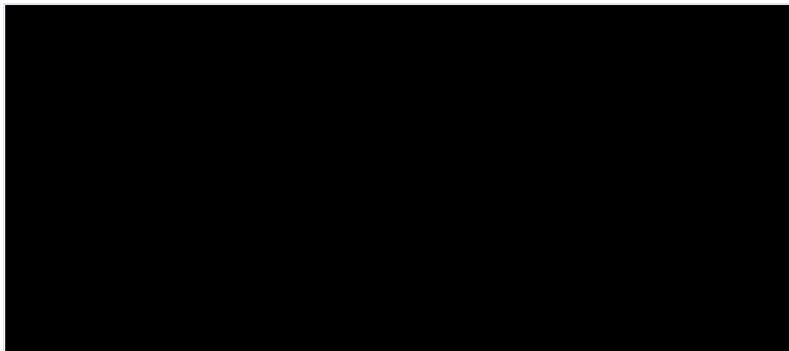
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715-497-4359

**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 22:46:16 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg, 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf, image001.jpg

Thank you Stephanie for sending this context and background. We are getting some emails about it ... mostly it's people trying to figure out whether the city council had a role in this in terms of local "sign-off."

Best  
Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 22, 2023, at 6:09 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that

be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 10:39:52 -0500  
**To:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg

Thanks Dave,  
Hope you have a good start to your week!

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 23, 2023, at 8:40 AM, Dave Solberg  
<dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

**David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire  
203 S Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701  
Office: 715.839.4934  
e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)  
<image001.jpg>

---



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:05:07 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 5/12  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 05 12 2023.pdf

Hello all –

Topics in this week's Update include:

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** Q&A on Triaging Tree Removal, Housing Survey, More Thank Yous to Street Crews, Hmong Chamber of Commerce Open House, World Relief, PERM Program, Some Prevention Updates, Managing Risk Article, Chippewa River Trail Tree Removal
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Rebecca Scharlau
- **A Few More Pictures**

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 25 Sep 2023 15:48:49 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 9/25  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 09 25 2023.pdf

Hello Council Members –

Sorry for the delay on this. We, internally, are trying to figure out a way to have just one newsletter that goes out weekly to the Council, the staff, and the public. We're trying to determine the best email marketing/newsletter platform to use. In the meantime, here's this week's. (And you'll get it again in the new format...)

Feel free to share any feedback or suggestions!

Stephanie

-  
-

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 6 Oct 2023 20:11:54 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: FROM /MARTY

[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org)

**TV 18 REPORTS**

**WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL**

**Bringing 75 families of immigrants to Eau Claire**

Legal immigration BUILT AMERICA\  
{MY GRAND PARENTS NO LESS

Are these New (75} IMMIGRATES predicted to be settled here BY  
World Relief Global active Wi since 2012 in Appleton

**COMING HERE LEGALLY** and **VETTED PROPERLY** is the  
**ONLY RIGHT QUESTION**

**If they are Then how will they be housed Educated and Supported and be  
EMPLOYED?**

QUESTIONS

October 23<sup>rd</sup> at LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY Informational session OPEN TO THE PUBLIC'  
TIME TBA MUST answer these questions

---

Marty



## [Marty Green](#)

CLICK on Name for Video

2006 Wisconsin Broadcasters Hall of Fame

60 years in Broadcasting former MGR of WAXX/WAYY

[Greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:Greenmarty1943@gmail.com)

Use this E Mail in the future not my Charter E Mail

715 834 2987 or {Cell } 559 2807

--

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 20:31:29 +0000  
**To:** "Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com"  
<Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] WR community meeting Monday

Andrew,

Just wondering if you would have time to attend this gathering and say a few words of support at the beginning before attending Council meeting? Please let me know your thoughts on this.

Also, would it be a good idea for WR to attend the Council meeting on Monday to provide some general information about the federal government's vetting process for refugees? Or to just explain the process of how Eau Claire was chosen as a refugee site?

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Thanks,

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:14 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andwerth@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Katherine Schneider"  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:53:26 +0000  
**To:** "'Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com'"  
<Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?  
Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning <jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie <gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad <John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield <mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider <katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel <tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk <kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson <missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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1600 Star Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

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**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:42:38 +0000  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR community meeting Monday

Awesome that you can come. Do you think we will need security at the library? At this point we know the police chief is aware of this meeting.

Ka

---

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:40 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR community meeting Monday

Hello Ka: Yeah! I can come to this! What an exciting thing. Just checking, will there be security ?

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 18, 2023, at 3:31 PM, Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)> wrote:

Andrew,

Just wondering if you would have time to attend this gathering and say a few words of support at the beginning before attending Council meeting? Please let me know your thoughts on this.

Also, would it be a good idea for WR to attend the Council meeting on Monday to provide some general information about the federal government's vetting process for refugees? Or to just explain the process of how Eau Claire was chosen as a refugee site?

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

**Thanks,**

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:39:00 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus"  
<Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
Claire

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

Chief Rokus, do you have thoughts on safety? Dave may have more insight on this situation as well...

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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
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I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?

Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

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**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning <jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie <gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad <John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield <mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider <katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel <tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk <kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson <missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 14:31:21 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Hi - I learned that Tami McLaughlin from World Relief will attend tonight to dispel inaccuracies and Dave has been conferring with the ECPD

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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 1:57:05 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Thanks Stephanie:

I have two Events I am attending tonight, so I am not able to make it.

I think the biggest concern I keep hearing is that refugees coming to the community will not be vetted. That is certainly not true. I do think strongly, pushing back on that and making sure people know the truth will help.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 19, 2023, at 12:39 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

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**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Larry Hoekstra  
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<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine  
Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin  
Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather  
DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi  
Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami  
Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle  
Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy  
Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
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**From:** "Tess Morgan" <tess.morgan@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:06:16 -0500  
**To:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Alia Johnson" <Alia.Johnson@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "apmlw@ap.org" <apmlw@ap.org>; "Benjamin Hundt" <Benjamin.Hundt@eauclairewi.gov>; "Bridget Coit" <Bridget.Coit@eauclairewi.gov>; "Carrie Riepl" <Carrie.Riepl@eauclairewi.gov>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Chris Kirchman" <kirchmca@uwec.edu>; "Colleen Schian" <Colleen.Schian@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Elizabeth Giese (elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us)" <elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Herzog, Chris" <chris@stokesherzog.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "John Murphy" <murphy@wayy790.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Julian Emerson" <julianemersonec@gmail.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kelly Shea" <Kelly.Shea@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Kelsey Brunner" <Kelsey.Brunner@eauclairewi.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Liam Marlaire" <liam.marlaire@ecpc.com>; "Librarian" <librarian@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Matt Milner - Editor L-T" <Matt.Milner@ecpc.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "news@chippewa.com" <news@chippewa.com>; "news@midwestfamilyec.com" <news@midwestfamilyec.com>; "News8@wkb.com" <News8@wkb.com>; "newsroom@ecpc.com" <newsroom@ecpc.com>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Nick Meyer" <nick@volumeone.org>; "Progressive Media Network" <jgragert@gmail.com>; "Rebecca Draeger" <Rebecca.Draeger@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Recreation" <Recreation@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Rep. Jodi Emerson" <rep.emerson@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Richard Kremer (richard.kremer@wpr.org)" <richard.kremer@wpr.org>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Scott Rogers" <rogers@eauclairechamber.org>; "Spectator" <C-J02@uwec.edu>; "Spectrum News - Wisconsin" <SpectrumNewsWI@charter.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tom Giffey" <giffey@volumeone.org>; "UWEC - Communication & Journalism" <cj.dept@uwec.edu>; "UW-EC Integrated Marketing & Communications Team" <imc@uwec.edu>; "Volume One - Editorial" <editorial@volumeone.org>; "WEAU (news@weau.com)" <news@weau.com>; "Wisconsin Free Press" <newsfreepress@gmail.com>; "WQOW NEWS" <news@wqow.com>; "WWIB" <WWIB@WWIB.COM>  
**Subject:** Public Notices  
**Attachments:** Public Notices--101923.pdf

City Council Public Hearing – 10/23 CANCELLED  
City Council Legislative Session – 10/24  
Housing Authority – 10/24  
South Barstow BID Entertainment Committee – 10/24  
DECI Parking and Infrastructure Committee – 10/25  
South Barstow BID Outreach & Special Projects – 10/25  
BIPOC Steering Committee – 10/26  
DECI Executive committee – 10/26  
North Barstow/Medical BID Executive Committee – 10/26  
Waterways and Parks Commission – CANCELLED  
City Council Invitation to Community Informational Meeting “Who is my Neighbor?” – 10/23  
City Council Invitation to Fire Department Swearing-In Ceremony – 11/2

## **Tess Morgan**

**Media/Communications Specialist**

P: 715.839.4902

E: [Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 07:36:12 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] TV18 IMMIGRATION MEETING COVERAGE {OR NON COVERASGE}

Dear Citizens:

If you watched the TV18 Coverage of the Meeting on IMMIGRATION coming to Eau Claire

Like me you were TERRIBLY DISSAPOINTED in how this meeting was Represented by TV18's reporter

TAXATION without REPRESENTATION was the NEVER MENTIONED in this very Biased Reporting.

CK OUT

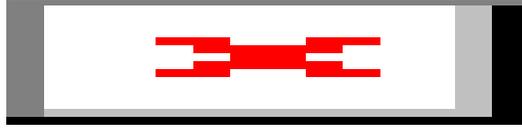
[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG)

for WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL  
And its GOALS for 75 Families  
Coming to Eau Claire

CLICK ON TV18 NEWS for their Story about the meeting at the VFW

Marty Green

PS if fighting the WATER PLANT was TOUGH this is TOUGHER.  
OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup> at the LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY we must participate  
But you Need To Sign Up to even attend this WORLD RELIEF EFFORT



[TOP STORIES](#)

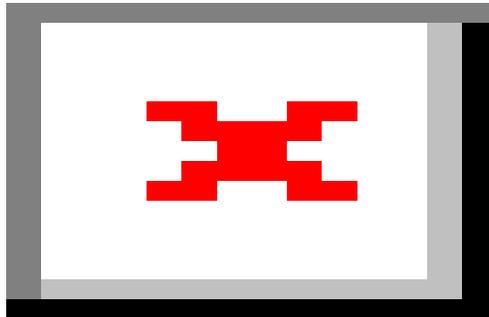
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[WEATHER](#)

[SPORTS](#)

[WATCH LIVE](#)

——— Top Stories ———



## **Friday looking great; the weekend in general looking decent outside of isolated showers Friday Night, Saturday**

Just like we did Wednesday, we had a few scattered showers track across the area on our Thursday and those that saw rain didn't see much at all. Eau Claire got lucky and saw some rain both days.

—— Sports ——



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[WATCH LIVE](#)

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WQOW 5545 Hwy 93, Eau Claire, WI 54701

**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 17:49:00 +0000  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR community meeting Monday

Sure. Give me a call when you get a chance. 715-577-5513

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 12:21:17 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR community meeting Monday

Hi Ka:

Could we chat briefly this afternoon. Please let me know the best number to reach you ! Thanks !

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 18, 2023, at 3:31 PM, Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org> wrote:

Andrew,

Just wondering if you would have time to attend this gathering and say a few words of support at the beginning before attending Council meeting? Please let me know your thoughts on this.

Also, would it be a good idea for WR to attend the Council meeting on Monday to provide some general information about the federal government's vetting process for refugees? Or to just explain the process of how Eau Claire was chosen as a refugee site?

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

**Thanks,**

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 13:44:58 -0500  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson"  
<emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry  
Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann"  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

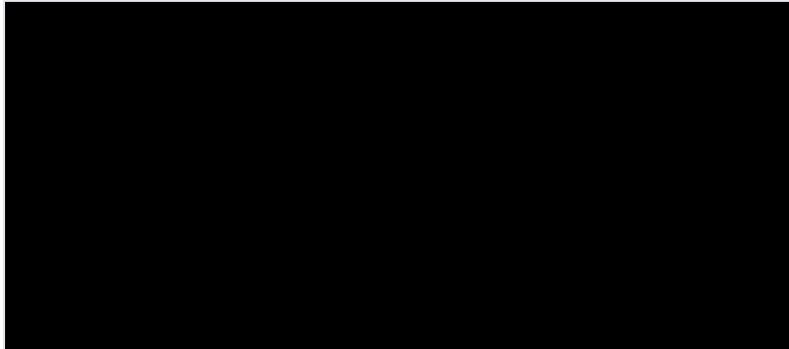
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 01:01:09 +0000  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

Andrew, thanks for your response.

The refugee resettlement program is a State Department program and the local government absolutely has a say in this. There are three signatories on the abstract, the feds, the state and the local government. I do not consider the city manager to represent the local government. I consider you to represent the local government because you were elected. The private Christian group is doing work on behalf of the State Department.

This issue has nothing to do with refugees, it has everything to do with process. If they have been working on this for a year and most people don't know anything about it, that is a problem.

Thanks for getting back to me.

'Scott

On Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 06:33:38 PM CDT, Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com> wrote:

Thanks Scott:

I'll check with our attorney to be clear but I'm fairly certain the Council has know jurisdiction over the matter of this private faith based entity. I could be wrong but I'll check.

I'll also check if the City manager signed anything but I can tell you now I highly doubt it. My guess is that this private faith based group did planning like any other private group would leading up to their opening and could make public entities aware, and it seems from your email some communication had happened.

My biggest concern around this is that there seems to be a lot of misinformation being put out about the vetting process these folks go through so whatever we can do to dispel that and to address the fear that some of our community feels about this we should work to do it. I know I will. New refugees over the years, be they European, south East Asian, middle eastern, etc, often face high levels of backlash and fear when they first arrive. It's a sad truth about some folks and how change is hard. But ultimately they make our community stronger and history tells that story over and over again in America.

Thanks again and if I hear back that the council has any sort of purview on this or that the manager somehow green lit this in any way, I will circle back to let you know. I'll also check if the communication by this entity was sufficient according to US Code you cite.

Best  
Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 21, 2023, at 5:20 PM, Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com> wrote:

### Members of the Eau Claire City Council

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We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

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**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 12:03:16 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] more INFO IMMIGRATION MTG MONDAY 6 PM LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY

.com>

---

**From:** Cyndi Burton <[cyndimburton@gmail.com](mailto:cyndimburton@gmail.com)>

Register for the meeting at the Eau Claire library and let them know how many people care about this. Monday night, October 23, 2023 6:00-7:00pm. Information session on World Relief at LE Phillips Library. You can register for the meeting here: <https://worldrelief.org/.../who-is-my-neighbor-community.../>

**Is this NGO even operating legally?** Excerpt from 8 US Code 1522

The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities.

Notice the word "**SHALL**". It does not say **MAY**. This process must be adhered to and they did not.

Contact city council members with your concerns about the lack of inclusion of our elected representatives in this process and about the blatant lack of transparency about the use of our tax dollars in our community. <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/.../city.../city-council-members>

And/or rally at the library 5:30-7:00. Bring signs if you wish.

**Democracy Dies in Darkness**

**No Taxation Without Representation**

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



### **World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSCHINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support Opening.pdf

This Letter was sent to  
Holly Herrera  
Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
US DEPT OF STATE  
Washington DC  
5/15/2023

**From:** Fred Kappus <[jfkappus@charter.net](mailto:jfkappus@charter.net)>

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**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:40:40 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Derek Thomas" <Derek.Thomas@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
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**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:05:07 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 5/12  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 05 12 2023.pdf

Hello all –

Topics in this week's Update include:

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** Q&A on Triaging Tree Removal, Housing Survey, More Thank Yous to Street Crews, Hmong Chamber of Commerce Open House, World Relief, PERM Program, Some Prevention Updates, Managing Risk Article, Chippewa River Trail Tree Removal
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Rebecca Scharlau
- **A Few More Pictures**

Stephanie

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
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**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 25 Sep 2023 15:48:49 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 9/25  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 09 25 2023.pdf

Hello Council Members –

Sorry for the delay on this. We, internally, are trying to figure out a way to have just one newsletter that goes out weekly to the Council, the staff, and the public. We're trying to determine the best email marketing/newsletter platform to use. In the meantime, here's this week's. (And you'll get it again in the new format...)

Feel free to share any feedback or suggestions!

Stephanie

-  
-

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 6 Oct 2023 20:11:54 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: FROM /MARTY

[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org)

**TV 18 REPORTS**

**WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL**

**Bringing 75 families of immigrants to Eau Claire**

Legal immigration BUILT AMERICA\  
{MY GRAND PARENTS NO LESS

Are these New (75} IMMIGRATES predicted to be settled here BY  
World Relief Global active Wi since 2012 in Appleton

**COMING HERE LEGALLY** and **VETTED PROPERLY** is the  
**ONLY RIGHT QUESTION**

**If they are Then how will they be housed Educated and Supported and be  
EMPLOYED?**

QUESTIONS

October 23<sup>rd</sup> at LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY Informational session OPEN TO THE PUBLIC'  
TIME TBA MUST answer these questions

---

Marty



## [Marty Green](#)

CLICK on Name for Video

2006 Wisconsin Broadcasters Hall of Fame

60 years in Broadcasting former MGR of WAXX/WAYY

[Greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:Greenmarty1943@gmail.com)

Use this E Mail in the future not my Charter E Mail

715 834 2987 or {Cell } 559 2807

--

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

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10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 20:31:29 +0000  
**To:** "Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com"  
<Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] WR community meeting Monday

Andrew,

Just wondering if you would have time to attend this gathering and say a few words of support at the beginning before attending Council meeting? Please let me know your thoughts on this.

Also, would it be a good idea for WR to attend the Council meeting on Monday to provide some general information about the federal government's vetting process for refugees? Or to just explain the process of how Eau Claire was chosen as a refugee site?

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Thanks,

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:14 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andwerth@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Katherine Schneider"  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:53:26 +0000  
**To:** "'Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com'"  
<Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?  
Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning <jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie <gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad <John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield <mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider <katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel <tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk <kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson <missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

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I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

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Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

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confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:42:38 +0000  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR community meeting Monday

Awesome that you can come. Do you think we will need security at the library? At this point we know the police chief is aware of this meeting.

Ka

---

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:40 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR community meeting Monday

Hello Ka: Yeah! I can come to this! What an exciting thing. Just checking, will there be security ?

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 18, 2023, at 3:31 PM, Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)> wrote:

Andrew,

Just wondering if you would have time to attend this gathering and say a few words of support at the beginning before attending Council meeting? Please let me know your thoughts on this.

Also, would it be a good idea for WR to attend the Council meeting on Monday to provide some general information about the federal government's vetting process for refugees? Or to just explain the process of how Eau Claire was chosen as a refugee site?

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

**Thanks,**

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:39:00 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus"  
<Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
Claire

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

Chief Rokus, do you have thoughts on safety? Dave may have more insight on this situation as well...

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
Claire

I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?

Kathie

Katherine Schneider

District 22

[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm 1 <meyersdm 1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning <jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie <gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad <John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield <mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider <katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel <tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk <kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson <missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county

government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

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What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting,  
October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 14:31:21 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Hi - I learned that Tami McLaughlin from World Relief will attend tonight to dispel inaccuracies and Dave has been conferring with the ECPD

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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 1:57:05 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Thanks Stephanie:

I have two Events I am attending tonight, so I am not able to make it.

I think the biggest concern I keep hearing is that refugees coming to the community will not be vetted. That is certainly not true. I do think strongly, pushing back on that and making sure people know the truth will help.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 19, 2023, at 12:39 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

Chief Rokus, do you have thoughts on safety? Dave may have more insight on this situation as well...

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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?  
Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM

**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Larry Hoekstra  
<Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook  
<dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson  
<steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk  
<Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren  
<Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey  
<nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto  
<nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy  
<Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell  
<connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar  
<nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch  
<David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue  
<Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning  
<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine  
Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin  
Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather  
DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi  
Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami  
Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle  
Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy  
Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in  
Eau Claire

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attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

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1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

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**From:** "Tess Morgan" <tess.morgan@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:06:16 -0500  
**To:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Alia Johnson" <Alia.Johnson@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "apmlw@ap.org" <apmlw@ap.org>; "Benjamin Hundt" <Benjamin.Hundt@eauclairewi.gov>; "Bridget Coit" <Bridget.Coit@eauclairewi.gov>; "Carrie Riepl" <Carrie.Riepl@eauclairewi.gov>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Chris Kirchman" <kirchmca@uwec.edu>; "Colleen Schian" <Colleen.Schian@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Elizabeth Giese (elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us)" <elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Herzog, Chris" <chris@stokesherzog.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "John Murphy" <murphy@wayy790.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Julian Emerson" <julianemersonec@gmail.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kelly Shea" <Kelly.Shea@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Kelsey Brunner" <Kelsey.Brunner@eauclairewi.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Liam Marlaire" <liam.marlaire@ecpc.com>; "Librarian" <librarian@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Matt Milner - Editor L-T" <Matt.Milner@ecpc.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "news@chippewa.com" <news@chippewa.com>; "news@midwestfamilyec.com" <news@midwestfamilyec.com>; "News8@wkb.com" <News8@wkb.com>; "newsroom@ecpc.com" <newsroom@ecpc.com>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Nick Meyer" <nick@volumeone.org>; "Progressive Media Network" <jgragert@gmail.com>; "Rebecca Draeger" <Rebecca.Draeger@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Recreation" <Recreation@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Rep. Jodi Emerson" <rep.emerson@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Richard Kremer (richard.kremer@wpr.org)" <richard.kremer@wpr.org>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Scott Rogers" <rogers@eauclairechamber.org>; "Spectator" <C-J02@uwec.edu>; "Spectrum News - Wisconsin" <SpectrumNewsWI@charter.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tom Giffey" <giffey@volumeone.org>; "UWEC - Communication & Journalism" <cj.dept@uwec.edu>; "UW-EC Integrated Marketing & Communications Team" <imc@uwec.edu>; "Volume One - Editorial" <editorial@volumeone.org>; "WEAU (news@weau.com)" <news@weau.com>; "Wisconsin Free Press" <newsfreepress@gmail.com>; "WQOW NEWS" <news@wqow.com>; "WWIB" <WWIB@WWIB.COM>  
**Subject:** Public Notices  
**Attachments:** Public Notices--101923.pdf

City Council Public Hearing – 10/23 CANCELLED  
City Council Legislative Session – 10/24  
Housing Authority – 10/24  
South Barstow BID Entertainment Committee – 10/24  
DECI Parking and Infrastructure Committee – 10/25  
South Barstow BID Outreach & Special Projects – 10/25  
BIPOC Steering Committee – 10/26  
DECI Executive committee – 10/26  
North Barstow/Medical BID Executive Committee – 10/26  
Waterways and Parks Commission – CANCELLED  
City Council Invitation to Community Informational Meeting “Who is my Neighbor?” – 10/23  
City Council Invitation to Fire Department Swearing-In Ceremony – 11/2

## **Tess Morgan**

**Media/Communications Specialist**

P: 715.839.4902

E: [Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 07:36:12 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] TV18 IMMIGRATION MEETING COVERAGE {OR NON COVERASGE}

Dear Citizens:

If you watched the TV18 Coverage of the Meeting on IMMIGRATION coming to Eau Claire

Like me you were TERRIBLY DISSAPOINTED in how this meeting was Represented by TV18's reporter

TAXATION without REPRESENTATION was the NEVER MENTIONED in this very Biased Reporting.

CK OUT

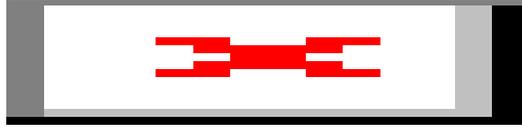
[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG)

for WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL  
And its GOALS for 75 Families  
Coming to Eau Claire

CLICK ON TV18 NEWS for their Story about the meeting at the VFW

Marty Green

PS if fighting the WATER PLANT was TOUGH this is TOUGHER.  
OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup> at the LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY we must participate  
But you Need To Sign Up to even attend this WORLD RELIEF EFFORT



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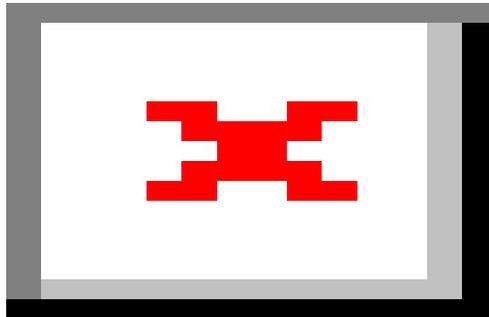
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——— Top Stories ———



## **Friday looking great; the weekend in general looking decent outside of isolated showers Friday Night, Saturday**

Just like we did Wednesday, we had a few scattered showers track across the area on our Thursday and those that saw rain didn't see much at all. Eau Claire got lucky and saw some rain both days.

----- Sports -----



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WQOW 5545 Hwy 93, Eau Claire, WI 54701

**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 17:49:00 +0000  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR community meeting Monday

Sure. Give me a call when you get a chance. 715-577-5513

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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 12:21:17 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR community meeting Monday

Hi Ka:

Could we chat briefly this afternoon. Please let me know the best number to reach you ! Thanks !

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 18, 2023, at 3:31 PM, Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org> wrote:

Andrew,

Just wondering if you would have time to attend this gathering and say a few words of support at the beginning before attending Council meeting? Please let me know your thoughts on this.

Also, would it be a good idea for WR to attend the Council meeting on Monday to provide some general information about the federal government's vetting process for refugees? Or to just explain the process of how Eau Claire was chosen as a refugee site?

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

**Thanks,**

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 13:44:58 -0500  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson"  
<emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry  
Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann"  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

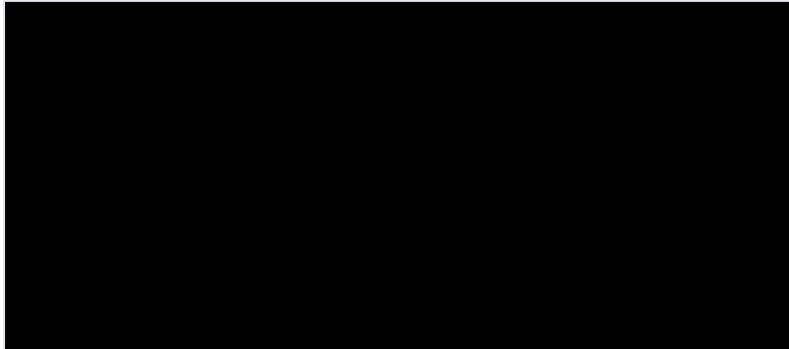
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 01:01:09 +0000  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

Andrew, thanks for your response.

The refugee resettlement program is a State Department program and the local government absolutely has a say in this. There are three signatories on the abstract, the feds, the state and the local government. I do not consider the city manager to represent the local government. I consider you to represent the local government because you were elected. The private Christian group is doing work on behalf of the State Department.

This issue has nothing to do with refugees, it has everything to do with process. If they have been working on this for a year and most people don't know anything about it, that is a problem.

Thanks for getting back to me.

'Scott

On Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 06:33:38 PM CDT, Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com> wrote:

Thanks Scott:

I'll check with our attorney to be clear but I'm fairly certain the Council has know jurisdiction over the matter of this private faith based entity. I could be wrong but I'll check.

I'll also check if the City manager signed anything but I can tell you now I highly doubt it. My guess is that this private faith based group did planning like any other private group would leading up to their opening and could make public entities aware, and it seems from your email some communication had happened.

My biggest concern around this is that there seems to be a lot of misinformation being put out about the vetting process these folks go through so whatever we can do to dispel that and to address the fear that some of our community feels about this we should work to do it. I know I will. New refugees over the years, be they European, south East Asian, middle eastern, etc, often face high levels of backlash and fear when they first arrive. It's a sad truth about some folks and how change is hard. But ultimately they make our community stronger and history tells that story over and over again in America.

Thanks again and if I hear back that the council has any sort of purview on this or that the manager somehow green lit this in any way, I will circle back to let you know. I'll also check if the communication by this entity was sufficient according to US Code you cite.

Best  
Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 21, 2023, at 5:20 PM, Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com> wrote:

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Scott Bolstad  
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**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 12:03:16 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] more INFO IMMIGRATION MTG MONDAY 6 PM LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY

.com>

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**From:** Cyndi Burton <[cyndimburton@gmail.com](mailto:cyndimburton@gmail.com)>

Register for the meeting at the Eau Claire library and let them know how many people care about this. Monday night, October 23, 2023 6:00-7:00pm. Information session on World Relief at LE Phillips Library. You can register for the meeting here: <https://worldrelief.org/.../who-is-my-neighbor-community.../>

**Is this NGO even operating legally?** Excerpt from 8 US Code 1522

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Notice the word "**SHALL**". It does not say **MAY**. This process must be adhered to and they did not.

Contact city council members with your concerns about the lack of inclusion of our elected representatives in this process and about the blatant lack of transparency about the use of our tax dollars in our community. <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/.../city.../city-council-members>

And/or rally at the library 5:30-7:00. Bring signs if you wish.

**Democracy Dies in Darkness**

**No Taxation Without Representation**

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

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[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



## World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library

TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }??????

TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.

Marty

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSCHINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support Opening.pdf

This Letter was sent to"  
Holly Herrera  
Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
US DEPT OF STATE  
Washington DC  
5/15/2023

**From:** Fred Kappus <[jfkappus@charter.net](mailto:jfkappus@charter.net)>

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Attached is the letter written by the City Manager touting the opening of a World Relief office in Eau Claire.

The question is, did she do this on her own or is the City Council involved as well?

This is the last thing Eau Claire needs is to welcome middle east refugees. Look what happened to Dearborn, Michigan.

Fred

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Whether the idea is bring Refugees....or IMMGRANTS from South America or GAZA etc.

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Was TOO LATE.

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Former Member of the Eau RDA

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**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSchINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/ AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
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**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSCHINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/ AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support Opening.pdf

This Letter was sent to"  
Holly Herrera  
Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
US DEPT OF STATE  
Washington DC  
5/15/2023

**From:** Fred Kappus <[jfkappus@charter.net](mailto:jfkappus@charter.net)>

Marty,

Attached is the letter written by the City Manager touting the opening of a World Relief office in Eau Claire.

The question is, did she do this on her own or is the City Council involved as well?

This is the last thing Eau Claire needs is to welcome middle east refugees. Look what happened to Dearborn, Michigan.

Fred

MONDAY AT 6 PM AT THE LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY THIS & Many other questions need to be addressed.

Whether the idea is bring Refugees....or IMMGRANTS from South America or GAZA etc.

Did they Follow US...CODE 8 ....1522 Section 2 and Did Our City Manager have the approval or backing of Our City Council to even send this letter.

Here are some Questions that Citizens have the Right To ask.

Are these Refugees here Legally and How are they Vetted? The ones arriving in Sanctuary cities like New York Chicago Milwaukee are NOT.

Who has responsibility for assisting these immigrants after World Relief or area Church's completes its term of support?

When the Operation is up and Fully operational how many immigrant's will be added each year.

How Long does WORLD RELIEF Assist each immigrant family.?

How much money does WORLD RELIEF receive for Each immigrant ? FROM us government OR THE UN ??????

Who is responsible for their assistance after World Relief completes its TERM OF SUPPORT?

The City of Eau Claire? How will affect our Schools They are UNDER S TAFFED as is our LAW ENFORCEMENT Departments.

Has our co ordinating personnel talked to other cities EXAMPLE..... ST CLOUD MINNESOTA. Or HUDSON WI who rejected this proposal.

Many citizen knew nothing about this proposal until TV18 Did a Story 1 day a few weeks ago. Otherwise No One would have learned of this until it

Was TOO LATE.

Marty Green

Former General Manager of WAXX Radio

Former Member of the Eau RDA

Citizen of Eau Claire and Wisconsin for over 50 years

My Grand Parents Migrated from Russia & Poland

So I am not against welcoming new people Legally here in our Country State or City



**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:40:40 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Derek Thomas" <Derek.Thomas@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:05:07 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 5/12  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 05 12 2023.pdf

Hello all –

Topics in this week's Update include:

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** Q&A on Triaging Tree Removal, Housing Survey, More Thank Yous to Street Crews, Hmong Chamber of Commerce Open House, World Relief, PERM Program, Some Prevention Updates, Managing Risk Article, Chippewa River Trail Tree Removal
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Rebecca Scharlau
- **A Few More Pictures**

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 25 Sep 2023 15:48:49 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 9/25  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 09 25 2023.pdf

Hello Council Members –

Sorry for the delay on this. We, internally, are trying to figure out a way to have just one newsletter that goes out weekly to the Council, the staff, and the public. We're trying to determine the best email marketing/newsletter platform to use. In the meantime, here's this week's. (And you'll get it again in the new format...)

Feel free to share any feedback or suggestions!

Stephanie

-  
-

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Eau Claire Administrator" <webmaster@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 19:00:48 +0000  
**To:** "" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin

**Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin**

**Date:** 10/23/2023 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM  
**Location:** L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
[400 Eau Claire St.](#)  
[Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701](#)

\*\*This is a community event that may be of interest to the Chippewa Valley community at-large. It is not hosted or organized by the City of Eau Claire.\*\*

From [World Relief Wisconsin](#):

"Today, there are over 100 million people around the globe who have been forced, or made the painful choice, to leave their home. After years of fleeing violence, famine and extreme poverty, their greatest hope is that they'll find a safe place to rebuild their lives and call home.

At World Relief, we've welcomed, advocated for, and helped integrate over 400,000 immigrants in vulnerable situations to communities all across our nation. And we've done so with the help of bold and compassionate women and men just like you.

We invite you to join us for a conversation exploring how individuals in the Chippewa Valley can provide love, welcome and support"

October 23, 2023  
6pm - 7pm  
L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library - top floor conference room  
Eau Claire, WI

To learn more about World Relief Wisconsin and to register for this event, visit the [World Relief Wisconsin Community Gathering Page](#).

Having trouble viewing this email? [View on the website instead](#).

[Change your eNotification preference](#).

[Unsubscribe from all City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin eNotifications.](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:14 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andwerth@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Tess Morgan" <tess.morgan@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:06:16 -0500  
**To:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Alia Johnson" <Alia.Johnson@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "apmlw@ap.org" <apmlw@ap.org>; "Benjamin Hundt" <Benjamin.Hundt@eauclairewi.gov>; "Bridget Coit" <Bridget.Coit@eauclairewi.gov>; "Carrie Riepl" <Carrie.Riepl@eauclairewi.gov>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Chris Kirchman" <kirchmca@uwec.edu>; "Colleen Schian" <Colleen.Schian@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Elizabeth Giese (elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us)" <elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Herzog, Chris" <chris@stokesherzog.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "John Murphy" <murphy@wayy790.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Julian Emerson" <julianemersonec@gmail.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kelly Shea" <Kelly.Shea@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Kelsey Brunner" <Kelsey.Brunner@eauclairewi.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Liam Marlaire" <liam.marlaire@ecpc.com>; "Librarian" <librarian@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Matt Milner - Editor L-T" <Matt.Milner@ecpc.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "news@chippewa.com" <news@chippewa.com>; "news@midwestfamilyec.com" <news@midwestfamilyec.com>; "News8@wkb.com" <News8@wkb.com>; "newsroom@ecpc.com" <newsroom@ecpc.com>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Nick Meyer" <nick@volumeone.org>; "Progressive Media Network" <jgragert@gmail.com>; "Rebecca Draeger" <Rebecca.Draeger@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Recreation" <Recreation@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Rep. Jodi Emerson" <rep.emerson@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Richard Kremer (richard.kremer@wpr.org)" <richard.kremer@wpr.org>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Scott Rogers" <rogers@eauclairechamber.org>; "Spectator" <C-J02@uwec.edu>; "Spectrum News - Wisconsin" <SpectrumNewsWI@charter.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tom Giffey" <giffey@volumeone.org>; "UWEC - Communication & Journalism" <cj.dept@uwec.edu>; "UW-EC Integrated Marketing & Communications Team" <imc@uwec.edu>; "Volume One - Editorial" <editorial@volumeone.org>; "WEAU (news@weau.com)" <news@weau.com>; "Wisconsin Free Press" <newsfreepress@gmail.com>; "WQOW NEWS" <news@wqow.com>; "WWIB" <WWIB@WWIB.COM>  
**Subject:** Public Notices  
**Attachments:** Public Notices--101923.pdf

City Council Public Hearing – 10/23 CANCELLED  
City Council Legislative Session – 10/24  
Housing Authority – 10/24  
South Barstow BID Entertainment Committee – 10/24  
DECI Parking and Infrastructure Committee – 10/25  
South Barstow BID Outreach & Special Projects – 10/25  
BIPOC Steering Committee – 10/26  
DECI Executive committee – 10/26  
North Barstow/Medical BID Executive Committee – 10/26  
Waterways and Parks Commission – CANCELLED  
City Council Invitation to Community Informational Meeting “Who is my Neighbor?” – 10/23  
City Council Invitation to Fire Department Swearing-In Ceremony – 11/2

## Tess Morgan

Media/Communications Specialist

P: 715.839.4902

E: Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.gov

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 08:21:47 -0500  
**To:** "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Community Gathering

Thank you for letting me know

---

**From:** Charles Johnson <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 8:21 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

I am going to try and attend this meeting.

Thanks,

**Charlie Johnson**

Eau Claire City Council

[Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com)

651.491.5888



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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.

Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Sheila Wilkinson" <skwilkin@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 00:44:35 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that World Relief and the state of Wisconsin failed to abide by 8 US Code 1522 in that they failed to include the local governments in their decision to bring refugees to Eau Claire. They claim to have spoken to the city manager, but that individual is not an elected person.

Consequently, the people of Eau Claire are not being represented in this major decision. Other cities which have invited so many refugees have suffered from high tax increases that occur after the federal and state funds run out.

We have many people on fixed incomes that are not even keeping up with the inflation rate now and certainly cannot afford more increases.

I ask you to please halt this process. Disregarding 8 US Code 1522 is illegal, and the people need to have a voice.

Sincerely,  
Sheila Wilkinson

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 13:44:58 -0500  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson"  
<emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry  
Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann"  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

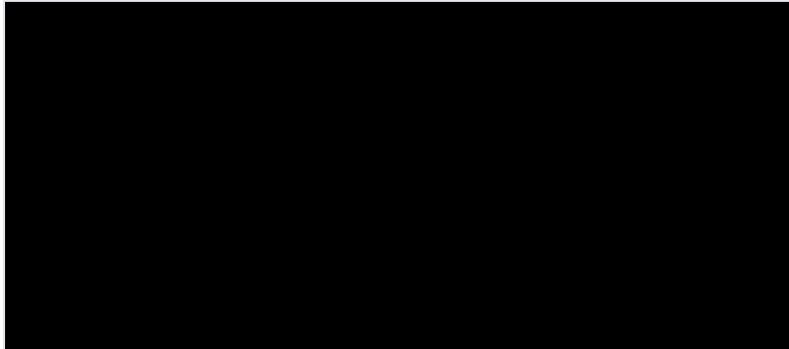
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:40:40 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Derek Thomas" <Derek.Thomas@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Terry Wilkinson" <joyous\_praise@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:43:55 +0000  
**To:** "Terry Wilkinson" <joyous\_praise@yahoo.com>  
**Bcc:** "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that the city council abdicated its responsibility in the decision about refugees (8 US Code 1522) by delegating it to the city manager.

Taxes will go up once federal aid ends. People on fixed incomes and people who are not well-off will be hurt the most. We need to consider all members of our society in making these decisions.

Our country was founded on the principle that we should not have taxation without representation. The city manager is not an elected official. A decision this major should not be made by an unelected official.

The people of the city need a voice in the decision whether it is by a referendum or through their elected officials.

Sincerely,  
Terry Wilkinson

**From:** "Wilkinson Jennifer" <wilkinsonja@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 17:45:58 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that the city council let the unelected city manager make an important decision concerning refugees, a decision that should have been addressed by our elected officials (8 US Code 1522).

Once federal aid ends, our taxes will go up. Low-income families and people on fixed incomes will be hurt the most by these tax increases.

We should have no taxation without representation. This principle was central in the birth of our nation, and we must continue to live by it.

The people of Eau Claire need a voice in the decision about refugees. This could be by referendum or a vote by our elected officials. The decision must not be delegated to an unelected official.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Wilkinson

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 10:04:22 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Hi Ka,

I wanted to reach out because I've received some communication (in addition to the public comment we heard last night) with concerns about the refugee resettlement that tapped into existing narratives about immigration. I think there may be some fear-driven conversations happening in the community and while I imagine World Relief has experience building relationships and breaking down barriers of fear in communities, I just wanted to make sure I raised the alert.

Thanks  
Emily

PS Thanks for this invitation - unfortunately I have work commitments at that time.

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 8:55:33 AM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 16:19:11 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Not a sad good bye

Thanks for all your work, Ka! Will miss you but look forward to the good work you will do at World Relief.

Ua Tsaug,

Emily

**From:** Ka Vang

**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 2:40:29 PM

**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones

**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) *Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023*

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire  
203 S. Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:15 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: World Relief Community Gathering

I'm out of town and will be checking email again Monday 10/23.

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:49 -0500  
**To:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee  
Resettlement office in Eau Claire

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:04:21 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

What time is it at? Thanks

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM

**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch

**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.

Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:40:03 -0500  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Hi Matt,

Hello from Green Bay. I wanted to forward this meeting information about an event tonight. As you can see below, a group opposed to World Relief's resettlement of refugees in Eau Claire will be meeting VFW from 7-9 pm.

Given the emotionally charged tenor of some of the comments we've received on this topic, I'm a bit concerned.

Tonight, some advocates who support refugee settlement in Eau Claire, volunteers from the Welcoming New Neighbors Group, plan to attend the meeting at the VFW. Naturally there will be disagreement, but hopefully it is a productive, de-escalating conversation.

My questions are:

- 1 - Public safety. Would a police presence be advisable at the event tonight, and/or at the World Relief info event next week, or a future council public hearing? Is a public safety strategy something that needs to be considered on this topic?
2. Outreach. Would ECPD be a good, de-escalating "messenger" to the public in clarifying that people do not need to be afraid?

Thanks,  
Emily

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents. I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305

1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:45:29 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

Thank you! I am going to try to come - may have a work event but I think I may be able to get out of it. Registering.

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:18:25 PM  
**To:** Emily Anderson  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Community Gathering

6:00-7:00, link to register:

[Who Is My Neighbor - Community Gathering - World Relief](#)

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**From:** Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:04 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

What time is it at? Thanks

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.

Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:08:42 -0500  
**To:** "justin.preacher@gmail.com" <justin.preacher@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Welcoming the stranger - an invitation for Monday

Hi Justin,

In case you haven't already been invited, here's a link to register for a conversation at the library with World Relief, a Christian organization that is new to Eau Claire (but has been in Wisconsin and around the world for quite a while). World Relief is working to resettle refugees in Eau Claire. I know you've been interested in immigrant issues in the past, and I wanted to reach out to you, as a religious leader, and also to any members of your church who may want to learn more information or get involved.

[https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/?](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/)

I've seen some misconceptions floating around on social media about refugee resettlement and what that means as well, and I'm hopeful that community conversations like this one can provide information that frees people from fear so they can welcome their neighbors with love.

Thanks,  
Emily

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 17:20:39 -0500  
**To:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:05:07 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 5/12  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 05 12 2023.pdf

Hello all –

Topics in this week's Update include:

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** Q&A on Triaging Tree Removal, Housing Survey, More Thank Yous to Street Crews, Hmong Chamber of Commerce Open House, World Relief, PERM Program, Some Prevention Updates, Managing Risk Article, Chippewa River Trail Tree Removal
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Rebecca Scharlau
- **A Few More Pictures**

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 25 Sep 2023 15:48:49 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 9/25  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 09 25 2023.pdf

Hello Council Members –

Sorry for the delay on this. We, internally, are trying to figure out a way to have just one newsletter that goes out weekly to the Council, the staff, and the public. We're trying to determine the best email marketing/newsletter platform to use. In the meantime, here's this week's. (And you'll get it again in the new format...)

Feel free to share any feedback or suggestions!

Stephanie

-  
-

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 6 Oct 2023 20:11:54 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: FROM /MARTY

[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org)

**TV 18 REPORTS**

**WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL**

**Bringing 75 families of immigrants to Eau Claire**

Legal immigration BUILT AMERICA\  
{MY GRAND PARENTS NO LESS

Are these New (75} IMMIGRATES predicted to be settled here BY  
World Relief Global active Wi since 2012 in Appleton

**COMING HERE LEGALLY** and **VETTED PROPERLY** is the  
**ONLY RIGHT QUESTION**

**If they are Then how will they be housed Educated and Supported and be  
EMPLOYED?**

QUESTIONS

October 23<sup>rd</sup> at LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY Informational session OPEN TO THE PUBLIC'  
TIME TBA MUST answer these questions

---

Marty



## [Marty Green](#)

CLICK on Name for Video

2006 Wisconsin Broadcasters Hall of Fame

60 years in Broadcasting former MGR of WAXX/WAYY

[Greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:Greenmarty1943@gmail.com)

Use this E Mail in the future not my Charter E Mail

715 834 2987 or {Cell } 559 2807

--

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

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10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 10:43:55 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Thanks Emily.

---

**From:** Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 10:04 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Hi Ka,

I wanted to reach out because I've received some communication (in addition to the public comment we heard last night) with concerns about the refugee resettlement that tapped into existing narratives about immigration. I think there may be some fear-driven conversations happening in the community and while I imagine World Relief has experience building relationships and breaking down barriers of fear in communities, I just wanted to make sure I raised the alert.

Thanks

Emily

PS Thanks for this invitation - unfortunately I have work commitments at that time.

---

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 8:55:33 AM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)



**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
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10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:14 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andwerth@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:18:25 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Community Gathering

6:00-7:00, link to register:

[Who Is My Neighbor - Community Gathering - World Relief](#)

---

**From:** Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:04 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

What time is it at? Thanks

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 07:36:12 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] TV18 IMMIGRATION MEETING COVERAGE {OR NON COVERASGE}

Dear Citizens:

If you watched the TV18 Coverage of the Meeting on IMMIGRATION coming to Eau Claire

Like me you were TERRIBLY DISSAPOINTED in how this meeting was Represented by TV18's reporter

TAXATION without REPRESENTATION was the NEVER MENTIONED in this very Biased Reporting.

CK OUT

[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG)

for WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL  
And its GOALS for 75 Families  
Coming to Eau Claire

CLICK ON TV18 NEWS for their Story about the meeting at the VFW

Marty Green

PS if fighting the WATER PLANT was TOUGH this is TOUGHER.  
OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup> at the LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY we must participate  
But you Need To Sign Up to even attend this WORLD RELIEF EFFORT

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 13:44:58 -0500  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson"  
<emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry  
Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann"  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

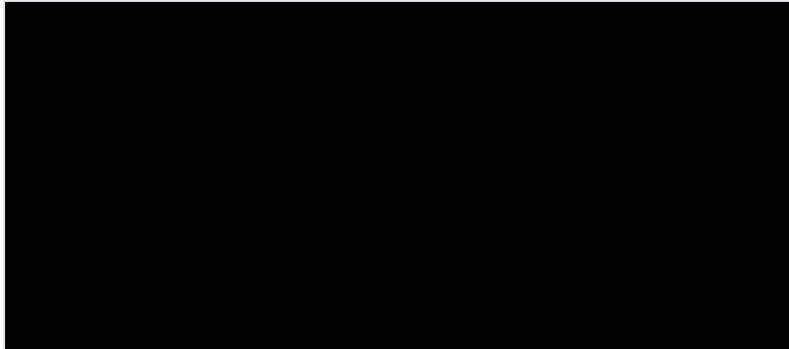
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "email" <jjmmjr@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 19:21:04 -0500  
**To:** "" <Emily.Anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugees

What is going on? There's a meeting Monday night with World Relief Wisconsin??? Did your council authorized "refugees" in Eau Claire?? Who's paying for that? Not in any of your meeting minutes. We don't need illegals here...they should be deported. This city should not become San Francisco, New York, or Chicago. So illegal.

Sent from my iPad

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 12:03:16 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] more INFO IMMIGRATION MTG MONDAY 6 PM LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY

.com>

---

**From:** Cyndi Burton <[cyndimburton@gmail.com](mailto:cyndimburton@gmail.com)>

Register for the meeting at the Eau Claire library and let them know how many people care about this. Monday night, October 23, 2023 6:00-7:00pm. Information session on World Relief at LE Phillips Library. You can register for the meeting here: <https://worldrelief.org/.../who-is-my-neighbor-community.../>

**Is this NGO even operating legally?** Excerpt from 8 US Code 1522

The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities.

Notice the word "**SHALL**". It does not say **MAY**. This process must be adhered to and they did not.

Contact city council members with your concerns about the lack of inclusion of our elected representatives in this process and about the blatant lack of transparency about the use of our tax dollars in our community. <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/.../city.../city-council-members>

And/or rally at the library 5:30-7:00. Bring signs if you wish.

**Democracy Dies in Darkness**

**No Taxation Without Representation**

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



### **World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSCHINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support Opening.pdf

This Letter was sent to  
Holly Herrera  
Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
US DEPT OF STATE  
Washington DC  
5/15/2023

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**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:40:40 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Derek Thomas" <Derek.Thomas@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Susan Hintgen" <sghintgen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 19:32:58 -0500  
**To:** "" <Emily.Anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed Refugee Resettlement

Dear Ms. Anderson,

Thank you for your service to Eau Claire.

I am writing to you to express my concern about the possible establishment of a World Relief VOLAG (voluntary non-governmental agency) in Eau Claire, which would initially spearhead the resettlement of 75 refugees in the City of Eau Claire and the surrounding area.

I have just finished reading ‘**8 US Code 1522**-Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees’. The first concern I noted was in Section a (1) (B) (iii), which states that “local voluntary agency activities should be conducted in close cooperation and advance consultation with State and local governments.” Based on the information I have, I do not believe that this has occurred.

Furthermore, Section a (2) (A) states that “the Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities.” Which local officials knew about this, and were consulted? Again, I do not believe that this has occurred, and therefore the law has not been followed.

All of this was new to me as of last week. I do not know of any local citizen who was aware that this is being considered. Why wouldn’t the government, citizens and taxpayers of Eau Claire be apprised of such an impactful proposal? Why wouldn’t local shareholders like businesses, hospitals, churches, and school administrators be advised? Especially since after the first 90 days here, the responsibility for refugee job-training, language-learning, housing, medical expenses, education, etc. passes from the World Relief VOLAG to the Eau Claire taxpayers. And if 75 refugees arrive the first year, how many other refugees (e.g., family members and others) will follow the next year?

I ask that you investigate what is being proposed, and halt this “intended distribution of refugees,” not because they are refugees, but because Eau Claire already has a large homeless population, a shortage of affordable housing, and illegal immigrants coming here from our open southern border.

Sincerely,

Susan Hintgen  
404 West Fillmore Ave.  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
[sghintgen@gmail.com](mailto:sghintgen@gmail.com)

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 16 Oct 2023 09:15:34 -0500  
**To:** "Franklin, John Gallagher" <FRANKLJG6196@uwec.edu>  
**Subject:** Fw: City Manager's Weekly Update 10/13/2023: Regional Growth, Creative Problem Solving, Covid Updates

Hello John,

Nice meeting you in person this morning. Here is the City Manager's weekly update. You can sign up for future updates with the link she provides below. If you ever want more information on anything, please don't hesitate to reach out. I am thankful for our journalism partners to get the word out.

Also here is the link for our boards, commissions, and committees if you know of anyone that is interested... <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/government/boards-commissions-committees>

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Eau Claire Administrator <webmaster@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 3:01 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** City Manager's Weekly Update 10/13/2023: Regional Growth, Creative Problem Solving, Covid Updates

## **City Manager's Weekly Update 10/13/2023: Regional Growth, Creative Problem Solving, Covid Updates**

**Post Date:** 10/13/2023 8:38 AM

Hello City of Eau Claire residents, staff, and Council Members,  
I'm writing to share news from the City of Eau Claire. We are using a new format to send news out. [Prior updates can be found here](#). Take a look at our weekly newsletter to stay on top of what we are working on. Pass it along to friends who can [sign up for different City updates here](#). We welcome you at Council Meetings, Neighborhood Association Meetings, Library Events, and

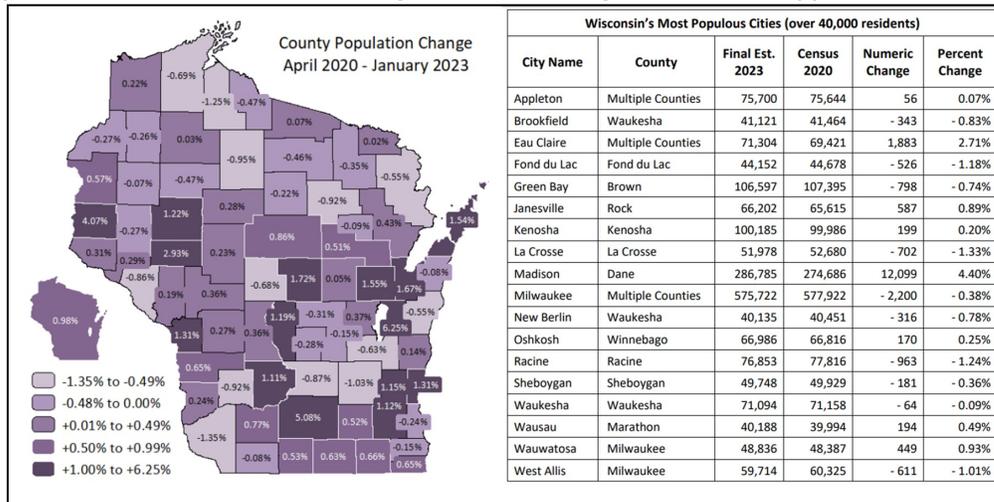
anywhere else that City work takes place. Bear with us as we work out any kinks of this new approach! Also, feel free to [send me feedback](#).

**CITY UPDATES:** Here's some news from around the city.

**2024 Budget Development Continues:** This past week, we held a public hearing and a work session on the 2024 budget. This included an overview of the finances, along with a list of changes we are proposing in the 2024 budget. We also shared accomplishments from 2023 and goals for 2024. Please find the material here: [Budget | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#) We welcome you to join the conversation at a second public hearing on the budget, which is scheduled for Monday, November 13th

**Seventh Biggest City:** This week, the Wisconsin Department of Administration released final population estimates for counties and municipalities as of January 1st, 2023. The City of Eau Claire and Eau Claire County continue to show strong growth: This document provides the most basic summary: [https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/Final\\_Ests\\_Summary\\_2023.pdf](https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/Final_Ests_Summary_2023.pdf)

The City of Eau Claire, according to this estimate, has now passed the City of Waukesha, to become the seventh largest city in the State of Wisconsin. Compared to the 2020 Census, the City of Eau Claire has gained 1,883 residents, a 2.71 percent increase, second only to Madison in both numerical gain and percentage increase for cities above 40,000 people in the state. Perhaps even more interesting, there isn't a single other city above 40,000 people that grew by even 1 percent during this period, and most cities (10 of the 18) above 40,000 people actually lost population during this period. Note that the City of Altoona has had incredible growth between the 2020 Census and January 1st, 2023: An increase of 1,027 people, or 12.38 percent! (Thank you to Council Member Gragert for creating this summary).



**COVID-19 Continues to be High:** As of this week, COVID-19 activity in Eau Claire remained higher than in previous months, according to wastewater data. Right now, the amount of COVID being found in Eau Claire's wastewater remains at a "very high" level (on a scale of very low to very high). The updated fall COVID vaccine is in the process of being made available to the public. As it's being distributed to vaccinators, vaccine supply is temporarily

limited, and appointment availability will vary from provider to provider. We expect availability to increase soon and vaccine appointments to become widely available in Eau Claire County in the coming weeks. People who have health insurance should plan to get the vaccine at their doctor's office or local pharmacy. Most health insurance plans will fully cover the cost of getting the fall COVID vaccine at an in-network provider. The Health Department is not offering mass COVID vaccination clinics this fall, but people who don't have health insurance or people whose insurance doesn't cover vaccinations can get a fall COVID vaccine at the Health Department at no cost through the federal Bridge to Access Program. For those who are uninsured or those whose health insurance doesn't cover vaccinations, please call us at 715-839-4718 to schedule a vaccination appointment. Not sure if you're up to date on your COVID vaccines? [Find out here](#). Another round of free mail-order COVID tests is now available! Every household can place an order to get four rapid home tests delivered for free to their home. To order, visit [www.covid.gov/tests](http://www.covid.gov/tests) or call 1-800-232-0233. You can sign up to get these emails directly if you are interested. Please do not hesitate to contact our department if you are interested in more information: [echealth@eau Claire County.gov](mailto:echealth@eau Claire County.gov) or through our general phone number: 715-839-4718.

**Voices of the Valley:** Students from a CVTC class recently presented stories of immigration, including stories of their homelands, their moves to the United States, and their lives in Eau Claire. They had worked with an English Language Instructor from CVTC, Alyssa Hedenstrom, to refine the stories and compile them to share. You can read all of their stories here: [CVTC Blog | Chippewa Valley Technical College](#)

**CVTC BLOG ARTICLES**

		
VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET EMINE AKIN TUNALI	VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET OUMOU TANGARA	VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET KEUM HEE (ROSA) CHOI

The event, called "CVTC Voices of the Valley," was held at the Library. Deputy City Manager Dave Solberg and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator Dr. Ka Vang also shared comments on immigration. Here's the text of Ka and Dave's comments:

**From Dr. Ka Vang (EDI Coordinator)**

"As a refugee myself, I am so excited to support the Voices of the Valley event tonight. The promise of new opportunities and brighter future was enough to entice my parents to make the decision to bring our whole family to America in 1979, after the Secret War in Laos. As we continue to embrace our new home

and carve our path, I will never forget the sacrifices my parents made so that I can be here.

There is a common theme from Voices of the Valley: Immigrant Stories from Students of Chippewa Valley Technical College -- leaving everything you know behind and learning to adjust to:

- new home,
- new country,
- new people,
- new customs,
- new, new, ect.,

all for various reasons... like leaving due to war and violence or leaving because of a love connection.

Just know that what you have written in this collection is not finished. Your journey just started. There will be more to your story. I encourage you to continue to document and write your story. Leave your footprint here in the Chippewa Valley for generations to come. Your stories and your voices add to the richness of The City of Eau Claire. Thank you for choosing to make the Chippewa Valley your home.”

**From Dave Solberg (Deputy City Manager)**

“As a father of two immigrants and a staff member of the City of Eau Claire, I wanted to express how important the immigrant community is to western Wisconsin, the City of Eau Claire, and myself personally. A diverse community is a strong community. The fabric of who we are as a society is made up of so many different colors, shapes, sizes, and fabrics...it’s the diversity of everyone that makes us a colorful, strong, vibrant community. Reading the stories in the collection, it is also striking how similar the stories are to everyday life in our area. We’re all humans with stories to tell.

It is common for students going on to secondary education and young adults entering the workforce to struggle with the transition...now consider attempting this while learning the English language at the same time. The achievements that they have made are remarkable given their challenges. Their achievements are testaments to their hard work, character, resilience, and desire to make themselves better and make us all better. In fact, these are the exact qualities we look for in employees at the City, and I hope a number of our new friends consider bringing their diversity and talents to our organization!”

**QUESTION AND ANSWERS:** Here are some questions that have come through the City Manager’s Office this week. *Have a question you’d like answered? [Submit it here.](#)*

**Traffic Law Enforcement**

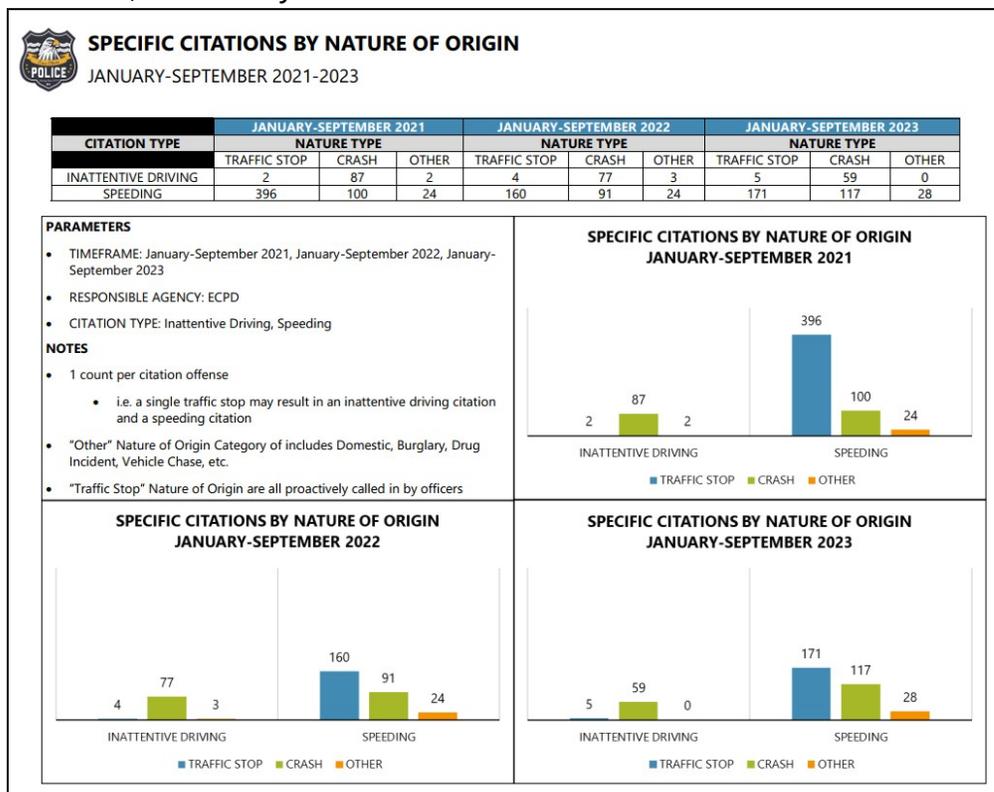
Question: “How does the Police Department handle traffic enforcement?”

Answer: Chief Matt Rokus shared the following information: “Resident concerns about speeding and traffic safety are frequently shared with us.

Concerns related to speed and traffic safety are triaged and prioritized amongst other types of issues and complaints, such as burglaries, car prowlers, drug houses, quality of life issues associated with homelessness, loud parties, underage alcohol consumption, and others.

Our Patrol Officers and their supervisors do their best to prioritize proactive traffic safety efforts in geographic areas where we have more crashes, as determined by data analysis, resident complaints, and officer observations. To provide the proactive focus, we allocate officer time to enforcement in the target areas. However, their time available is limited given the percent of time they are obligated responding to calls for service.

The table below contains some basic information related to traffic citations. The two main categories of traffic enforcement come from two types of incidents -- proactive traffic stops or enforcement following traffic-related incidents, most likely crashes."



### Trick-or-Treating

**Question:** "Will the City share information about trick-or-treating protocols?"

**Answer:** Media and Communications Specialist Tess Morgan shared: "The City of Eau Claire does not designate official tick-or-treat hours for the community. Aside from some safety reminders for kids and motorists, and helping to publicize the DECI Downtown event, we don't post about Halloween. In the past, individual neighborhoods have chosen to hold their own events when it's convenient for their area, but otherwise it's generally understood that trick-or-treating occurs on the holiday itself, October 31st, with the hours of 5-7:30PM still being relatively light out and therefor safer for kids to be visiting neighbors."

## **Park Planning**

Question: “Could a park be changed significantly without a public planning process?”

Answer: Our Parks Manager, Steve Plaza, shared the following feedback: “Any proposed changes to parks go through a planning process that includes review by nearby neighborhoods, the Waterways and Parks Commission, and the City Council. In general, park developments try to follow the parks and open space master plan, which will be updated this year. The purpose of the plan is described on page 11:

‘Parks and recreation programs and services are important to the overall quality of life and Eau Claire Parks, Recreation, and Forestry plays an integral role in the quality of life of all of Eau Claire’s citizens and visitors. The purpose of the System Master Plan is to serve as a guide for all programming, services, and operations of the department. Further, the System Master Plan will provide insight into ongoing industry trends and changes within the community, serve to assess levels of service provided to the community, evaluate available resources, and develop a prioritized action plan approved by the City Manager and City Council.’”

**EAUSTAT NEWS:** The City holds weekly meetings with departments to talk about their data, their goals, and any challenges they may be facing. This program is called "EauStat". Read on below for some data from the meetings we held this week.

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** This past week, we held an EDI EauStat meeting at which we discussed the many big projects underway in this department. We are sad to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley.

Starting Monday, Ka will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She’ll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka’s family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire’s continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, CVTC, other community organizations, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited an EDI Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society’s biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We’ll miss Ka, and we are happy she’s

staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy. Ka is pictured below (on the left) with a student tour. Please spread the word about our search for our next EDI Coordinator! [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) This person will have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive.



**Human Resources:** This past week, we held an HR EauStat meeting. In our EauStat meetings, we talk about the work that the HR Department does. One of their main duties is to recruit, hire, and work to retain employees. With the current labor shortage and dramatic increase in wages due to inflation, municipalities have been struggling to recruit and retain employees. Our HR Department has done a great job trying to manage these challenges. We regularly monitor the number of recruitments underway (see image below for our numbers for 2023 YTD). The bulk of our recruitments are for the numerous seasonal employees we have, and this takes a lot of effort, however, it also provides a critical service to constituents, while also helping to mentor many young people. We are working to develop and monitor a “retention rate” metric, as we work to identify metrics for all of our departments. Also, we are working with a consultant to create an “Employer of Choice” plan to try to increase retention and quality of life for our employees.

# Positions Filled	# Filled Internally	# Filled Externally
264	129	135

**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:** We have the best employees! Get to know one of them this week. (And [submit your suggestion for an employee to spotlight here...](#))

Today we highlight **Renae Casper**. A co-worker said this about Renae: “Renae answers lot of tough questions from residents, many of whom are animated, and answers them politely and with aplomb. Renae has also worked very hard with her predecessor, Rebecca Draeger, to put on employee appreciation events. The employee appreciation lunch was a big success and even brought in some retired employees. The cornhole tournament was also a hit. Renae has also helped fill in for her coworkers when they are absent and is very reliable.”

Here’s some more information about Renae (pictured below with her family and dog):

- **Your Position:** “I am one of two Administrative Associates for the Engineering Department. I’ve been with the city since January of this year.”
- **Something People May Not Know:** “I was born and lived in Cheyenne, WY until I was nine years old.
- **Favorite Activity:** “I enjoy traveling, going to Minnesota sporting events, attending music festivals and concerts. I enjoy playing volleyball and attending CrossFit classes.”
- **Thing about Working for City:** “I love that I am proud of where I work. Everyone here does what they can day in and day out to really make Eau Claire thrive. I also feel that I am supported in any decisions that I make and that my co-workers genuinely care about my well-being, both personally and professionally.”
- **Life Philosophy:** “Always be kind. You never know who you are talking to.”

- Anything else? “I am obsessed with dogs, so feel free to stop by with yours to say hello!”



### **SHOUT-OUTS**

**Creative Problem Solving:** Our Streets Division does not get as many shout-outs as they deserve, in part because the work they do is more specialized and behind-the-scenes than some other divisions. Here’s an awesome shout-out to a team from the Streets Division that captures how creative they are in finding technical solutions in our budget-constrained environment. Read about both the original, unique, way to clean the street sweeper and then the much-improved method that our very skilled tradespeople built...

Community Services Director Lane Berg wrote:

“I want to share some work that was done by our Street Division recently that I am extremely proud of. I am continually amazed by the vast skill set of our employees and this is a shining example of that!

Some of our street sweepers have a ‘not so great’ system for washing them out at the end of a shift. It requires operating a fire hydrant and discharging water onto the pavement. The sweeper must drive over the wet pavement and vacuum up the water. The load of water and debris is then dumped and the process is repeated until the machine is deemed clean. As you can imagine, this is an inefficient system and is also disruptive to any neighboring properties.

Our employees reached out to supervisor Tim Anderson to see if they could work on coming up with a better system, and they were granted approval. The group was led by Jeff Wilczek, who sought input from many of his co-workers. The team developed a concept, designed the system, and built it with no help from outside contractors or designers, thus saving the City thousands of dollars. The new system (shown in pictures below) is a station that the sweeper backs into. A ball valve is opened which floods the basin, and the sweeper vacuums up the water. The water is then turned off, a drain valve is opened for the basin, and the sweeper dumps the water and debris, while remaining in the same location, and the contents drain to a holding pond. The

process can be repeated, if necessary, in just a couple minutes. This system is so efficient and will save time for years to come at no disruption to residents. I am so incredibly proud of this for several reasons. We had a system that was not very functional, and our employees wanted to improve it. We have so many talented people, and they were allowed to use their skills and knowledge to make this happen. All involved were able to voice their opinions, and the final design reflected this input.

Special thanks to this group of talented people: Tim Anderson, Jeff Wilczek, Rich Bauer, Don Diesterhaft, Ryan Yule, Paul Rosolack, Brady Johnson, Jake Clauson, Joel Thompson, Cory Wright, Justin Meinen, Jericho Jurewicz, and John Rademacher.”



**Water Plant Kudos:** On September 20<sup>th</sup>, the Sustainability Advisory Committee held their monthly meeting at the Water Plant. City staff gave them an in-depth tour of the facility and showed them some of the sustainable features that have been added recently. Staff and the Committee had a great dialogue and used the opportunity to discuss ideas for improved sustainability in the future. Truly a great collaborative effort!

Pictured L to R: Ben Spanel, (Utilities Manager), Cole Cloutier, (Utilities Engineer), Cameron Bump, Brian Graff, James Schumacher, Janis Tyler, Gary Pesicka (Committee Members) and Joe Dahl, (Water Plant Supervisor).



## **COUNCIL CALENDAR**

- Monday, October 23rd: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
- Tuesday, October 24th: Council Meeting (City Council Operating Budget Work Session #4 – Amendment Discussion)
- *November 3rd – City Council Budget Amendments Due*
- Monday, November 6th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion (with Housing Study presentation)
- Monday, November 13th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night (Public Hearing #2 on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget)
- Tuesday, November 14th: Council Meeting (City Council action on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget and levy)
- Monday, December 18th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion

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**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 18:05:53 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR meeting monday at 6pm  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-168192552277516ab9e7c-de7d-4f1a-9888-6e17c3a6b4c5.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775a263a0bb-e0f9-47e1-9b71-fcfac421167a.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775800e7667-1042-44cc-8755-917b0ba5b137.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775c944d191-def3-480e-a164-ca50fbfa2281.jpg

Hi Ka,

The last few days have been a whirlwind! And yes, I would love to say a few words in support. I think it's very important that the Council President is very clear in her support in Eau Claire being a welcoming community no matter where you were born.

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 2:48:08 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] WR meeting monday at 6pm

Hi Emily,  
Hope you're learning much from the conference.

I'm just wondering if you plan to attend the World Relief community gathering on Monday at 6pm in the library? If you do plan to attend, would you feel comfortable saying a few words of support before WR start their presentation?

I'm also happy to answer any questions you may have, of course keep in mind that this is just day 5 for me in this role ☐

Thanks,

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**  
Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)



**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 18:12:37 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents. I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for](#)

[domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305

1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad

715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 19:11:18 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-1681925522775e5b73dda-0ca0-4c7e-80c8-fb66a3cb24b2.jpg

Hello Anoosheh,

I will be attending the event on Monday. I am sorry for my late reply, I wasn't great at checking my email while at the League conference.

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 11:45:41 -0500  
**To:** "Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin)"  
<Anna\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-1681925522775f2f745b4-d1ef-4c02-ac5b-beb3fa7e3b1f.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775accd0b5c-5fc2-4eb1-a8bb-f4923614a499.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227757db28b5e-d36a-4c22-ba75-ae68ee1d9310.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775b150ccec-2be6-4fea-a5da-070cb1913692.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227756a842e50-5954-4eee-9101-e95a3425da44.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775725f5b5b-1d7d-4ceb-9dc2-0d9ba1eafed4.jpg, OutlookEmoji-168192552277534b06977-2bcb-492a-8038-26054ef1cb87.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227751a4b38da-f646-457b-9426-b63f694ad992.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775f6ed5e4d-bfd2-47a7-ac82-ab2e2ffafc26.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227755c42f989-348c-4218-8a5e-6e690d363d39.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775255aed74-d5a5-4559-9dd2-f873a895d8e9.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775a3d54337-c0c3-4347-a00a-bda8d07b1112.jpg, OutlookEmoji-168192552277523ce30c4-49f9-4e18-ad16-ee69e5553df8.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775746ee699-8b81-443a-8612-ac0704ab4290.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775a4e63be3-928e-496f-b766-1204f4e2c04a.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227753a2cf627-f3f8-4ace-8ecd-b25f4cfd7b2a.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227752b21c5df-b546-4146-9a89-67b7a1aa2060.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775db43bdf5-182b-4eb3-bde8-30ac07d6339f.jpg, OutlookEmoji-168192552277589970cc2-da14-4c05-828b-273592e51f9a.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227750462f5c3-6ec5-4b88-b118-6245896f5c7c.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227758654668c-8e8f-4bf1-afb1-4392d73c9661.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775aac05c85-4381-4200-826e-12e0d7a21815.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227755b0719f4-7c3d-48df-b763-c66f56825580.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775a90d086b-bb1f-47c2-8b25-4d37ff185b10.jpg

Hi Anna,

I just reread my email to you and I must had been really tired last night because I omitted words throughout my message. Yikes.

Anyway, I checked my work calendar and noon works great on Tuesday. We could do ECDC?

Also does the Senator know that Senator Johnson's staffer is organizing groups to protest refugees coming to Eau Claire? World Relief is opening an office in Eau Claire and they are hosting an event Monday at 6pm at the Library about how we can welcome our new neighbors and I have heard this group will be attending the World Relief meeting.

Here is more information on the World Relief meeting in case you are interested in learning more: <https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Here is an article about the meeting that Scott Bolstad organized: [https://www.wqow.com/eye\\_on\\_eau\\_claire/residents-react-to-refugee-resettlement-coming-to-chippewa-valley/article\\_156fdf84-6ef9-11ee-9ad1-6f1aaedf0fa0.html](https://www.wqow.com/eye_on_eau_claire/residents-react-to-refugee-resettlement-coming-to-chippewa-valley/article_156fdf84-6ef9-11ee-9ad1-6f1aaedf0fa0.html)

I will let you know how the event goes on Tuesday. I am looking forward to our conversation.

Thank you for reaching out!

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** Emily Berge  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 6:19:39 PM  
**To:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hi Anna  
Thank you for reaching out. I need to check my work calendar but I am free, I would love to meet up. I will get back to over the weekend (I am just getting home from a conference).

Thanks!

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin) <Anna\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:10:11 AM

**To:** Emily Berge

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hey Emily!

I was reaching out because I'm going to be in the area on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, and I was wondering if you'd have time to grab a cup of coffee downtown over the noon-hour and catch up on all things EC? If you're busy – I absolutely understand, but I wanted to reach out and check!

I hope all has been well.

All the best,

**ANNA RINGSTAD**

*Northwestern Wisconsin Regional Representative*

*Proudly Serving: Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Clark, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor, Vilas, and Washburn counties*

**U.S. SENATOR TAMMY BALDWIN**

PO Box 401

Ladysmith, WI 54848

715-450-3754

Keep up to date by following Tammy online:



[www.baldwin.senate.gov](http://www.baldwin.senate.gov)











**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 13:44:58 -0500  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson"  
<emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry  
Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann"  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:34:28 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Representation

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Becky Hoschouer <beckyhoschouer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 3:36 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Representation

Dear Ms. President,

Please find the email below sent to my Ward 3 city representative today.

Thank you,  
Becky Hoschouer, M.A.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Becky Hoschouer** <[beckyhoschouer@gmail.com](mailto:beckyhoschouer@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Sat, Oct 21, 2023, 3:23 PM  
**Subject:** Representation  
**To:** <[Jeremy.Gragert@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:Jeremy.Gragert@ec-citycouncil.com)>

Hello,

I hope this finds you well.

I am writing as I have heard the issue of elected representation has been bypassed.

Is it true that a contract with World Relief Organization for settling refugees unvetted by our local sheriff and not voted on by my representative, yourself, has been signed by the city manager, who is not an elected entity?

So much of this bypasses state and local law.

I hope this isn't a financial boondoggle such as the county supervisors publicly endured recently regarding misspent tax dollars. It's my understanding that the non-profit covers 90 days and then we pay for interpreters and housing!

We already have a housing shortage and issues with homelessness.

I am also concerned about recent world events. Will the sheriff's office be able to vet these refugees? How much will that cost?

Because democracy dies in darkness, I am relying on you and not the at-large members to represent me. Please speak up on my behalf.

Also, I can't speak for myself because Monday's public meeting is cancelled, but you have been elected to represent me.

Very Respectfully and yet Very Concerned,  
Rebecca Hoschouer, M.A.  
1816 Lloyd Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54701

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:34:58 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 4:58 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

President Berge, I would like to clarify a couple of things that I just learned.

An official from World Relief admitted that she never spoke with any members of the city council, only the city manager. If the city manager did not bring it to the board's attention, that is another matter.

The official from World Relief also confirmed that the refugees will be coming from Somalia. I attended the stakeholder's meeting last week and the word Somalia was never mentioned. That is at least the third lie I have caught them in.

This is not about the refugees it is about the process. World Relief believes that speaking with the local government is speaking with bureaucrats, while many of us believe speaking with local governments is speaking with elected officials. I can also tell you that no one in the county I have spoken to knows anything about this.

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

On Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 03:45:07 PM CDT, Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com> wrote:

President Berge,

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. Did they happen? If so where are the minutes fore these meetings? I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement.

I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for. Did you direct her to sign the document or has she gone rogue...again? If not do you have the authority to approve this action? Is the goal here to keep any blame for this off of the city council?

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? Not what World Relief has told you, but what the actual country of origin is? I was told it was one of two countries.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this.

I look forward to your response

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359



**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:34:39 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 3:45 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement

President Berge,

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

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dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

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We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this.

I look forward to your response

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:34:04 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Sheila Wilkinson <skwilkin@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 7:46 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Council President,

I understand that World Relief and the state of Wisconsin failed to abide by 8 US Code 1522 in that they failed to include the local governments in their decision to bring refugees to Eau Claire. They claim to have spoken to the city manager, but that individual is not an elected person.

Consequently, the people of Eau Claire are not being represented in this major decision. Other cities which have invited so many refugees have suffered from high tax increases that occur after the federal and state funds run out.

We have many people on fixed incomes that are not even keeping up with the inflation rate now and certainly cannot afford more increases.

I ask you to please halt this process. Disregarding 8 US Code 1522 is illegal, and the people need to have a voice.

Sincerely,  
Sheila Wilkinson

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:35:16 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Refugees

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** email <jjmmjr@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 7:25 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugees

Not happy at all to hear that your city manager authorized World Relief Wisconsin to bring illegals here without the taxpayers knowledge

Sent from my iPad

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:36:14 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Melody Boberg <bobergmnew@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 2:47 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

October 20, 2023

Dear Council Member,

My name is Melody Boberg from the Cumberland – Rice Lake area. I am writing to you today about a World Relief refugee office that I heard is opening in Eau Claire. I found out that the gulag this office will create will be a 100-mile radius, which could easily include where I'm from. I am quite concerned as my community cannot afford refugees, and we've seen what these gulags have done to places in MN like Wilmer, Austin, and St. Cloud. These towns have been shredded fiscally, and property taxes continue to jump. I am, also, concerned about our safety. No one knows where these refugees are coming from. It was said the federal government vetted them, and seeing what a "great" job they're doing on our southern border, we all have reason to be greatly concerned. Has anyone from your city council looked at how crime has been affected in one of these gulag cities like St. Cloud since inception?

I am very upset this World Relief office was approved without talking to the taxpayers and all of the stakeholders about it. Is that even legal? What is a big influx of refugees going to do to our schools and health care system and police stations when all the refugees' family members come the second year? I am troubled and concerned for my community and me. Please prevent the opening of this refugee office before we all suffer the consequences.

Sincerely,

Melody Boberg

[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)

2112 13 ¼ Street

Cumberland, WI 54829

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:42:44 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz, image002.emz, image005.emz

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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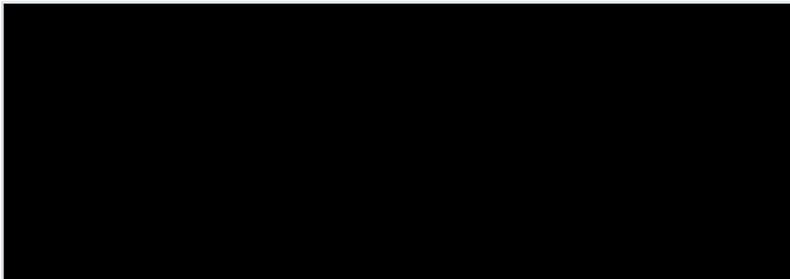
*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** greenmarty1943@gmail.com <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 1:54 PM  
**To:** greenmarty1943@gmail.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees. Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



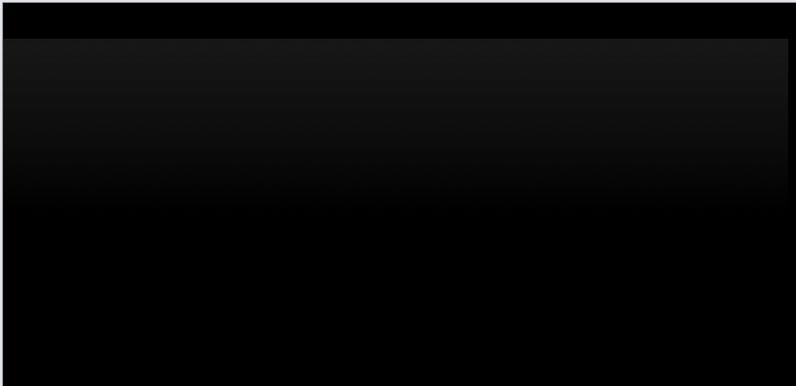


### **Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)





**World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down  
Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }???????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:42:57 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] more INFO IMMIGRATION MTG MONDAY 6 PM LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** greenmarty1943@gmail.com <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 12:03 PM  
**To:** greenmarty1943@gmail.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] more INFO IMMIGRATION MTG MONDAY 6 PM LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY

.com>

---

**From:** Cyndi Burton <[cyndimburton@gmail.com](mailto:cyndimburton@gmail.com)>

Register for the meeting at the Eau Claire library and let them know how many people care about this. Monday night, October 23, 2023 6:00-7:00pm. Information session on World Relief at LE Phillips Library. You can register for the meeting here: <https://worldrelief.org/.../who-is-my-neighbor-community.../>

**Is this NGO even operating legally?** Excerpt from 8 US Code 1522

The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities.

Notice the word "**SHALL**". It does not say **MAY**. This process must be adhered to and they did not.

Contact city council members with your concerns about the lack of inclusion of our elected representatives in this process and about the blatant lack of transparency about the use of our tax dollars in our community. <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/.../city.../city-council-members>

And/or rally at the library 5:30-7:00. Bring signs if you wish.

**Democracy Dies in Darkness**  
**No Taxation Without Representation**

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:57:35 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-1681925522775f6fb3c80-5869-42ec-979e-41240b781ffe.jpg

I was confused too. I didn't even really know what it was until I looked up the word on google.

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 5:37:59 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

Gulag... like a labor/prison camp?

---

**From:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 5:36 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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---

**From:** Melody Boberg <[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 2:47 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

October 20, 2023

Dear Council Member,

My name is Melody Boberg from the Cumberland – Rice Lake area. I am writing to you today about a World Relief refugee office that I heard is opening in Eau Claire. I found out that the gulag this office will create will be a 100-mile radius, which could easily include where I'm from. I am quite concerned as my community cannot afford refugees, and we've seen what these gulags have done to places in MN like Wilmer, Austin, and St. Cloud. These towns have been shredded fiscally, and property taxes continue to jump. I am, also, concerned about our safety. No one knows where these refugees are coming from. It was said the federal government vetted them, and seeing what a "great" job they're doing on our southern border, we all have reason to be greatly concerned. Has anyone from your city council looked at how crime has been affected in one of these gulag cities like St. Cloud since inception?

I am very upset this World Relief office was approved without talking to the taxpayers and all of the stakeholders about it. Is that even legal? What is a big influx of refugees going to do to our schools and health care system and police stations when all the refugees' family members come the second year? I am troubled and concerned for my community and me. Please prevent the opening of this refugee office before we all suffer the consequences.

Sincerely,

Melody Boberg  
[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)  
2112 13 ¼ Street  
Cumberland, WI 54829



**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:16:40 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support Opening.pdf

That didn't take long.

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** greenmarty1943@gmail.com <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 7:10 PM  
**To:** David Minor; Steve Nick; Matt Rokus; BARRON JIM SWENSON; bwstrate@charter.net; CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE; Chippewa Valley Tea Party; CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara; DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM; DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com; DUNN BILL ARNDT; JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com; JOHN JACOBSON; KEVIN NICHOLSON; REP PRONSCHINSKE; Republican DEAN GULLICKSON; Republican Party Eau Claire County; REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD; REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY; ROB SUMMERFIELD; 'ROBIN VOSS'; RUSK TRAVIS EWER; TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS; TOMMY THOMPSON; 'WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}'; warrenpetryk@gmail.com; Andrew Werthmann; CHARLIE JOHNSON; Aaron White; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; JILL CHRISTOPEREN; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; LARRY MbOGA; Roderick Jones; chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us; DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF; EC SHERIFF OFFICE; sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us; ST CROIX SHERIFF  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION

This Letter was sent to”  
Holly Herrera  
Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
US DEPT OF STATE  
Washington DC  
5/15/2023

**From:** Fred Kappus <[jfkappus@charter.net](mailto:jfkappus@charter.net)>

Marty,

Attached is the letter written by the City Manager touting the opening of a World Relief office in Eau Claire.

The question is, did she do this on her own or is the City Council involved as well?

This is the last thing Eau Claire needs is to welcome middle east refugees. Look what happened to Dearborn, Michigan.

Fred

MONDAY AT 6 PM AT THE LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY THIS & Many other questions need to be addressed.

Whether the idea is bring Refugees....or IMMGRANTS from South America or GAZA etc.

Did they Follow US...CODE 8 ...1522 Section 2 and Did Our City Manager have the approval or backing of Our City Council to even send this letter.

Here are some Questions that Citizens have the Right To ask.

Are these Refugees here Legally and How are they Vetted? The ones arriving in Sanctuary cities like New York Chicago Milwaukee are NOT.

Who has responsibility for assisting these immigrants after World Relief or area Church's completes its term of support?

When the Operation is up and Fully operational how many immigrant's will be added each year.

How Long does WORLD RELIEF Assist each immigrant family.?

How much money does WORLD RELIEF receive for Each immigrant ? FROM us government OR THE UN ??????

Who is responsible for their assistance after World Relief completes its TERM OF SUPPORT?

The City of Eau Claire? How will affect our Schools They are UNDER S TAFFED as is our LAW ENFORCEMENT Departments.

Has our co ordinating personnel talked to other cities EXAMPLE..... ST CLOUD MINNESOTA. Or HUDSON WI who rejected this proposal.

Many citizen knew nothing about this proposal until TV18 Did a Story 1 day a few weeks ago. Otherwise No One would have learned of this until it

Was TOO LATE.

Marty Green

Former General Manager of WAXX Radio

Former Member of the Eau RDA

Citizen of Eau Claire and Wisconsin for over 50 years

My Grand Parents Migrated from Russia & Poland

So I am not against welcoming new people Legally here in our Country State or City



**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:48:02 -0500  
**To:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-168192552277540526989-0bda-4733-8ce7-f0417e692d1a.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775bbc4cc9b-b840-4b17-8a11-255f43412cc2.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227753454cf9d-240f-46ba-8865-67184124903a.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775cc2ca29b-f07b-4efb-9de9-9e0102c43d7b.jpg

Thank you, Dave. The tenor of the communication is a bit alarming. This reminds me of the fear and anger of the Covid era. I appreciated the police presence during heightened times then and I appreciate it now.

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Dave Solberg  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 8:40:40 AM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Matt Rokus; Derek Thomas; Nancy Kerr  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

**David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)





**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 11:29:44 -0500  
**To:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-16819255227755898ecfa-6ea5-4503-a332-57cc9a5e89c5.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227751ae407ad-68dc-4b49-a6c7-c7ce5d4d2d5e.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775da085022-320e-48f1-9608-4d496525d05c.jpg

Dear Mr. Bolstad,

There is a lot here and I think it would be best for a phone conversation. I just left you a vm. Feel free to give me a call 715-575-9795.

Thank you,

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 4:58:54 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

President Berge, I would like to clarify a couple of things that I just learned.

An official from World Relief admitted that she never spoke with any members of the city council, only the city manager. If the city manager did not bring it to the board's attention, that is another matter.

The official from World Relief also confirmed that the refugees will be coming from Somalia. I attended the stakeholder's meeting last week and the word Somalia was never mentioned. That is at least the third lie I have caught them in.

This is not about the refugees it is about the process. World Relief believes that speaking with the local government is speaking with bureaucrats, while many of us

believe speaking with local governments is speaking with elected officials. I can also tell you that no one in the county I have spoken to knows anything about this.

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

On Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 03:45:07 PM CDT, Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com> wrote:

President Berge,

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. Did they happen? If so where are the minutes fore these meetings? I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement.

I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for. Did you direct her to sign the document or has she gone rogue...again? If not do you have the authority to approve this action? Is the goal here to keep any blame for this off of the city council?

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? Not what World Relief has told you, but what the actual country of origin is? I was told it was one of two countries.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this.

I look forward to your response

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359



**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 20:24:44 -0500  
**To:** "Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin)"  
<Anna\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

See you tomorrow!

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin) <Anna\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 8:35:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hey Emily,

Don't worry about it – we've all been there! ☐

ECDC sounds excellent, I am free from 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM, so I'll just post up at ECDC and meet you when you arrive. I love coffee shop environments for working and will never turn that down.

Rep. Emerson had texted me over the weekend about the meeting this evening, but I cannot make it. Would you be open to perhaps inviting her along to join us if the main topic is this World Relief meeting? Otherwise, we can keep it just you and I if you have different things you'd like to discuss.

Looking forward to it!

All the best,

**ANNA RINGSTAD**

*Northwestern Wisconsin Regional Representative*

*Proudly Serving: Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Clark, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor, Vilas, and Washburn counties*

**U.S. SENATOR TAMMY BALDWIN**

PO Box 401

Ladysmith, WI 54848  
715-450-3754

Keep up to date by following Tammy online:



[www.baldwin.senate.gov](http://www.baldwin.senate.gov)

---

**From:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 11:46 AM  
**To:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin) <Anna\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hi Anna,

I just reread my email to you and I must have been really tired last night because I omitted words throughout my message. Yikes.

Anyway, I checked my work calendar and noon works great on Tuesday. We could do ECDC?

Also does the Senator know that Senator Johnson's staffer is organizing groups to protest refugees coming to Eau Claire? World Relief is opening an office in Eau Claire and they are hosting an event Monday at 6pm at the Library about how we can welcome our new neighbors and I have heard this group will be attending the World Relief meeting.

Here is more information on the World Relief meeting in case you are interested in learning more: <https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Here is an article about the meeting that Scott Bolstad organized:  
[https://www.wqow.com/eye\\_on\\_eau\\_claire/residents-react-to-refugee-resettlement-coming-to-chippewa-valley/article\\_156fdf84-6ef9-11ee-9ad1-6f1aedef0fa0.html](https://www.wqow.com/eye_on_eau_claire/residents-react-to-refugee-resettlement-coming-to-chippewa-valley/article_156fdf84-6ef9-11ee-9ad1-6f1aedef0fa0.html)

I will let you know how the event goes on Tuesday. I am looking forward to our conversation.

Thank you for reaching out!

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

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**From:** Emily Berge  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 6:19:39 PM  
**To:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hi Anna

Thank you for reaching out. I need to check my work calendar but I am free, I would love to meet up. I will get back to over the weekend (I am just getting home from a conference).

Thanks!

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin) <[Anna\\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov](mailto:Anna_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:10:11 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hey Emily!

I was reaching out because I'm going to be in the area on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, and I was wondering if you'd have time to grab a cup of coffee downtown over the noon-hour and catch up on all things EC? If you're busy – I absolutely understand, but I wanted to reach out and check!

I hope all has been well.

All the best,

**ANNA RINGSTAD**

*Northwestern Wisconsin Regional Representative*

*Proudly Serving: Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Clark, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor, Vilas, and Washburn counties*

**U.S. SENATOR TAMMY BALDWIN**

PO Box 401  
Ladysmith, WI 54848  
715-450-3754

Keep up to date by following Tammy online:



[www.baldwin.senate.gov](http://www.baldwin.senate.gov)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:05:07 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 5/12  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 05 12 2023.pdf

Hello all –

Topics in this week's Update include:

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** Q&A on Triaging Tree Removal, Housing Survey, More Thank Yous to Street Crews, Hmong Chamber of Commerce Open House, World Relief, PERM Program, Some Prevention Updates, Managing Risk Article, Chippewa River Trail Tree Removal
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Rebecca Scharlau
- **A Few More Pictures**

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 25 Sep 2023 15:48:49 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 9/25  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 09 25 2023.pdf

Hello Council Members –

Sorry for the delay on this. We, internally, are trying to figure out a way to have just one newsletter that goes out weekly to the Council, the staff, and the public. We're trying to determine the best email marketing/newsletter platform to use. In the meantime, here's this week's. (And you'll get it again in the new format...)

Feel free to share any feedback or suggestions!

Stephanie

-  
-

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 3 Oct 2023 09:34:39 -0500  
**To:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>; "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Ellie and all –

In case they'd like to comment, I'm looping in:

- Anoosheh Hamzehee, who worked with World Relief to help them learn more about Eau Claire.
- Dr. Ka Vang (our EDI Coordinator);
- Aaron White (our Community Development Director);
- Emily Berge (our Council President); and
- Lieske Geise (our Health Director).

Anoosheh, can you connect Ellie with the key volunteer groups?

The City doesn't have a formal role, however, we support initiatives like this that boost our local workforce capacity and that support the City's strategic vision of "promoting a welcoming, inclusive, and diverse community" from our Strategic Plan and Vision. [637110562312000000 \(eauclairewi.gov\)](https://www.eauclairewi.gov)

A number of community partners do play a bit more formal roles, including the Human Services Department and the City/County Health Department. CVTC and the School District have also been involved as they have different educational programs for English Language Learners.

---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi guys,

Thank you for reaching out! I was looking to do a story on World Relief coming to Eau Claire and how that will impact the city.

Stephanie- would you be the best person to speak with me about this decision from the City of Eau Claire? Also, I was wondering what volunteer groups you collaborated with in the community to make this happen.

Tami- Would you be available for an on-camera pre-recorded interview on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 9:30 a.m.? I think it would be great if we could meet in Eau Claire outside of where the resettlement agency will be located. However, let me know what works for you! Also, let me know if you have any footage you could submit from World Relief for the story.

My apologies for the response at 11 p.m. I am working overnights tonight. ☐ My plan would be to film and edit this story the week of Oct. 16 and then air it that following Monday.

Let me know your thoughts!

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Subject:** World Relief

Hi Ellie –

I have a message from my staff that you're interested in learning more about the World Relief office opening? I'm CCing Tami, who is from World Relief and can give you more details...

Let us know if we can help with anything else!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <ellie.pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Wed, 4 Oct 2023 07:33:02 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise"  
<elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Aaron White"  
<Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-  
citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you for these details! Do you have a specific contact from the school district who you worked with to set up educational programs?

Anoosheh- If you could get me more details about which volunteer groups are helping with the project that would be great.

Let me know if you need anything for me.

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 9:34 AM  
**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Elizabeth Geise <[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Ellie and all –

In case they'd like to comment, I'm looping in:

- Anoosheh Hamzehee, who worked with World Relief to help them learn more about Eau Claire.
- Dr. Ka Vang (our EDI Coordinator);
- Aaron White (our Community Development Director);
- Emily Berge (our Council President); and
- Lieske Geise (our Health Director).

Anoosheh, can you connect Ellie with the key volunteer groups?

The City doesn't have a formal role, however, we support initiatives like this that boost our local workforce capacity and that support the City's strategic vision of "promoting a welcoming, inclusive, and diverse community" from our Strategic Plan and Vision. [637110562312000000 \(eauclairewi.gov\)](https://www.eauclairewi.gov)

A number of community partners do play a bit more formal roles, including the Human Services Department and the City/County Health Department. CVTC and the School District have also been involved as they have different educational programs for English Language Learners.

---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi guys,

Thank you for reaching out! I was looking to do a story on World Relief coming to Eau Claire and how that will impact the city.

Stephanie- would you be the best person to speak with me about this decision from the City of Eau Claire? Also, I was wondering what volunteer groups you collaborated with in the community to make this happen.

Tami- Would you be available for an on-camera pre-recorded interview on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 9:30 a.m.? I think it would be great if we could meet in Eau Claire outside of where the resettlement agency will be located. However, let me know what works for you! Also, let me know if you have any footage you could submit from World Relief for the story.

My apologies for the response at 11 p.m. I am working overnights tonight. ☹️ My plan would be to film and edit this story the week of Oct. 16 and then air it that following Monday.

Let me know your thoughts!

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:16 AM

**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Subject:** World Relief

Hi Ellie –

I have a message from my staff that you're interested in learning more about the World Relief office opening? I'm CCing Tami, who is from World Relief and can give you more details...

Let us know if we can help with anything else!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <ellie.pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Wed, 4 Oct 2023 07:33:02 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise"  
<elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Aaron White"  
<Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-  
citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you for these details! Do you have a specific contact from the school district who you worked with to set up educational programs?

Anoosheh- If you could get me more details about which volunteer groups are helping with the project that would be great.

Let me know if you need anything for me.

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

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News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 9:34 AM  
**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Elizabeth Geise <[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
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**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
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**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Subject:** World Relief

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Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 6 Oct 2023 20:11:54 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: FROM /MARTY

[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org)

**TV 18 REPORTS**

**WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL**

**Bringing 75 families of immigrants to Eau Claire**

Legal immigration BUILT AMERICA\  
{MY GRAND PARENTS NO LESS

Are these New (75} IMMIGRATES predicted to be settled here BY  
World Relief Global active Wi since 2012 in Appleton

**COMING HERE LEGALLY** and **VETTED PROPERLY** is the  
**ONLY RIGHT QUESTION**

**If they are Then how will they be housed Educated and Supported and be  
EMPLOYED?**

QUESTIONS

October 23<sup>rd</sup> at LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY Informational session OPEN TO THE PUBLIC'  
TIME TBA MUST answer these questions

---

Marty



## [Marty Green](#)

CLICK on Name for Video

2006 Wisconsin Broadcasters Hall of Fame

60 years in Broadcasting former MGR of WAXX/WAYY

[Greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:Greenmarty1943@gmail.com)

Use this E Mail in the future not my Charter E Mail

715 834 2987 or {Cell } 559 2807

--

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

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400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:14 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andwerth@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:39:00 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus"  
<Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
Claire

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

Chief Rokus, do you have thoughts on safety? Dave may have more insight on this situation as well...

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
Claire

I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?

Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm 1 <meyersdm 1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning <jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie <gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad <John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield <mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider <katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel <tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk <kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson <missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting,  
October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

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**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 13:57:05 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>

**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT

**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee  
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<dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson  
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<Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren  
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<connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar  
<nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch

<David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue  
<Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning  
<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine  
Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin  
Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather  
DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi  
Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami  
Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle  
Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy  
Christopherson  
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**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 14:31:21 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Hi - I learned that Tami McLaughlin from World Relief will attend tonight to dispel inaccuracies and Dave has been conferring with the ECPD

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 1:57:05 PM  
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**Cc:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
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Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
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**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:40:03 -0500  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Hi Matt,

Hello from Green Bay. I wanted to forward this meeting information about an event tonight. As you can see below, a group opposed to World Relief's resettlement of refugees in Eau Claire will be meeting VFW from 7-9 pm.

Given the emotionally charged tenor of some of the comments we've received on this topic, I'm a bit concerned.

Tonight, some advocates who support refugee settlement in Eau Claire, volunteers from the Welcoming New Neighbors Group, plan to attend the meeting at the VFW. Naturally there will be disagreement, but hopefully it is a productive, de-escalating conversation.

My questions are:

- 1 - Public safety. Would a police presence be advisable at the event tonight, and/or at the World Relief info event next week, or a future council public hearing? Is a public safety strategy something that needs to be considered on this topic?
2. Outreach. Would ECPD be a good, de-escalating "messenger" to the public in clarifying that people do not need to be afraid?

Thanks,  
Emily

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
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Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of  
"greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 07:36:12 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] TV18 IMMIGRATION MEETING COVERAGE {OR NON COVERASGE}

Dear Citizens:

If you watched the TV18 Coverage of the Meeting on IMMIGRATION coming to Eau Claire

Like me you were TERRIBLY DISSAPOINTED in how this meeting was Represented by TV18's reporter

TAXATION without REPRESENTATION was the NEVER MENTIONED in this very Biased Reporting.

CK OUT

[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG)

for WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL  
And its GOALS for 75 Families  
Coming to Eau Claire

CLICK ON TV18 NEWS for their Story about the meeting at the VFW

Marty Green

PS if fighting the WATER PLANT was TOUGH this is TOUGHER.  
OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup> at the LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY we must participate  
But you Need To Sign Up to even attend this WORLD RELIEF EFFORT

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 14:27:56 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus"  
<Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Room\_CH\_Rivers" <Room\_CH\_Rivers@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Meet with Tami(WR)

Meet with Tami from World Relief before their Community meeting

**From:** "Melody Boberg" <bobergmnew@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 14:47:43 -0500  
**To:** "" <Emily.Berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

October 20, 2023

Dear Council Member,

My name is Melody Boberg from the Cumberland – Rice Lake area. I am writing to you today about a World Relief refugee office that I heard is opening in Eau Claire. I found out that the gulag this office will create will be a 100-mile radius, which could easily include where I'm from. I am quite concerned as my community cannot afford refugees, and we've seen what these gulags have done to places in MN like Wilmer, Austin, and St. Cloud. These towns have been shredded fiscally, and property taxes continue to jump. I am, also, concerned about our safety. No one knows where these refugees are coming from. It was said the federal government vetted them, and seeing what a "great" job they're doing on our southern border, we all have reason to be greatly concerned. Has anyone from your city council looked at how crime has been affected in one of these gulag cities like St. Cloud since inception?

I am very upset this World Relief office was approved without talking to the taxpayers and all of the stakeholders about it. Is that even legal? What is a big influx of refugees going to do to our schools and health care system and police stations when all the refugees' family members come the second year? I am troubled and concerned for my community and me. Please prevent the opening of this refugee office before we all suffer the consequences.

Sincerely,

Melody Boberg  
[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)  
2112 13 ¼ Street  
Cumberland, WI 54829

**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 19:48:08 +0000  
**To:** "emily.berge@EC-Citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] WR meeting monday at 6pm

Hi Emily,  
Hope you're learning much from the conference.

I'm just wondering if you plan to attend the World Relief community gathering on Monday at 6pm in the library? If you do plan to attend, would you feel comfortable saying a few words of support before WR start their presentation?

I'm also happy to answer any questions you may have, of course keep in mind that this is just day 5 for me in this role ☺

Thanks,

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager  
World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 23:10:06 +0000  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR meeting monday at 6pm

Thank you Emily!

Safe travels home and see you Monday.

Ka

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 6:05:53 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR meeting monday at 6pm

Hi Ka,

The last few days have been a whirlwind! And yes, I would love to say a few words in support. I think it's very important that the Council President is very clear in her support in Eau Claire being a welcoming community no matter where you were born.

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 2:48:08 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] WR meeting monday at 6pm

Hi Emily,  
Hope you're learning much from the conference.

I'm just wondering if you plan to attend the World Relief community gathering on Monday at 6pm in the library? If you do plan to attend, would you feel comfortable saying a few words of support before WR start their presentation?

I'm also happy to answer any questions you may have, of course keep in mind that this is just day 5 for me in this role ☺

Thanks,

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Sheila Wilkinson" <skwilkin@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 00:46:33 +0000  
**To:** "Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Council President,

I understand that World Relief and the state of Wisconsin failed to abide by 8 US Code 1522 in that they failed to include the local governments in their decision to bring refugees to Eau Claire. They claim to have spoken to the city manager, but that individual is not an elected person.

Consequently, the people of Eau Claire are not being represented in this major decision. Other cities which have invited so many refugees have suffered from high tax increases that occur after the federal and state funds run out.

We have many people on fixed incomes that are not even keeping up with the inflation rate now and certainly cannot afford more increases.

I ask you to please halt this process. Disregarding 8 US Code 1522 is illegal, and the people need to have a voice.

Sincerely,  
Sheila Wilkinson

**From:** "Becky Hoschouer" <beckyhoschouer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 15:36:00 -0500  
**To:** "" <Emily.Berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Representation

Dear Ms. President,

Please find the email below sent to my Ward 3 city representative today.

Thank you,  
Becky Hoschouer, M.A.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Becky Hoschouer** <[beckyhoschouer@gmail.com](mailto:beckyhoschouer@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Sat, Oct 21, 2023, 3:23 PM  
**Subject:** Representation  
**To:** <[Jeremy.Gragert@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:Jeremy.Gragert@ec-citycouncil.com)>

Hello,

I hope this finds you well.

I am writing as I have heard the issue of elected representation has been bypassed.

Is it true that a contract with World Relief Organization for settling refugees unvetted by our local sheriff and not voted on by my representative, yourself, has been signed by the city manager, who is not an elected entity?

So much of this bypasses state and local law.

I hope this isn't a financial boondoggle such as the county supervisors publicly endured recently regarding misspent tax dollars. It's my understanding that the non-profit covers 90 days and then we pay for interpreters and housing!

We already have a housing shortage and issues with homelessness.

I am also concerned about recent world events. Will the sheriff's office be able to vet these refugees? How much will that cost?

Because democracy dies in darkness, I am relying on you and not the at-large members to represent me. Please speak up on my behalf.

Also, I can't speak for myself because Monday's public meeting is cancelled, but you have been elected to represent me.

Very Respectfully and yet Very Concerned,  
Rebecca Hoschouer, M.A.  
1816 Lloyd Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54701

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 20:45:07 +0000  
**To:** "Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement

President Berge,

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. Did they happen? If so where are the minutes fore these meetings? I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement.

I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for. Did you direct her to sign the document or has she gone rogue...again? If not do you have the authority to approve this action? Is the goal here to keep any blame for this off of the city council?

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? Not what World Relief has told you, but what the actual country of origin is? I was told it was one of two countries.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this.

I look forward to your response

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 16:22:23 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Member Update

Hi Emily!

I think this is a great idea.

It is during these longer breaks between City Council meetings that I sometimes schedule vacations, and in this case, you should know that I will be in Mexico from January 24th to February 7th. If the 5th Tuesday is the regular day/time, the next one after would not be until April 30th. I think if it works for others you should go for it!

Jeremy Gragert  
Eau Claire City Council member - District 3

**From:** Emily Berge  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 1:44 PM  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**

*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 21:58:54 +0000  
**To:** "Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

President Berge, I would like to clarify a couple of things that I just learned.

An official from World Relief admitted that she never spoke with any members of the city council, only the city manager. If the city manager did not bring it to the board's attention, that is another matter.

The official from World Relief also confirmed that the refugees will be coming from Somalia. I attended the stakeholder's meeting last week and the word Somalia was never mentioned. That is at least the third lie I have caught them in.

This is not about the refugees it is about the process. World Relief believes that speaking with the local government is speaking with bureaucrats, while many of us believe speaking with local governments is speaking with elected officials. I can also tell you that no one in the county I have spoken to knows anything about this.

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

On Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 03:45:07 PM CDT, Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com> wrote:

President Berge,

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. Did they happen? If so where are the minutes fore these meetings? I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement.

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We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this.

I look forward to your response

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 18:21:45 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Member Update  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-16819255227759d57b9e4-6957-4f72-aa11-e05d12f78597.jpg

Hi Emily:

That works for me! Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 21, 2023, at 1:44 PM, Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com> wrote:

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

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See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**

***Eau Claire City Council President***

<OutlookEmoji-16819255227759d57b9e4-6957-4f72-aa11-e05d12f78597.jpg>

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**From:** "email" <jjmmjr@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 19:25:19 -0500  
**To:** "" <Emily.Berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugees

Not happy at all to hear that your city manager authorized World Relief Wisconsin to bring illegals here without the taxpayers knowledge

Sent from my iPad

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 12:03:16 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] more INFO IMMIGRATION MTG MONDAY 6 PM LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY

.com>

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**From:** Cyndi Burton <[cyndimburton@gmail.com](mailto:cyndimburton@gmail.com)>

Register for the meeting at the Eau Claire library and let them know how many people care about this. Monday night, October 23, 2023 6:00-7:00pm. Information session on World Relief at LE Phillips Library. You can register for the meeting here: <https://worldrelief.org/.../who-is-my-neighbor-community.../>

**Is this NGO even operating legally?** Excerpt from 8 US Code 1522

The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities.

Notice the word "**SHALL**". It does not say **MAY**. This process must be adhered to and they did not.

Contact city council members with your concerns about the lack of inclusion of our elected representatives in this process and about the blatant lack of transparency about the use of our tax dollars in our community. <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/.../city.../city-council-members>

And/or rally at the library 5:30-7:00. Bring signs if you wish.

**Democracy Dies in Darkness**

**No Taxation Without Representation**

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

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**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



### **World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 16:25:23 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Member Update

Thanks for your efforts Emily. I have that day and time noted on my calendar in case it works for everyone.

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
715-271-2489

**From:** Emily Berge  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 1:44:58 PM  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

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Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:37:59 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

Gulag... like a labor/prison camp?

---

**From:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 5:36 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

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**From:** Melody Boberg <[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 2:47 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

October 20, 2023

Dear Council Member,

My name is Melody Boberg from the Cumberland – Rice Lake area. I am writing to you today about a World Relief refugee office that I heard is opening in Eau Claire. I found out that the gulag this office will create will be a 100-mile radius, which could easily include where I'm from. I am quite concerned as my community cannot afford refugees, and we've seen what these gulags have done to places in MN like Wilmer, Austin, and St. Cloud. These towns have

been shredded fiscally, and property taxes continue to jump. I am, also, concerned about our safety. No one knows where these refugees are coming from. It was said the federal government vetted them, and seeing what a “great” job they’re doing on our southern border, we all have reason to be greatly concerned. Has anyone from your city council looked at how crime has been affected in one of these gulag cities like St. Cloud since inception?

I am very upset this World Relief office was approved without talking to the taxpayers and all of the stakeholders about it. Is that even legal? What is a big influx of refugees going to do to our schools and health care system and police stations when all the refugees’ family members come the second year? I am troubled and concerned for my community and me. Please prevent the opening of this refugee office before we all suffer the consequences.

Sincerely,

Melody Boberg

[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)

2112 13 ¼ Street

Cumberland, WI 54829

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSCHINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support Opening.pdf

This Letter was sent to  
Holly Herrera  
Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
US DEPT OF STATE  
Washington DC  
5/15/2023

**From:** Fred Kappus <[jfkappus@charter.net](mailto:jfkappus@charter.net)>

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**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSCHINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
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**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSCHINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/ AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:34:37 -0500  
**To:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Statement

Here's what I'm thinking we could do about World Relief.

Do a pretty simple statement, and then circulate it to people like these who come to my mind to sign, in addition to me and Emily, and then do a press release.

David Minor  
Nancy Coffey  
Kathryn Schauf  
Luke Hanson  
Mike Golat  
Sunem Beaton-Garcia  
Jim Schmidt  
Benny Anderson

Our organizations work to promote a strong Chippewa Valley. We hope for a strong, healthy, lively, and inclusive community. Our region is growing faster than the rest of the state, and we hope it will continue to be a vibrant place where many people want to live and contribute their talents to its future growth and change. We welcome residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. They may be coming for college, for a job, for the trails, for the safety, or for the four amazing seasons of recreation.

We support and celebrate World Relief as they work to welcome new residents of Eau Claire. Like most of the people who moved here before us and before them, they will make a home here and contribute to the future of Eau Claire. Each person and each life brings gifts to share, friendships to form, stories to tell, work to contribute to our local economy, at a time when employers are struggling to hire, and even taxes to chip in to keep our government bodies running.

Please join us in welcoming our new residents, wherever they may come from.

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:42:42 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION

I think Tess put the letter on the website somewhere, though I can't find it...

---

**From:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 7:17 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION

That didn't take long.

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

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**From:** [greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:greenmarty1943@gmail.com) <[greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:greenmarty1943@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 7:10 PM  
**To:** David Minor; Steve Nick; Matt Rokus; BARRON JIM SWENSON; [bwestrate@charter.net](mailto:bwestrate@charter.net); CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE; Chippewa Valley Tea Party; CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara; [DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM); [DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com](mailto:DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com); DUNN BILL ARNDT; JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com; JOHN JACOBSON; KEVIN NICHOLSON; REP PRONSCHINSKE; Republican DEAN GULLICKSON; Republican Party Eau Claire County; REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD; REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY; ROB SUMMERFIELD; 'ROBIN VOSS'; RUSK TRAVIS EWER; TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS; TOMMY THOMPSON; 'WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}'; [warrenpetryk@gmail.com](mailto:warrenpetryk@gmail.com); Andrew Werthmann; CHARLIE JOHNSON; Aaron White; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; JILL CHRISTOPEREN; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; LARRY MBOGA; Roderick Jones; [chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us](mailto:chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us); DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF; EC SHERIFF OFFICE; [sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us](mailto:sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us); ST CROIX SHERIFF  
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**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 22:46:16 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg, 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf, image001.jpg

Thank you Stephanie for sending this context and background. We are getting some emails about it ... mostly it's people trying to figure out whether the city council had a role in this in terms of local "sign-off."

Best  
Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 22, 2023, at 6:09 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that

be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Joshua Miller" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 06:33:36 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Member Update  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-16695778776551cf8b170-07a4-43b0-b301-84e5f61cea44.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765522d1a832-210f-422b-88a2-65b1451c89c6.png, OutlookEmoji-16695778776557d56015d-d85c-4936-9797-031c82ded8d0.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655df673400-4be4-440b-9bae-d0fb05984e06.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765547f6481f-0234-4e6a-8a72-17f347adeaf3.png

Emily, that sounds like a good idea. It'd be nice to have an official gathering where we aren't engaged in official business under Robert's Rules. I could attend a meeting on January 30.

Thanks for the suggestion!

**Joshua Miller**  
**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** Emily Berge  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 1:44:58 PM  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** "Ringstad"  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:35:55 +0000  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hey Emily,

Don't worry about it – we've all been there! ☹️

ECDC sounds excellent, I am free from 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM, so I'll just post up at ECDC and meet you when you arrive. I love coffee shop environments for working and will never turn that down.

Rep. Emerson had texted me over the weekend about the meeting this evening, but I cannot make it. Would you be open to perhaps inviting her along to join us if the main topic is this World Relief meeting? Otherwise, we can keep it just you and I if you have different things you'd like to discuss.

Looking forward to it!

All the best,

**ANNA RINGSTAD**

*Northwestern Wisconsin Regional Representative*

*Proudly Serving: Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Clark, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor, Vilas, and Washburn counties*

**U.S. SENATOR TAMMY BALDWIN**

PO Box 401  
Ladysmith, WI 54848  
715-450-3754

Keep up to date by following Tammy online:



[www.baldwin.senate.gov](http://www.baldwin.senate.gov)

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**From:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 11:46 AM  
**To:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin) <Anna\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hi Anna,

I just reread my email to you and I must have been really tired last night because I omitted words throughout my message. Yikes.

Anyway, I checked my work calendar and noon works great on Tuesday. We could do ECDC?

Also does the Senator know that Senator Johnson's staffer is organizing groups to protest refugees coming to Eau Claire? World Relief is opening an office in Eau Claire and they are hosting an event Monday at 6pm at the Library about how we can welcome our new neighbors and I have heard this group will be attending the World Relief meeting.

Here is more information on the World Relief meeting in case you are interested in learning more: <https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Here is an article about the meeting that Scott Bolstad organized:

[https://www.wqow.com/eye\\_on\\_eau\\_claire/residents-react-to-refugee-resettlement-coming-to-chippewa-valley/article\\_156fdf84-6ef9-11ee-9ad1-6f1aedef0fa0.html](https://www.wqow.com/eye_on_eau_claire/residents-react-to-refugee-resettlement-coming-to-chippewa-valley/article_156fdf84-6ef9-11ee-9ad1-6f1aedef0fa0.html)

I will let you know how the event goes on Tuesday. I am looking forward to our conversation.

Thank you for reaching out!

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** Emily Berge  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 6:19:39 PM  
**To:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hi Anna

Thank you for reaching out. I need to check my work calendar but I am free, I would love to meet up. I will get back to over the weekend (I am just getting home from a conference).

Thanks!

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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---

**From:** Ringstad, Anna (Baldwin) <[Anna\\_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov](mailto:Anna_Ringstad@baldwin.senate.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:10:11 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tuesday, October 24th

Hey Emily!

I was reaching out because I'm going to be in the area on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, and I was wondering if you'd have time to grab a cup of coffee downtown over the noon-hour and catch up on all things EC? If you're busy – I absolutely understand, but I wanted to reach out and check!

I hope all has been well.

All the best,

**ANNA RINGSTAD**  
*Northwestern Wisconsin Regional Representative*

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**U.S. SENATOR TAMMY BALDWIN**

PO Box 401

Ladysmith, WI 54848

715-450-3754

Keep up to date by following Tammy online:



[www.baldwin.senate.gov](http://www.baldwin.senate.gov)

**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:40:40 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Derek Thomas" <Derek.Thomas@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 09:24:13 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus"  
<Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Room\_CH\_Rivers" <Room\_CH\_Rivers@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Canceled: Meet with Tami(WR)  
**Importance:** High

Meet with Tami from World Relief before their Community meeting

**From:** "Terry Wilkinson" <joyous\_praise@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:46:05 +0000  
**To:** "Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Council President,

I understand that the city council abdicated its responsibility in the decision about refugees (8 US Code 1522) by delegating it to the city manager.

Taxes will go up once federal aid ends. People on fixed incomes and people who are not well-off will be hurt the most. We need to consider all members of our society in making these decisions.

Our country was founded on the principle that we should not have taxation without representation. The city manager is not an elected official. A decision this major should not be made by an unelected official.

The people of the city need a voice in the decision whether it is by a referendum or through their elected officials.

Sincerely,  
Terry Wilkinson

**From:** "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 17:12:29 +0000  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Emily,

Good to talk to you. You will do well tonight. Thanks in advance for your message to the public.

Nancy

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**From:** Kathryn Schauf <Kathryn.Schau@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 7:08 AM  
**Cc:** \_ECC-DeptHeads <\_ECC-DeptHeads@co.eau-claire.wi.us>  
**Subject:** FW: Information on World Relief

Good morning County Board and Department Heads –

We are aware that emails have been sent to board members as well as city council. I am forwarding this information from the City, along with a brief discussion of County involvement or potential involvement regarding the issue of immigration services in the City of Eau Claire.

There have also been questions about potential funding from Human Services and County participation. The County often receives requests to attend meetings of various organizations, and we do so to identify potential communities of interest and educate community partners regarding services we provide.

The County does not have regulatory authority over what other organizations may do in this community. Updates from the City will be shared with the Board as they become available.

Kathryn

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:10 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg <Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephen Nick <stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov>; Nicholas Koerner <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Douglas Hoffer <Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov>; Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; Angela Weideman <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kathryn Schauf <Kathryn.Schau@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Wilkinson Jennifer" <wilkinsonja@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 17:49:50 +0000  
**To:** "Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief refugees

Dear Council President,

I understand that the city council let the unelected city manager make an important decision concerning refugees, a decision that should have been addressed by our elected officials (8 US Code 1522).

Once federal aid ends, our taxes will go up. Low-income families and people on fixed incomes will be hurt the most by these tax increases.

We should have no taxation without representation. This principle was central in the birth of our nation, and we must continue to live by it.

The people of Eau Claire need a voice in the decision about refugees. This could be by referendum or a vote by our elected officials. The decision must not be delegated to an unelected official.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Wilkinson

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:26:29 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

I wonder if she maybe means this term, which is new to me:

Voluntary Agencies (Volags),

---

**From:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:58 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

I was confused too. I didn't even really know what it was until I looked up the word on google.

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 5:37:59 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

Gulag... like a labor/prison camp?

---

**From:** Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 5:36 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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---

**From:** Melody Boberg <[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 2:47 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

October 20, 2023

Dear Council Member,

My name is Melody Boberg from the Cumberland – Rice Lake area. I am writing to you today about a World Relief refugee office that I heard is opening in Eau Claire. I found out that the gulag this office will create will be a 100-mile radius, which could easily include where I'm from. I am quite concerned as my community cannot afford refugees, and we've seen what these gulags have done to places in MN like Wilmer, Austin, and St. Cloud. These towns have been shredded fiscally, and property taxes continue to jump. I am, also, concerned about our safety. No one knows where these refugees are coming from. It was said the federal government vetted them, and seeing what a "great" job they're doing on our southern border, we all have reason to be greatly concerned. Has anyone from your city council looked at how crime has been affected in one of these gulag cities like St. Cloud since inception?

I am very upset this World Relief office was approved without talking to the taxpayers and all of the stakeholders about it. Is that even legal? What is a big influx of refugees going to do to our schools and health care system and police stations when all the refugees' family members come the second year? I am troubled and concerned for my community and me. Please prevent the opening of this refugee office before we all suffer the consequences.

Sincerely,

Melody Boberg  
[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)  
2112 13 ¼ Street

Cumberland, WI 54829

**From:** "Kate Felton" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 17:58:41 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Member Update  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-16819255227759d57b9e4-6957-4f72-aa11-e05d12f78597.jpg

Works for me!

On Oct 21, 2023, at 1:44 PM, Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com> wrote:

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**

***Eau Claire City Council President***

*<OutlookEmoji-16819255227759d57b9e4-6957-4f72-aa11-e05d12f78597.jpg>*

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**From:** "Susan Hintgen" <sghintgen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 19:25:37 -0500  
**To:** "" <Emily.Berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed Refugee Resettlement

Dear Ms. Berge,

Thank you for your service to Eau Claire.

I am writing to you to express my concern about the possible establishment of a World Relief VOLAG (voluntary non-governmental agency) in Eau Claire, which would initially spearhead the resettlement of 75 refugees in the City of Eau Claire and the surrounding area.

I have just finished reading ‘**8 US Code 1522**-Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees’. The first concern I noted was in Section a (1) (B) (iii), which states that “local voluntary agency activities should be conducted in close cooperation and advance consultation with State and local governments.” Based on the information I have, I do not believe that this has occurred.

Furthermore, Section a (2) (A) states that “the Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities.” Which local officials knew about this, and were consulted? Again, I do not believe that this has occurred, and therefore the law has not been followed.

All of this was new to me as of last week. I do not know of any local citizen who was aware that this is being considered. Why wouldn’t the government, citizens and taxpayers of Eau Claire be apprised of such an impactful proposal? Why wouldn’t local shareholders like businesses, hospitals, churches, and school administrators be advised? Especially since after the first 90 days here, the responsibility for refugee job-training, language-learning, housing, medical expenses, education, etc. passes from the World Relief VOLAG to the Eau Claire taxpayers. And if 75 refugees arrive the first year, how many other refugees (e.g., family members and others) will follow the next year?

I ask that you investigate what is being proposed, and halt this “intended distribution of refugees,” not because they are refugees, but because Eau Claire already has a large homeless population, a shortage of affordable housing, and illegal immigrants coming here from our open southern border.

Sincerely,

Susan Hintgen  
404 West Fillmore Ave.  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
[sghintgen@gmail.com](mailto:sghintgen@gmail.com)

**From:** "Communication Measures" <comm\_measures@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tue, 24 Oct 2023 00:31:52 +0000  
**To:** "Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief information

Dear Emily Berge,

I am concerned that there has been little information re: planning and possible establishment of a World Relief VOLAG (voluntary non-governmental agency) in Eau Claire. The intent as stated by World Relief would be to resettle 75 refugees in the City of Eau Claire and the surrounding area.

I have just finished reading '**8 US Code 1522**-Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees'. I noted in Section a (1) (B) (iii), states that "local voluntary agency activities should be conducted in close cooperation and advance consultation with State and local governments." It appears that this advance consultation has been neglected.

Furthermore, Section a (2) (A) states that "the Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities." I cannot find evidence that local officials were consulted regarding this action. Can you reassure me that the law has been followed in this case? Please provide names and dates of conversations re this topic.

Local Taxpayers will experience additional financial burden when 'refugees' or 'immigrants' are "placed" by an external agency. I note that after the first 90 days of placement, the responsibility for refugee/immigrant job-training, language-learning, housing, medical expenses, education, etc. passes from the World Relief VOLAG to the local taxpayers. Your lack of transparency and information to your constituents is unacceptable. It appears at this time that further action by World Relief in Eau Claire is imprudent. Please describe your plans with World Relief to the people of Eau Claire through paper, web and social media and solicit taxpayer feedback prior to implementing any such actions.

Thomas L. Hintgen

[Comm\\_measures@yahoo.com](mailto:Comm_measures@yahoo.com)

10-23-23

**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 17:28:11 -0500  
**To:** "Brad Candell" <brad.candell@shawtown.org>; "tcleonard@charter.net" <tcleonard@charter.net>; "deltaalphabet@gmail.com" <deltaalphabet@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: City Manager's Weekly Update 9/29/23: Cannery Park, TDS, Trails, and Transit

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Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
715-271-2489

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**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 3:18 PM  
**To:** Jill Christopherson  
**Subject:** City Manager's Weekly Update 9/29/23: Cannery Park, TDS, Trails, and Transit

**Content Updated:** This News has been previously sent out.

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**Post Date:** 09/29/2023 1:18 PM

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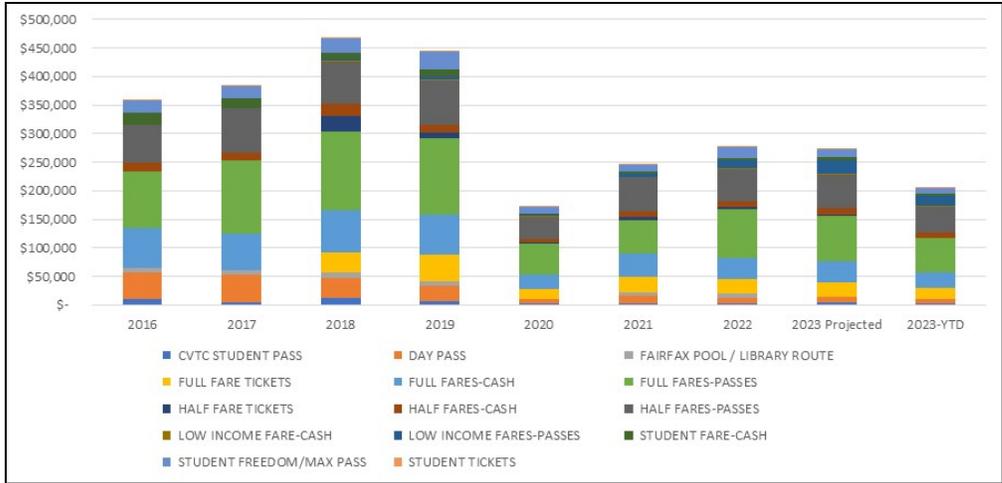
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**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 30 Sep 2023 10:43:54 -0500  
**To:** "tcleonard@charter.net" <tcleonard@charter.net>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Fw: City Manager's Weekly Update 9/29/23: Cannery Park, TDS, Trails, and Transit

I hope that you will encourage the social media person to refer to it, or to put it out to interested members. Thanks,

Jill Christopherson  
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**From:** tcleonard@charter.net <tcleonard@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 30, 2023 10:37:41 AM  
**To:** Jill Christopherson; Brad Candell; deltaalphabet@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Fw: City Manager's Weekly Update 9/29/23: Cannery Park, TDS, Trails, and Transit

Thanks Jill,

I've signed up for it. It will be very informative ☐  
CherylLeonard

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From: "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
To: "Brad Candell" <brad.candell@shawtown.org>, <tcleonard@charter.net>, <deltaalphabet@gmail.com>  
Cc: "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
Sent: Fri, Sep 29 2023 05:28 PM  
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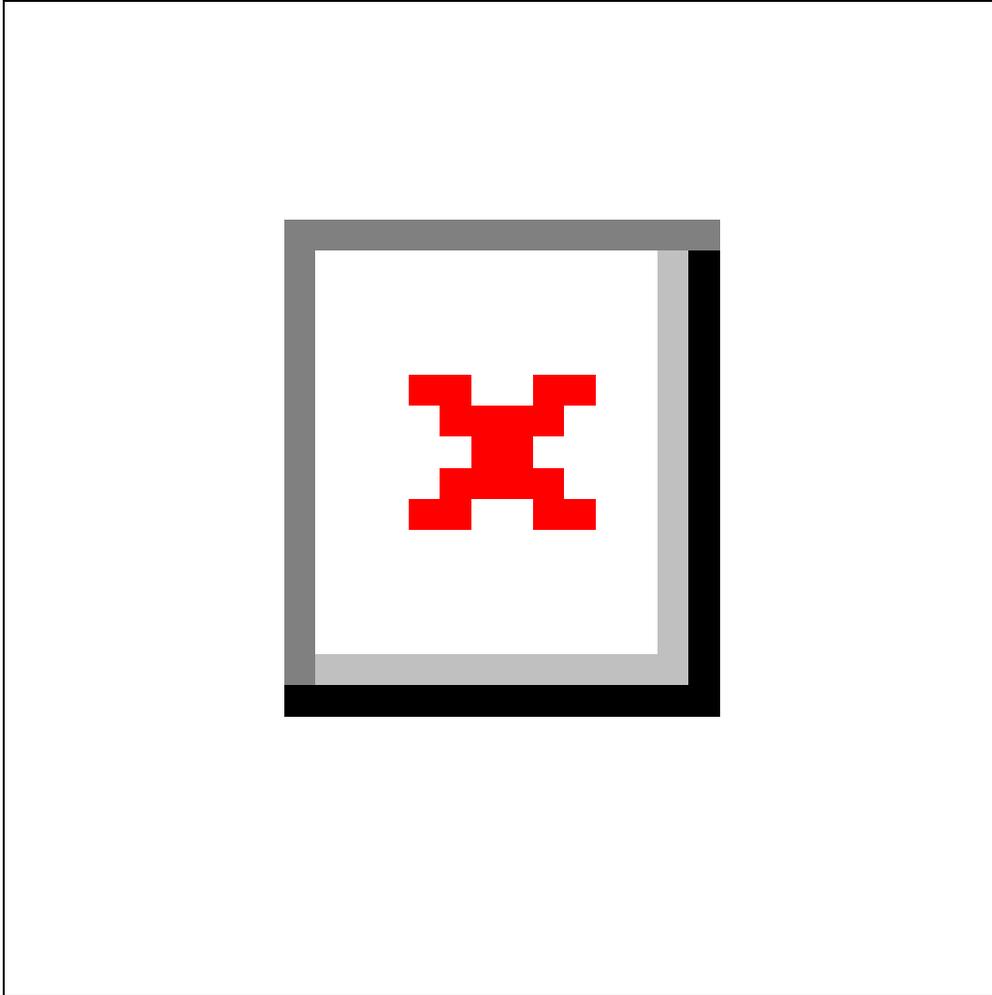
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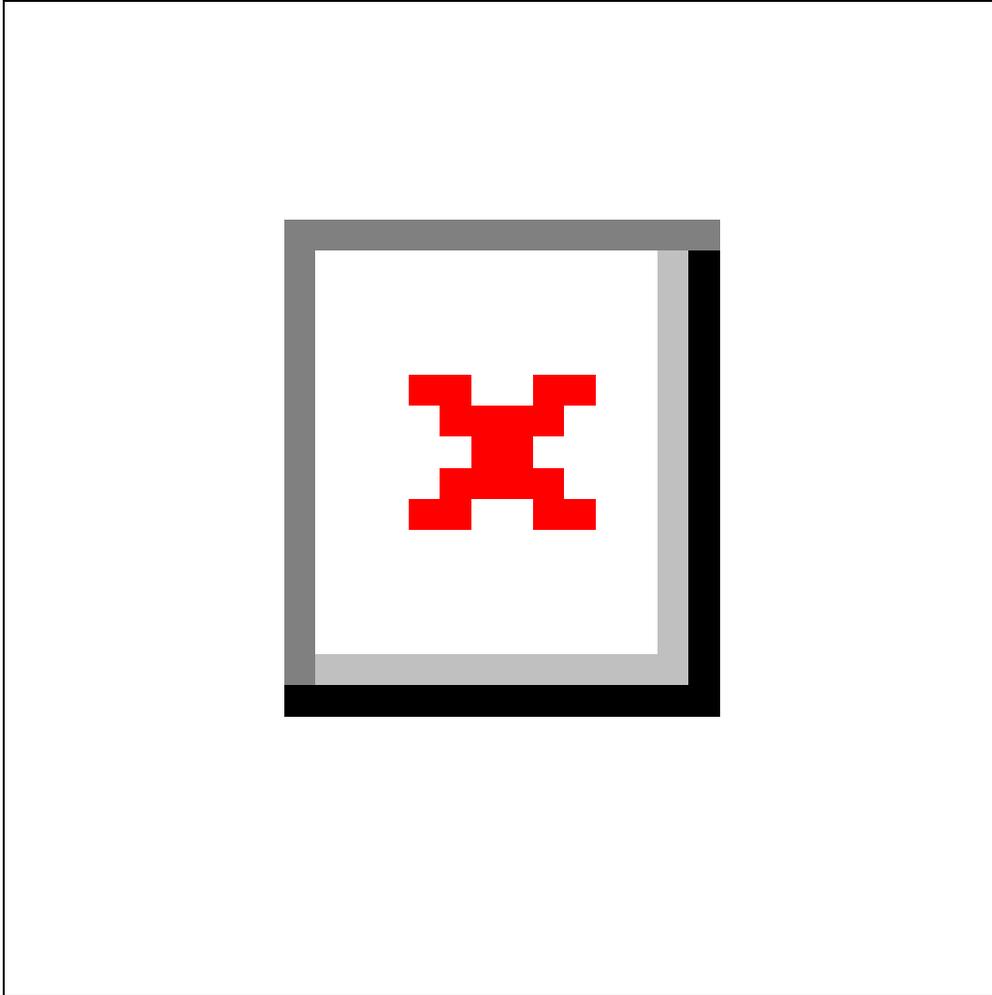
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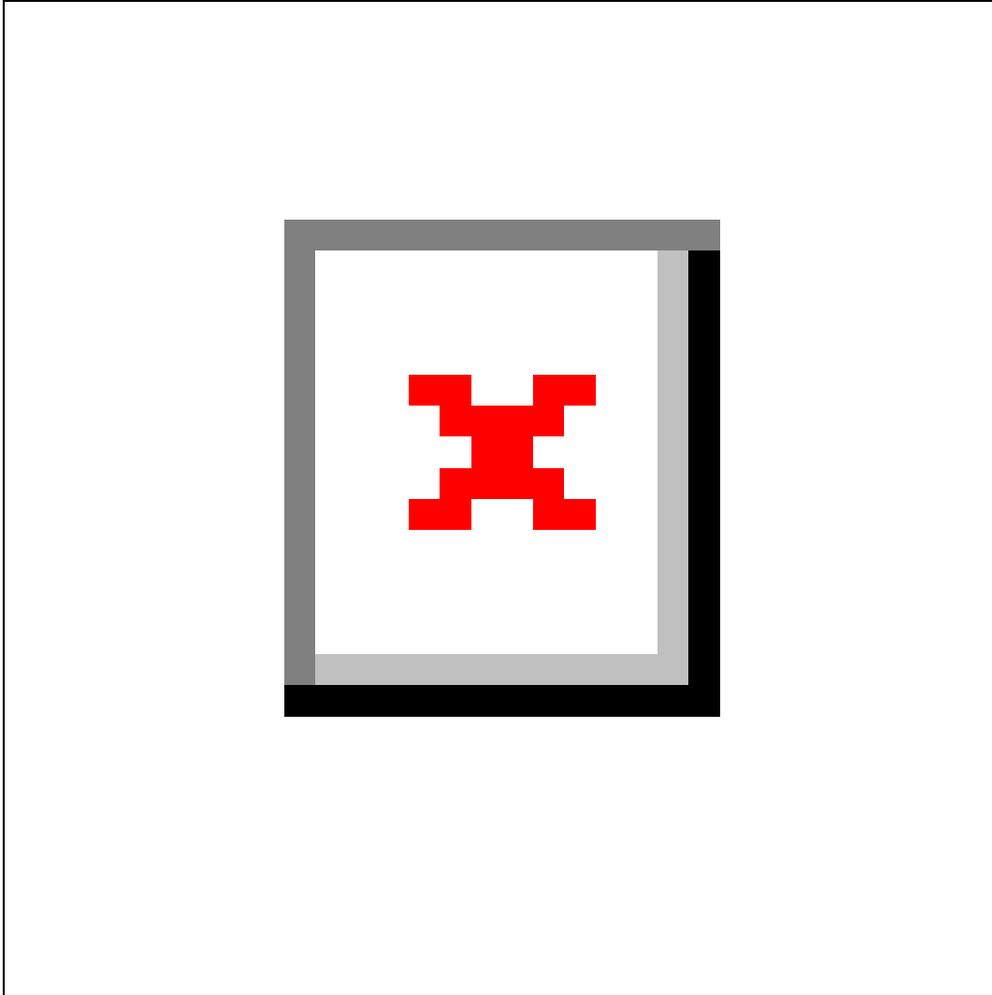
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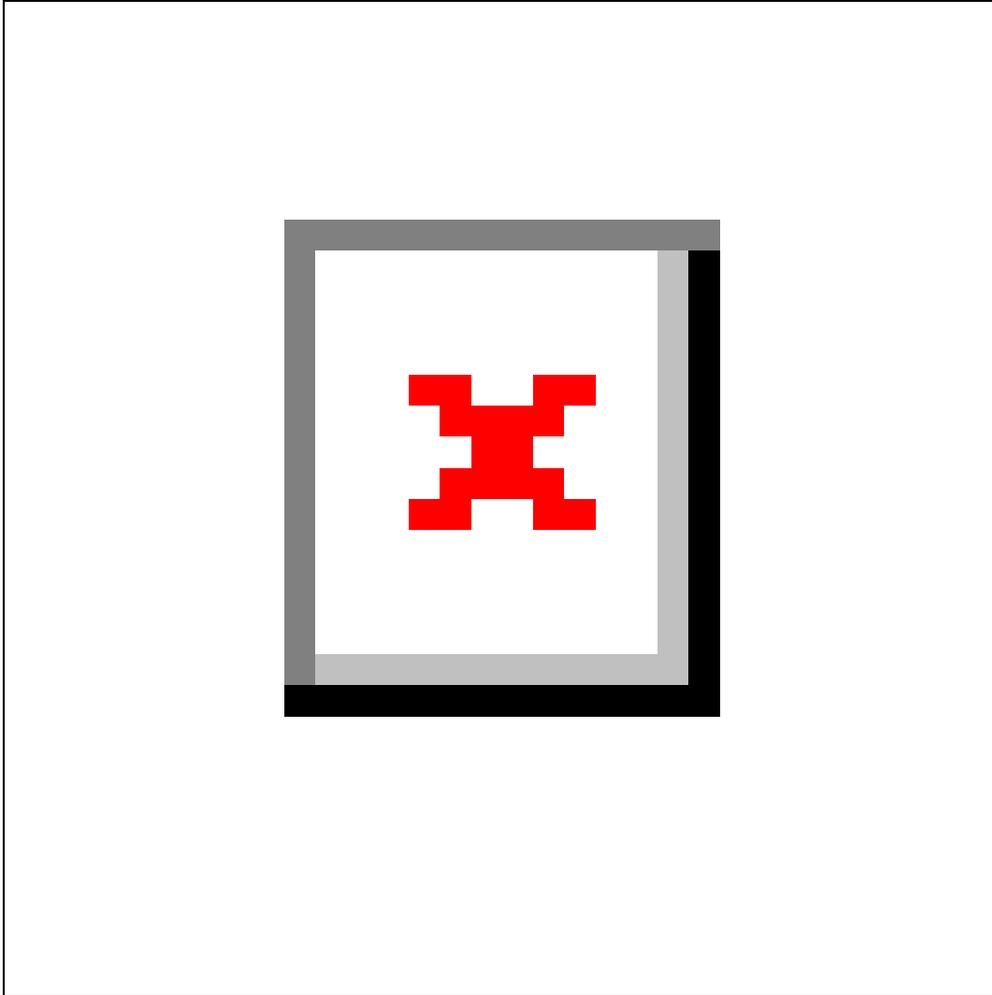


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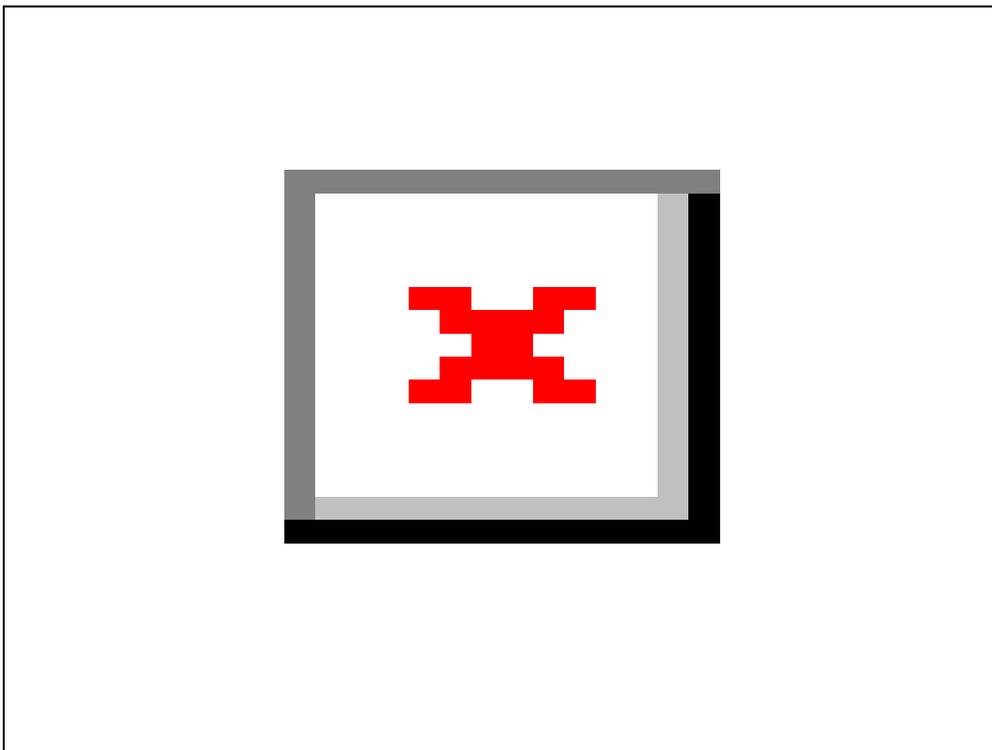
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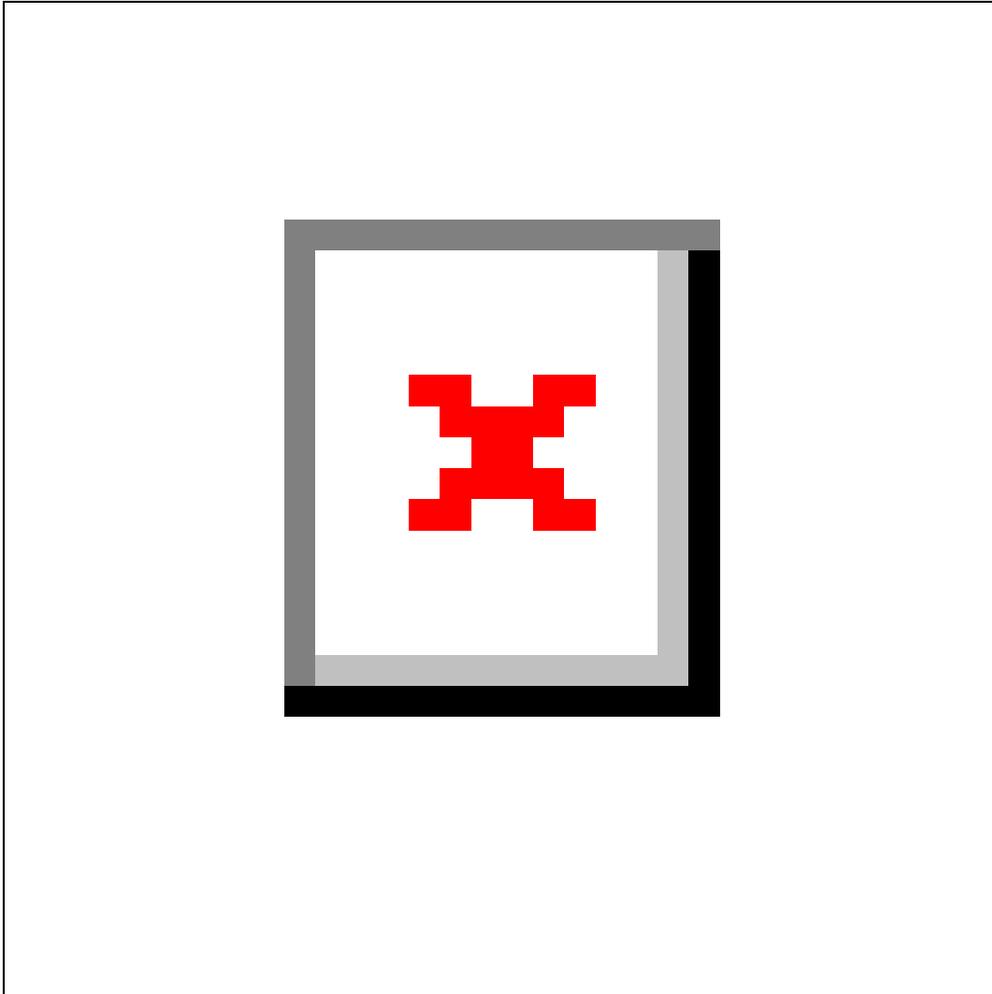
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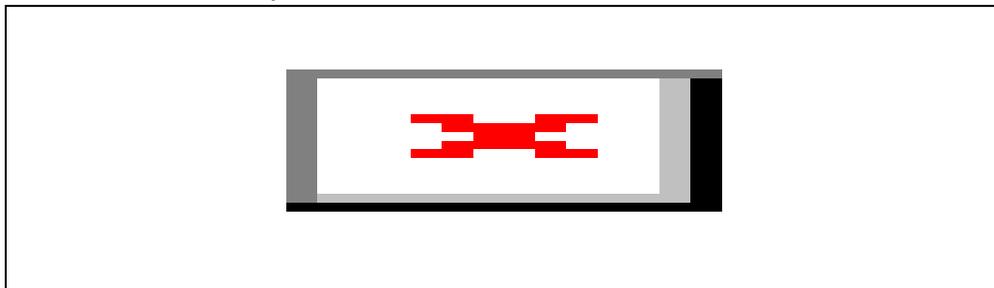
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**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 13:45:18 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Not a sad good bye

Thank you Ka, for all of the marvelous, focused work that you have done in this community to make us more aware, connected and appreciative of one another. I am grateful to have come alongside for this brief time to know you a bit better and appreciate all that you do. I will see you around town!

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
715-271-2489

**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 2:40:29 PM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) *Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023*  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:06:03 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Fyi

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
[715-271-2489](tel:715-271-2489)

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents. I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
[715-497-4359](tel:715-497-4359)

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:09:57 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

Thank you, I am going to attend the evening gathering at the library.

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside

[715-271-2489](tel:715-271-2489)

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM

**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch

**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.

Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 16:25:23 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Member Update

Thanks for your efforts Emily. I have that day and time noted on my calendar in case it works for everyone.

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
715-271-2489

**From:** Emily Berge  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 1:44:58 PM  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 16:33:49 -0500  
**To:** "Kelly Ware" <ksware715@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: WQOW tonight Friday Oct 20

Hello Kelly, I cannot be sure about the opening date. There may be disconnects between the opening and the first immigrants with whom they are working. The 10/23 date is still on my calendar so I am saying yes that is still correct. I have not heard an official cancellation of that meeting at the library.

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
715-271-2489  
**From:** Kelly Ware <ksware715@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 11:04:06 PM  
**To:** Jill Christopherson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: WQOW tonight Friday Oct 20

----- Forwarded message -----  
**From:** Kelly Ware <[ksware715@gmail.com](mailto:ksware715@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Fri, Oct 20, 2023 at 11:03 PM  
**Subject:** WQOW tonight Friday Oct 20  
**To:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

Did you hear the correction on the news tonight about the World Relief Office opening date?

Apparently WQOW stated they were opening the end of this year and tonight the correction was the office is opening the end of next year.

Is that even correct? Did they change the date? Or date WQOW get it wrong again?

My next question is this, will will the meeting on the library Monday Oct 23 at 6 pm with the World Relief Office still take place?

Kelly

**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 16:41:28 -0500  
**To:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

Thank you Mr. Bolstad for your letter. I know that there have been immigrants settled in Eau Claire over the past three years through one of the other WI offices of World Relief. Their application to operate in Eau Claire has not been under darkness, but has been through the regulated application process. Churches and non profits in Eau Clair have been performing their work of welcome for decades and have provided funds for resettlement in this case as well.

I am looking forward to being at the October 23 meeting at the library to hear how we may receive immigrants into our community. I look forward to seeing you there.

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
715-271-2489  
**From:** Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 5:20:31 PM  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that

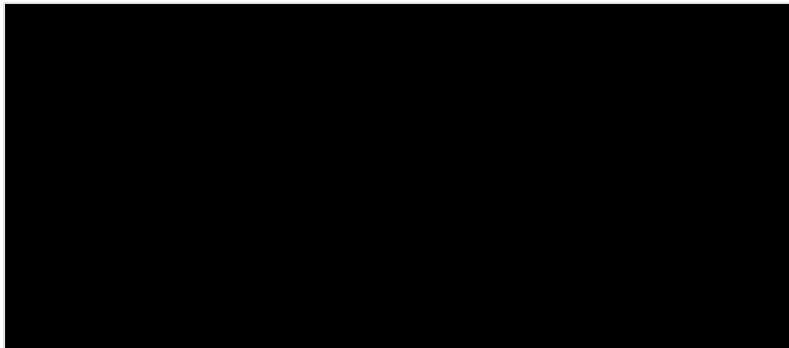
burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees. Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359



**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 15:12:51 -0500  
**To:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Thank you Mr. Solberg!

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
715-271-2489  
**From:** Dave Solberg  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 8:40:40 AM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Matt Rokus; Derek Thomas; Nancy Kerr  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

**David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:05:07 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 5/12  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 05 12 2023.pdf

Hello all –

Topics in this week's Update include:

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** Q&A on Triaging Tree Removal, Housing Survey, More Thank Yous to Street Crews, Hmong Chamber of Commerce Open House, World Relief, PERM Program, Some Prevention Updates, Managing Risk Article, Chippewa River Trail Tree Removal
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Rebecca Scharlau
- **A Few More Pictures**

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 25 Sep 2023 15:48:49 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 9/25  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 09 25 2023.pdf

Hello Council Members –

Sorry for the delay on this. We, internally, are trying to figure out a way to have just one newsletter that goes out weekly to the Council, the staff, and the public. We're trying to determine the best email marketing/newsletter platform to use. In the meantime, here's this week's. (And you'll get it again in the new format...)

Feel free to share any feedback or suggestions!

Stephanie

-  
-

**From:** "tcleonard@charter.net" on behalf of "tcleonard@charter.net" <tcleonard@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Sat, 30 Sep 2023 15:37:41 +0000  
**To:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Brad Candell" <brad.candell@shawtown.org>; "" <deltaalphabet@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Fw: City Manager's Weekly Update 9/29/23: Cannery Park, TDS, Trails, and Transit

Thanks Jill,

I've signed up for it. It will be very informative ☐

CherylLeonard

-----

From: "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
To: "Brad Candell" <brad.candell@shawtown.org>, <tcleonard@charter.net>, <deltaalphabet@gmail.com>  
Cc: "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
Sent: Fri, Sep 29 2023 05:28 PM  
Subject: Fw: City Manager's Weekly Update 9/29/23: Cannery Park, TDS, Trails, and Transit

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715-271-2489

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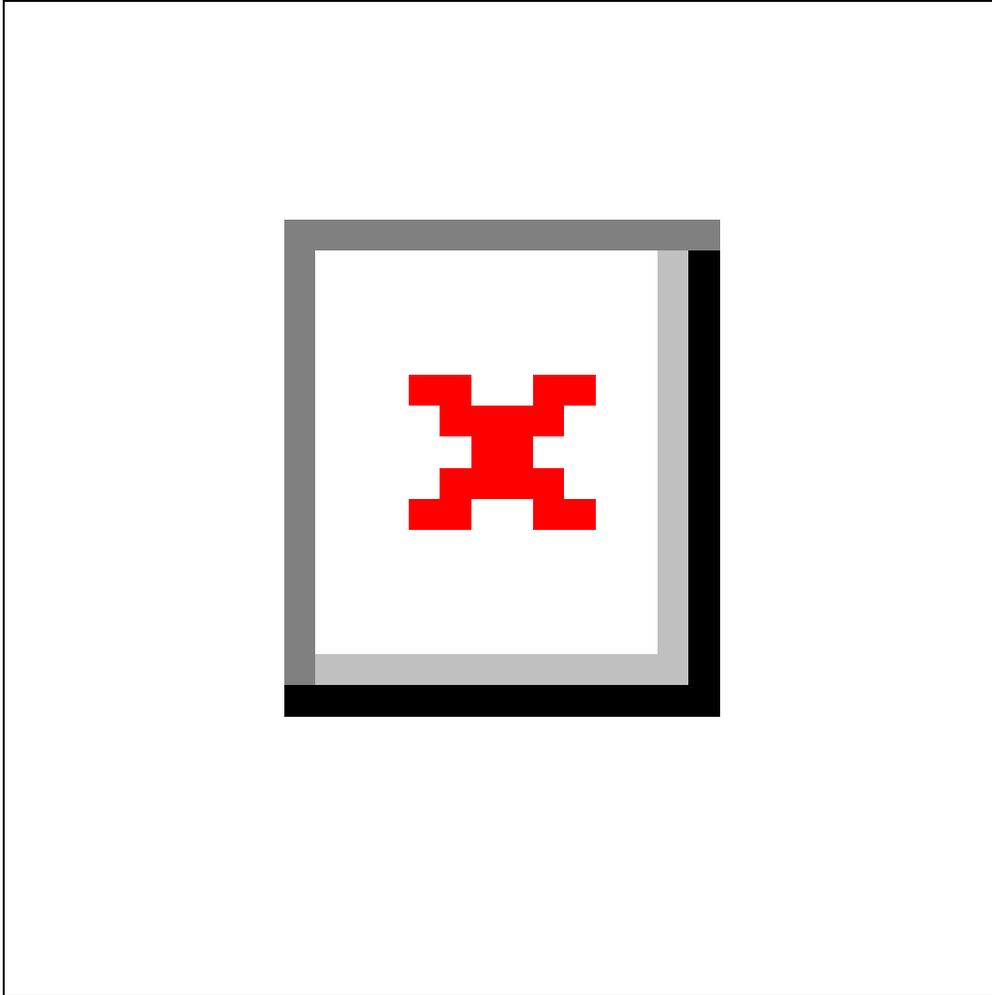
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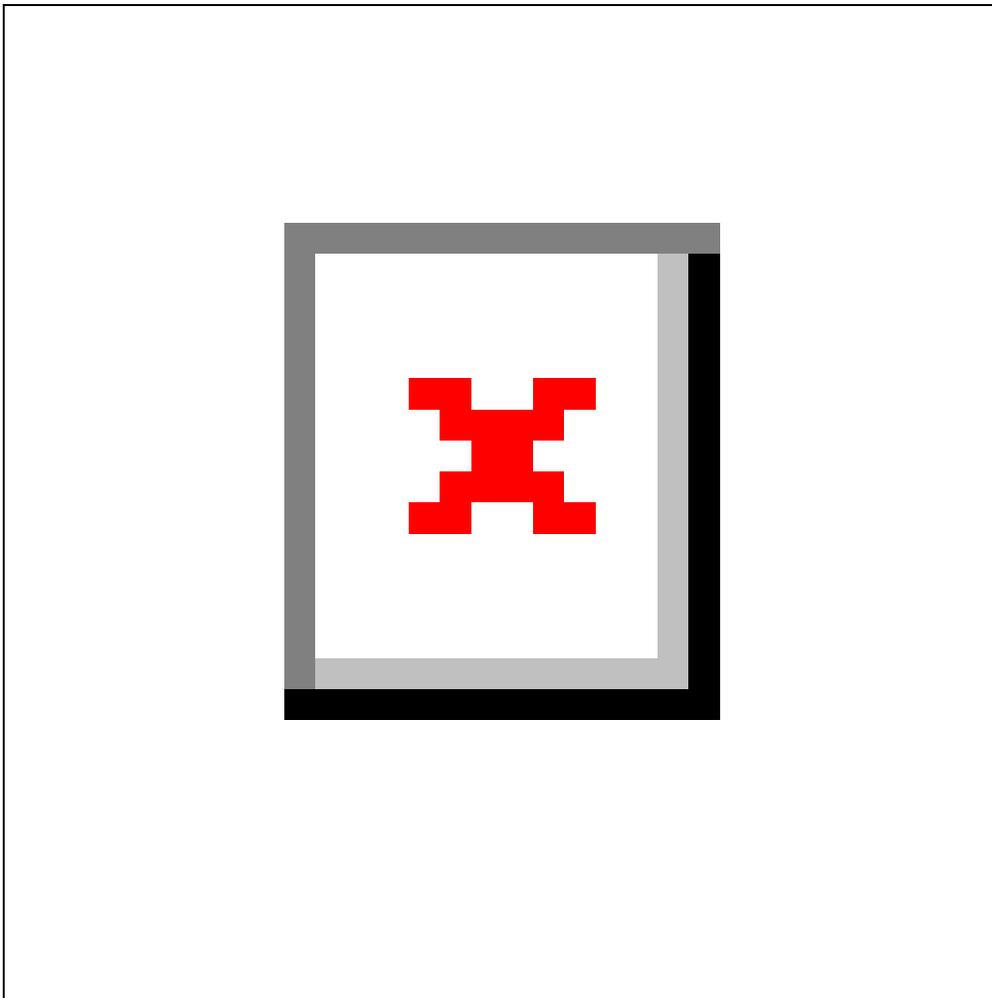
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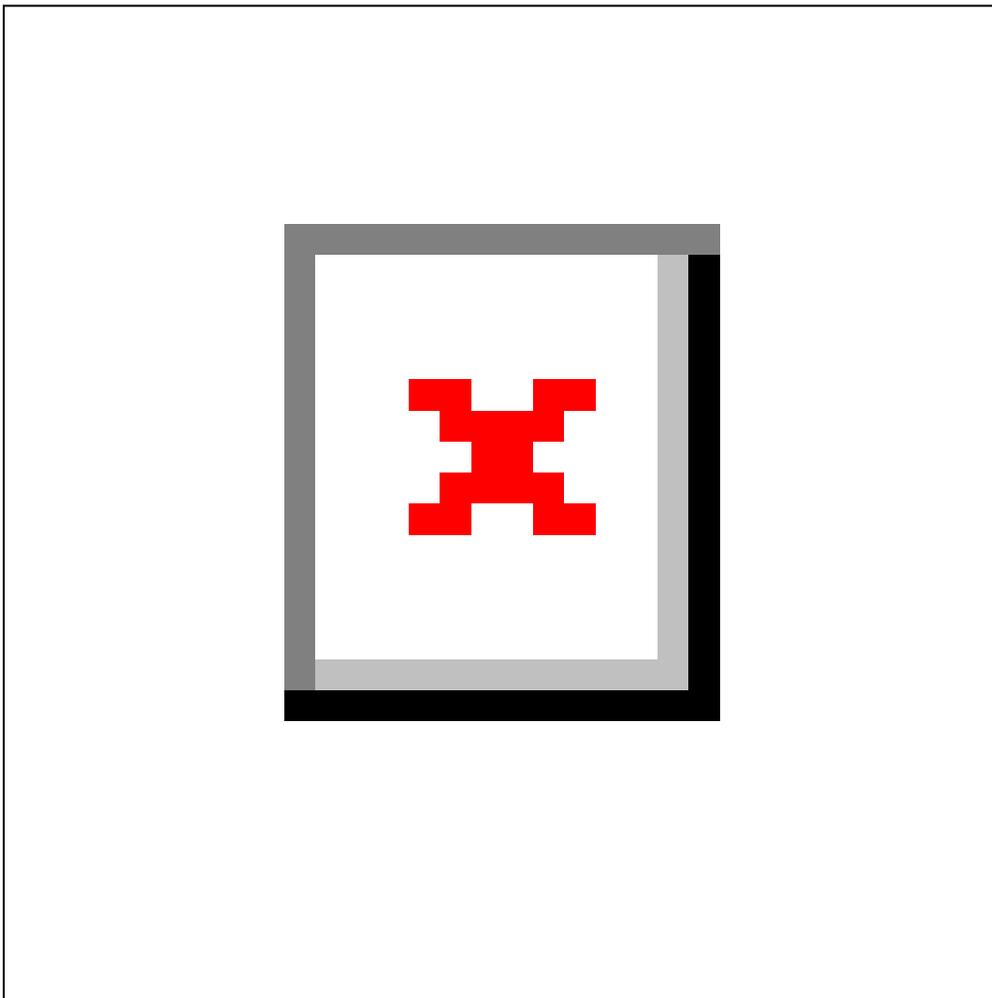
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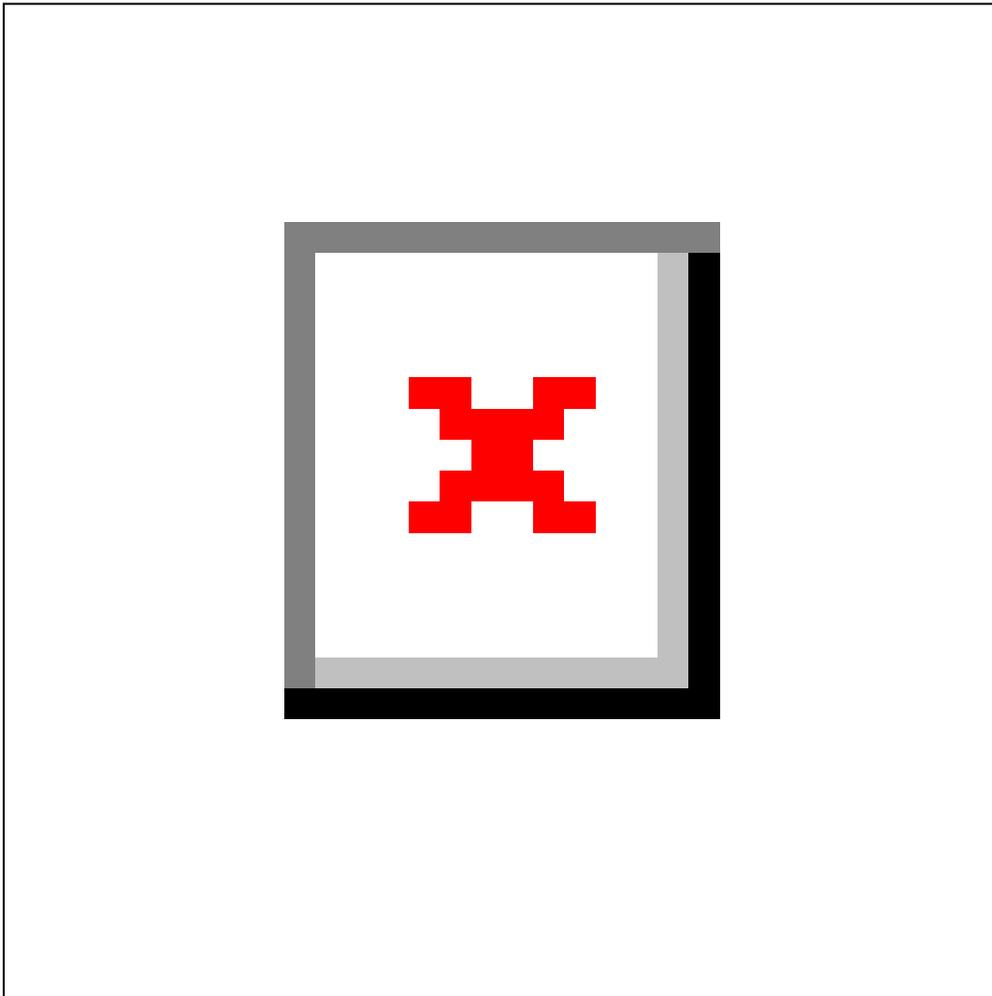
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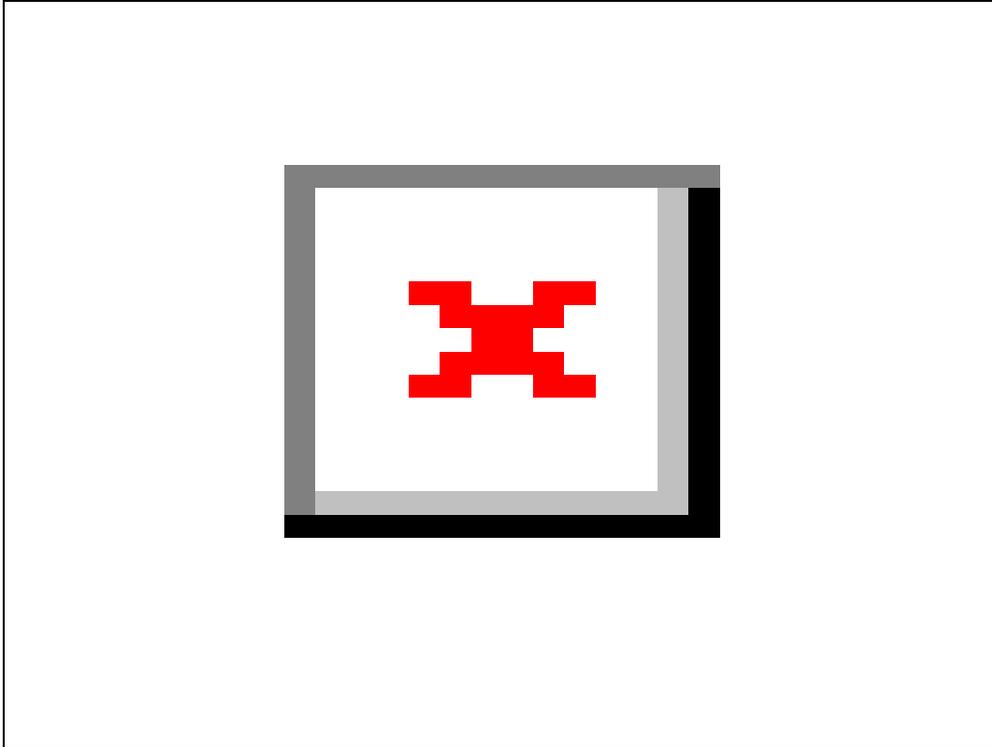
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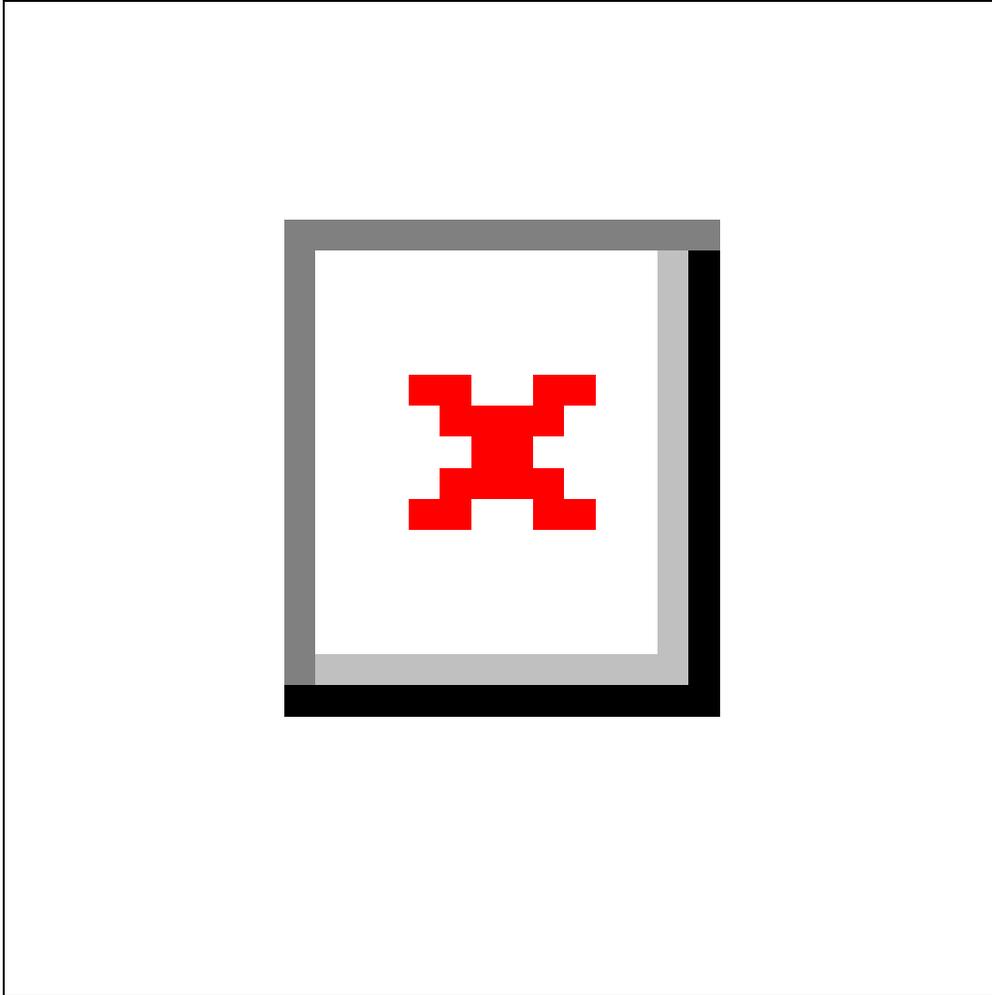
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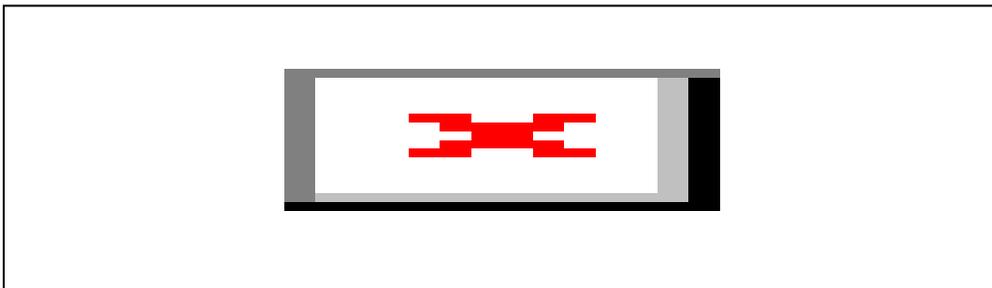
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*Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the way I was treated. I felt protected, valued and safe. I am proud to live in a city that has such an excellent police department watching over and protecting me.”*

The Eau Claire Police Department takes pride in serving the community with care and compassion. We thank the personnel involved for demonstrating our values, including Telecommunicators Melissa Stone and Brittany Bowe, Officers Derek Jack, Austin Summers, Rogelio Gonzales, and Brian Leach, and Sergeant Olivia Erl.

## **PHOTOS FROM AROUND TOWN**

**Library Strategic Planning:** Pictured here are some images from the Library’s Strategic Planning process. Staff were reviewing constituent feedback and working to prioritize the different services and programming the Library provides. The City as a whole is hoping to replicate this process for all its divisions and departments.



## **COUNCIL CALENDAR**

- *September 29th – City Council receives 2024 Proposed Operating Budget*
- Monday, October 9th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night (Public Hearing #1 on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget and State of the City)
- Tuesday, October 10th: Council Meeting (City Council Operating Budget Work Session #3)

- Monday, October 23rd: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
- Tuesday, October 24th: Council Meeting (City Council Operating Budget Work Session #4 – Amendment Discussion)
- *November 3rd – City Council Budget Amendments Due*
- Monday, November 6th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion
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**From:** "tcleonard@charter.net" on behalf of "tcleonard@charter.net" <tcleonard@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Sat, 30 Sep 2023 15:37:41 +0000  
**To:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Brad Candell" <brad.candell@shawtown.org>; "" <deltaalphabet@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Fw: City Manager's Weekly Update 9/29/23: Cannery Park, TDS, Trails, and Transit

Thanks Jill,

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CherylLeonard

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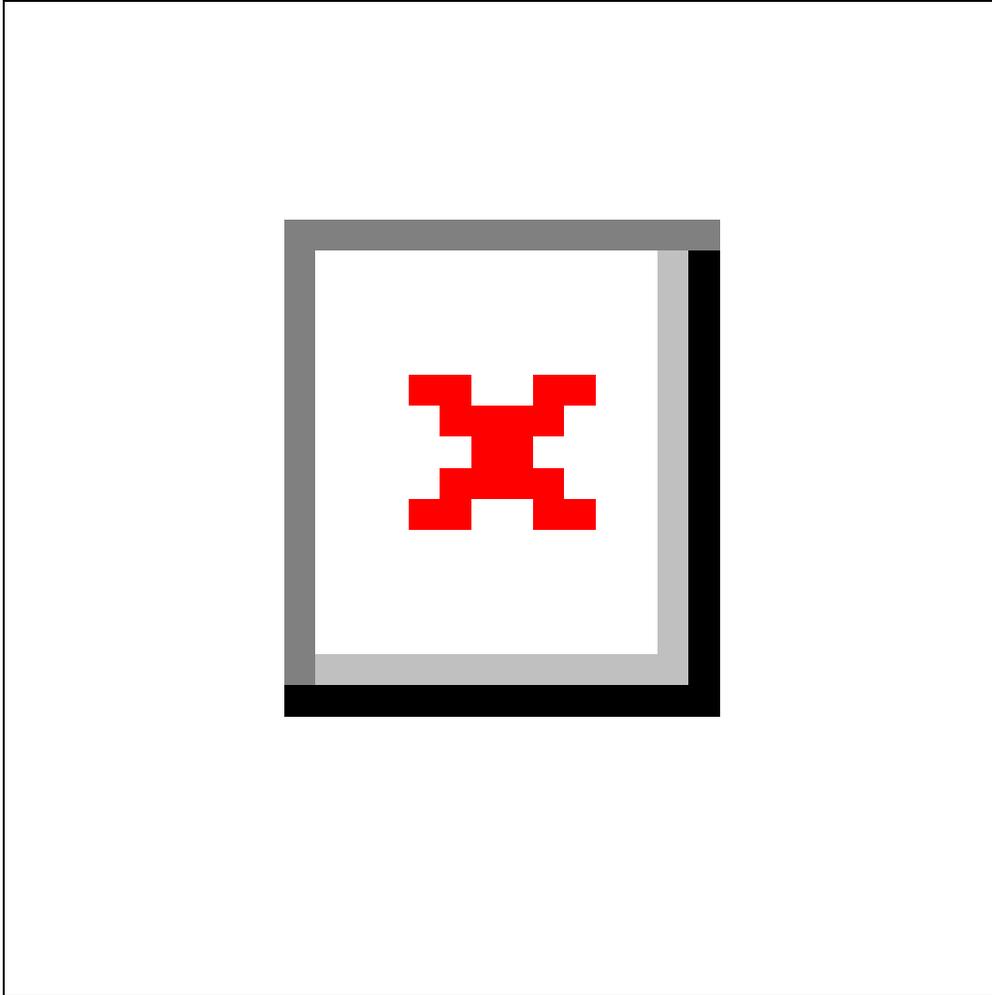
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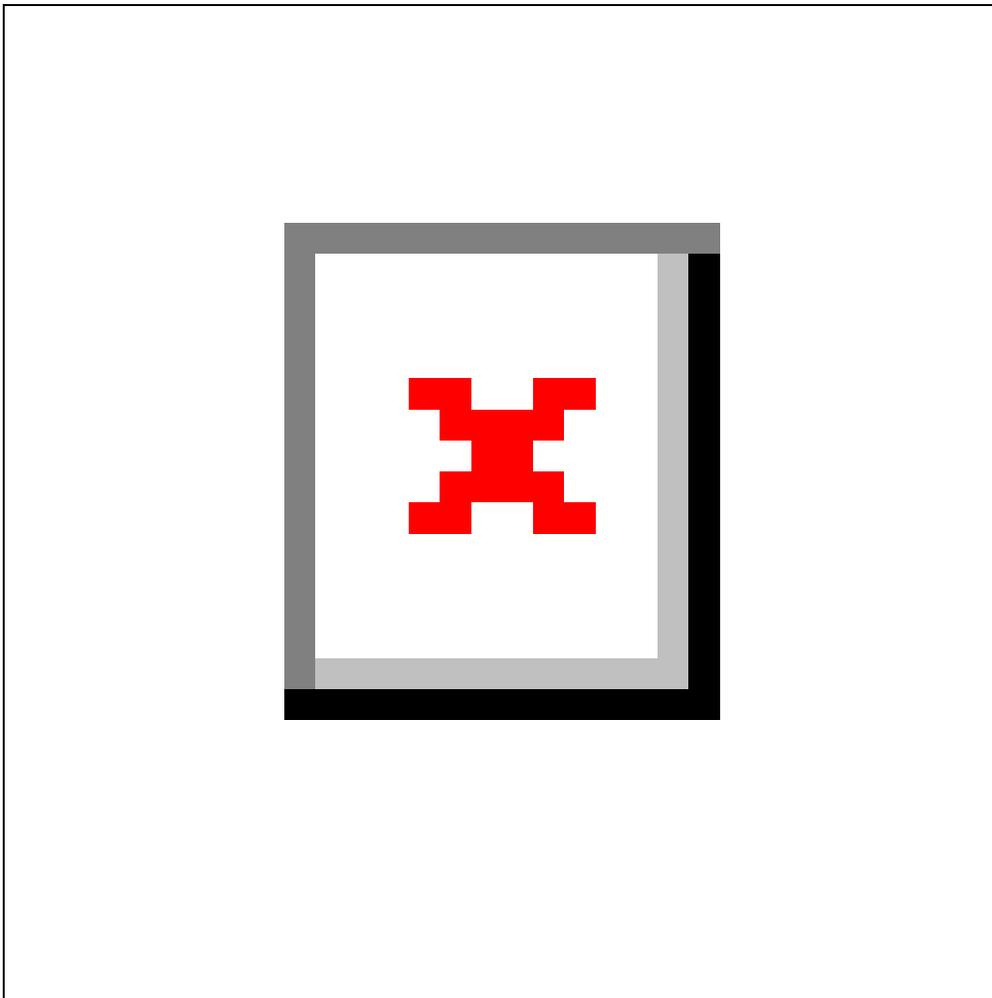
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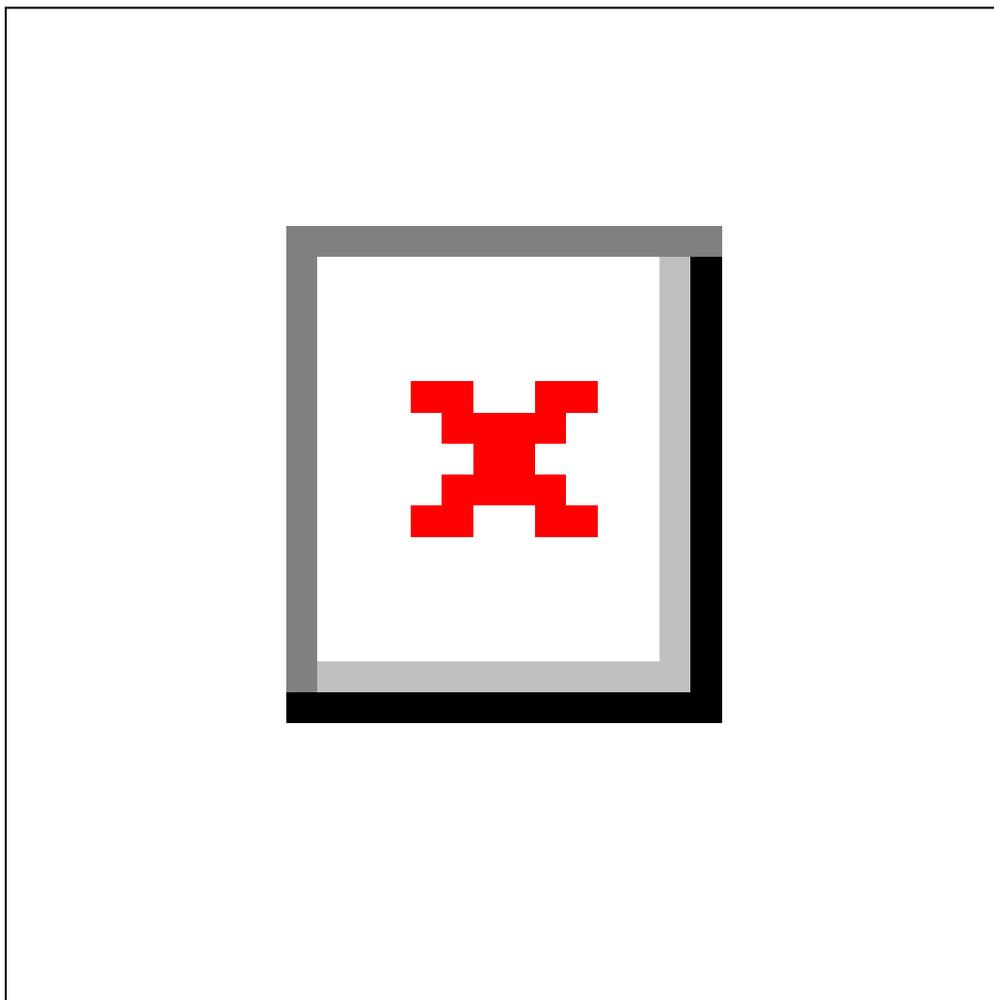
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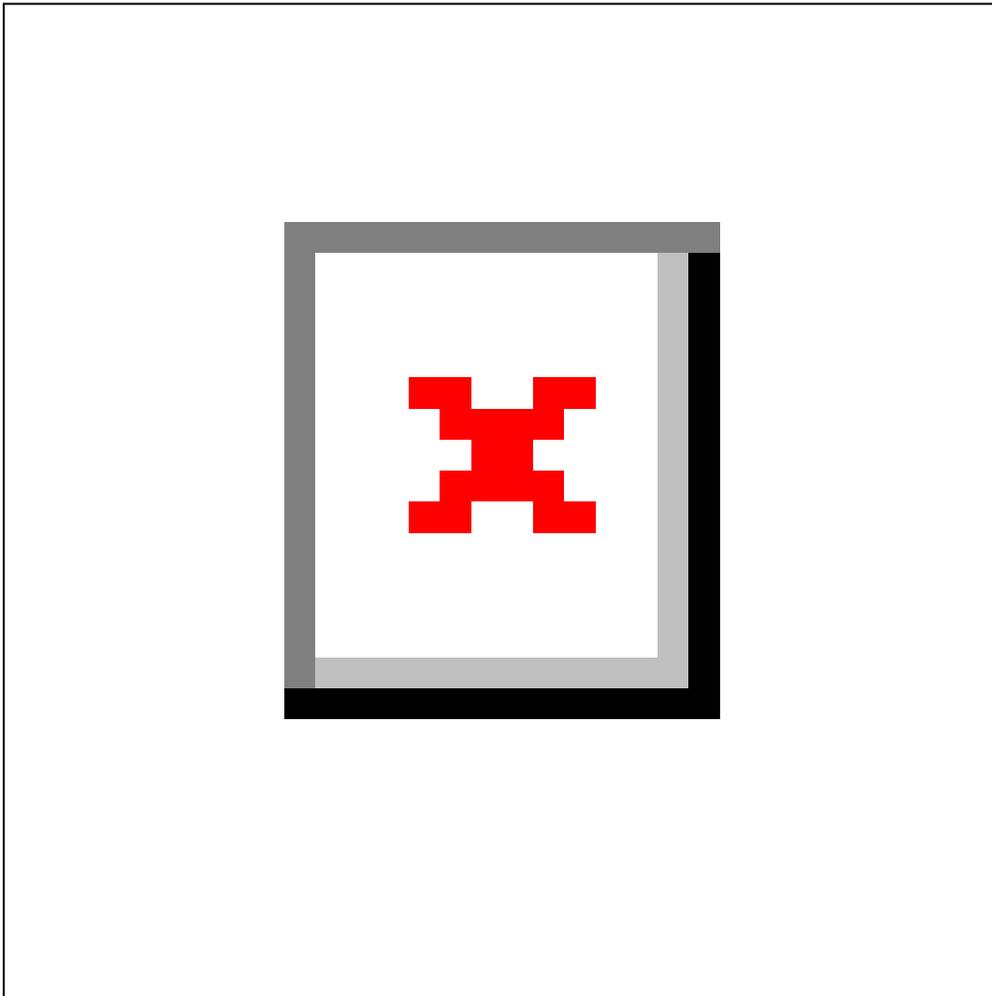
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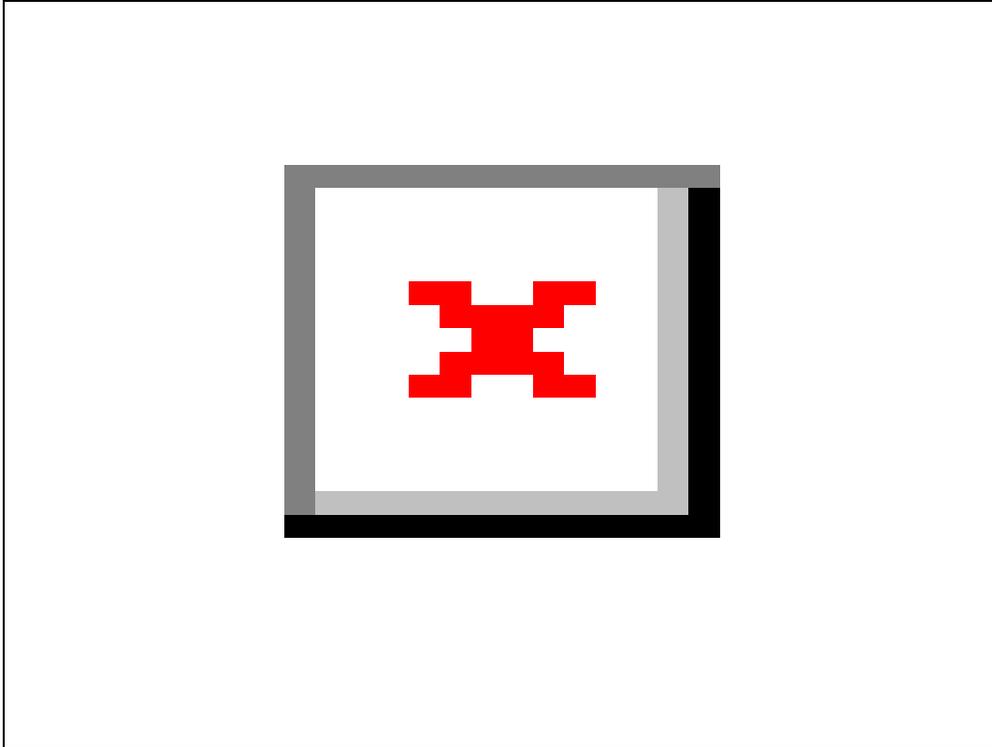
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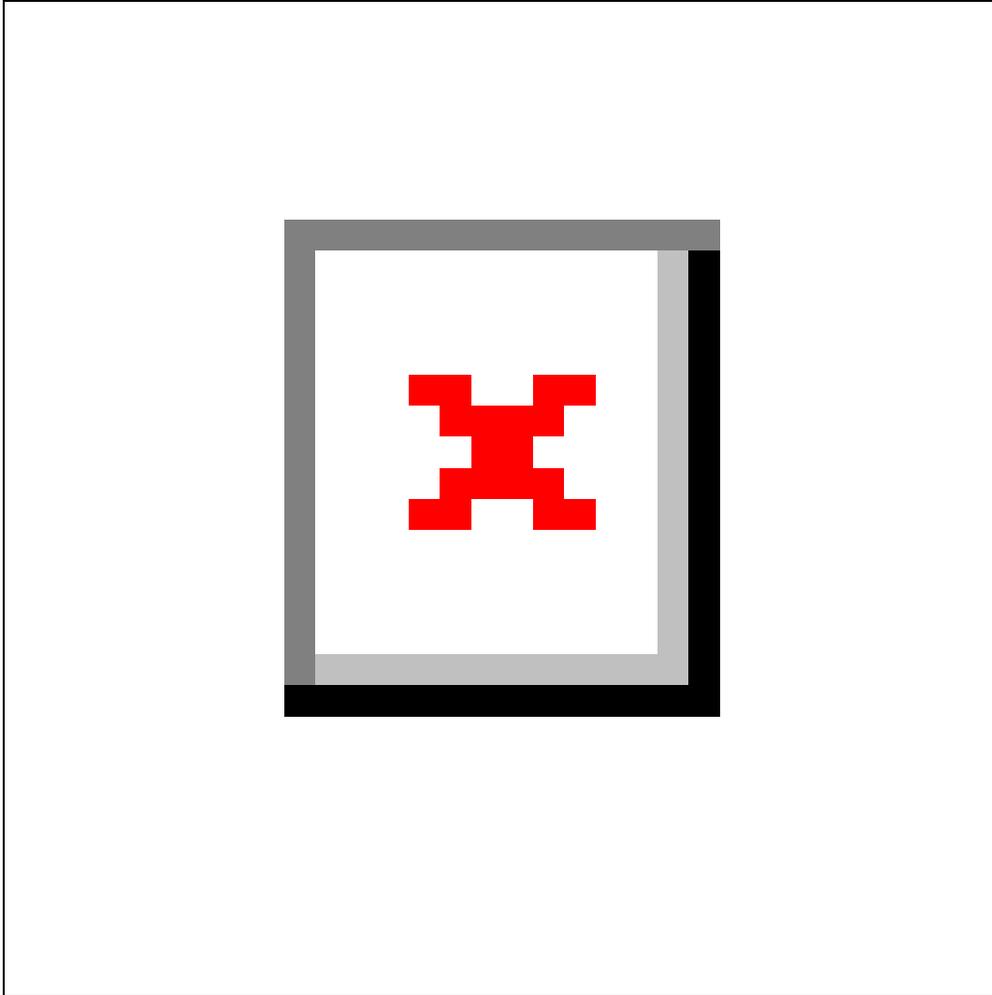
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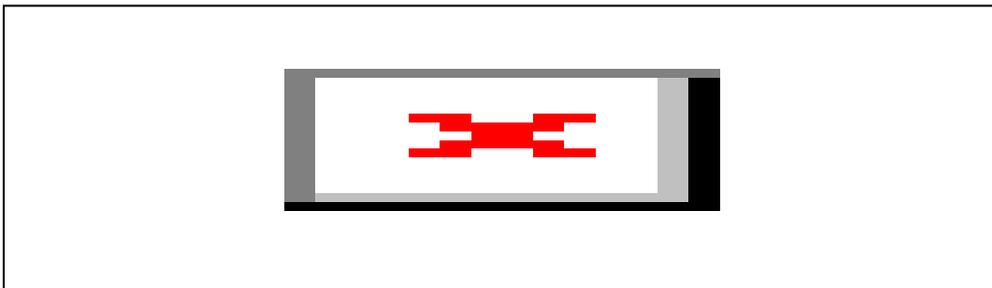
*I was never made to feel as though I was a woman home alone with her husband out of town who was imagining things. In fact, when I was feeling silly about calling the police, I was reassured that they would rather check out something that ended up being nothing than have me not call and it be something that was indeed a threat. The officers discovered that my attic trap door counterweight system had failed and crashed down on me, not that anyone was up there trying to hurt me.*

*Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the way I was treated. I felt protected, valued and safe. I am proud to live in a city that has such an excellent police department watching over and protecting me.”*

The Eau Claire Police Department takes pride in serving the community with care and compassion. We thank the personnel involved for demonstrating our values, including Telecommunicators Melissa Stone and Brittany Bowe, Officers Derek Jack, Austin Summers, Rogelio Gonzales, and Brian Leach, and Sergeant Olivia Erl.

## **PHOTOS FROM AROUND TOWN**

**Library Strategic Planning:** Pictured here are some images from the Library’s Strategic Planning process. Staff were reviewing constituent feedback and working to prioritize the different services and programming the Library provides. The City as a whole is hoping to replicate this process for all its divisions and departments.



## **COUNCIL CALENDAR**

- *September 29th – City Council receives 2024 Proposed Operating Budget*
- Monday, October 9th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night (Public Hearing #1 on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget and State of the City)
- Tuesday, October 10th: Council Meeting (City Council Operating Budget Work Session #3)

- Monday, October 23rd: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
- Tuesday, October 24th: Council Meeting (City Council Operating Budget Work Session #4 – Amendment Discussion)
- *November 3rd – City Council Budget Amendments Due*
- Monday, November 6th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion
- Monday, November 13th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night (Public Hearing #2 on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget)
- Tuesday, November 14th: Council Meeting (City Council action on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget and levy)
- Monday, December 18th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion

Having trouble viewing this email? [View on the website instead.](#)

[Change your eNotification preference.](#)

[Unsubscribe from all City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin eNotifications.](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
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10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:14 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andwerth@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 14:26:10 -0500  
**To:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

FYI Tami from World Relief will attend to answer questions and Dave has talked to the Acting Police Chief to brief him. Fingers crossed that hearts are changed.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Jill Christopherson <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 12:06:03 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Fyi

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
[715-271-2489](tel:715-271-2489)

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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[domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad

[715-497-4359](tel:715-497-4359)

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Kelly Ware" <ksware715@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 23:04:06 -0500  
**To:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: WQOW tonight Friday Oct 20

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Kelly Ware <[ksware715@gmail.com](mailto:ksware715@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Fri, Oct 20, 2023 at 11:03 PM  
**Subject:** WQOW tonight Friday Oct 20  
**To:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

Did you hear the correction on the news tonight about the World Relief Office opening date?

Apparently WQOW stated they were opening the end of this year and tonight the correction was the office is opening the end of next year.

Is that even correct? Did they change the date? Or date WQOW get it wrong again?

My next question is this, will will the meeting on the library Monday Oct 23 at 6 pm with the World Relief Office still take place?

Kelly

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 13:44:58 -0500  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson"  
<emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry  
Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann"  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

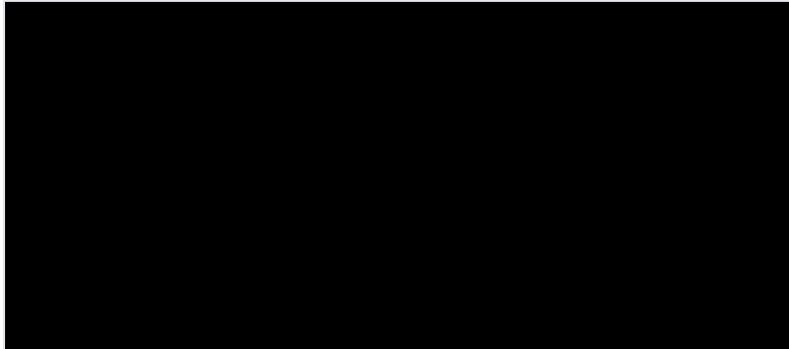
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:40:40 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Derek Thomas" <Derek.Thomas@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 22:18:12 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Thanks Ka!

Unfortunately I am not able to make it because I will be in Green Bay for the League of Wisconsin Municipalities Annual Conference!

Jeremy Gragert  
Eau Claire City Council member - District 3  
**From:** Ka Vang  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 8:55:33 AM  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 15 Oct 2023 15:41:24 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Not a sad good bye

Thanks for your time with us, Ka!

And it sounds like there will be many other opportunities to work with you in your new role! Very exciting. ☺

I will be out of town at the League of Wisconsin Municipalities on October 18th, and on October 23rd I have to work right up until the City Council meeting.

Please let me know how I can be in the loop otherwise.

Thanks,

Jeremy Gragert

Eau Claire City Council member - District 3

**From:** Ka Vang

**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 2:40:29 PM

**To:** Andrew Werthmann; Charles Johnson; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; Jill Christopherson; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones

**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) *Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023*

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

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L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 16:22:23 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Member Update

Hi Emily!

I think this is a great idea.

It is during these longer breaks between City Council meetings that I sometimes schedule vacations, and in this case, you should know that I will be in Mexico from January 24th to February 7th. If the 5th Tuesday is the regular day/time, the next one after would not be until April 30th. I think if it works for others you should go for it!

Jeremy Gragert  
Eau Claire City Council member - District 3

**From:** Emily Berge  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 1:44 PM  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**

*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 23:52:00 -0500  
**To:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

Good evening Scott,

Thank you for reaching out. Sorry about my delay getting back to you, as I'm just catching up from nearly a week away at the League of Wisconsin Municipalities Annual Conference in Green Bay.

Are you still with Sen. Ron Johnson's office, and therefore could help interpret this federal code in that capacity?

I believe it was in May 2023 that I was made aware that a World Relief office for Eau Claire was being explored, and further information will be shared by World Relief on Monday night at 6pm at the L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library. I hope to learn more by attending that meeting.

Thank you,

Jeremy Gragert  
Eau Claire City Council member - District 3  
**From:** Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 5:20:31 PM  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

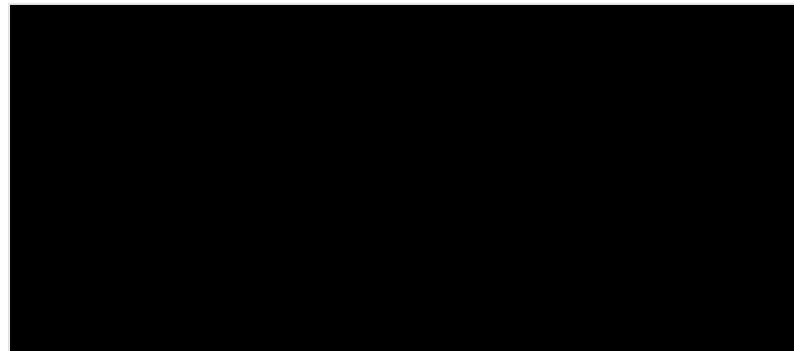
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees. Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:05:07 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 5/12  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 05 12 2023.pdf

Hello all –

Topics in this week's Update include:

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** Q&A on Triaging Tree Removal, Housing Survey, More Thank Yous to Street Crews, Hmong Chamber of Commerce Open House, World Relief, PERM Program, Some Prevention Updates, Managing Risk Article, Chippewa River Trail Tree Removal
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Rebecca Scharlau
- **A Few More Pictures**

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 25 Sep 2023 15:48:49 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 9/25  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 09 25 2023.pdf

Hello Council Members –

Sorry for the delay on this. We, internally, are trying to figure out a way to have just one newsletter that goes out weekly to the Council, the staff, and the public. We're trying to determine the best email marketing/newsletter platform to use. In the meantime, here's this week's. (And you'll get it again in the new format...)

Feel free to share any feedback or suggestions!

Stephanie

-  
-

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 6 Oct 2023 20:11:54 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: FROM /MARTY

[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org)

**TV 18 REPORTS**

**WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL**

**Bringing 75 families of immigrants to Eau Claire**

Legal immigration BUILT AMERICA\  
{MY GRAND PARENTS NO LESS

Are these New (75} IMMIGRATES predicted to be settled here BY  
World Relief Global active Wi since 2012 in Appleton

**COMING HERE LEGALLY** and **VETTED PROPERLY** is the  
**ONLY RIGHT QUESTION**

**If they are Then how will they be housed Educated and Supported and be  
EMPLOYED?**

QUESTIONS

October 23<sup>rd</sup> at LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY Informational session OPEN TO THE PUBLIC'  
TIME TBA MUST answer these questions

---

Marty



## [Marty Green](#)

CLICK on Name for Video

2006 Wisconsin Broadcasters Hall of Fame

60 years in Broadcasting former MGR of WAXX/WAYY

[Greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:Greenmarty1943@gmail.com)

Use this E Mail in the future not my Charter E Mail

715 834 2987 or {Cell } 559 2807

--

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

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400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:14 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andwerth@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Tess Morgan" <tess.morgan@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:06:16 -0500  
**To:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Alia Johnson" <Alia.Johnson@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "apmlw@ap.org" <apmlw@ap.org>; "Benjamin Hundt" <Benjamin.Hundt@eauclairewi.gov>; "Bridget Coit" <Bridget.Coit@eauclairewi.gov>; "Carrie Riepl" <Carrie.Riepl@eauclairewi.gov>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Chris Kirchman" <kirchmca@uwec.edu>; "Colleen Schian" <Colleen.Schian@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Elizabeth Giese (elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us)" <elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Herzog, Chris" <chris@stokesherzog.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "John Murphy" <murphy@wayy790.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Julian Emerson" <julianemersonec@gmail.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kelly Shea" <Kelly.Shea@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Kelsey Brunner" <Kelsey.Brunner@eauclairewi.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Liam Marlaire" <liam.marlaire@ecpc.com>; "Librarian" <librarian@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Matt Milner - Editor L-T" <Matt.Milner@ecpc.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "news@chippewa.com" <news@chippewa.com>; "news@midwestfamilyec.com" <news@midwestfamilyec.com>; "News8@wkb.com" <News8@wkb.com>; "newsroom@ecpc.com" <newsroom@ecpc.com>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Nick Meyer" <nick@volumeone.org>; "Progressive Media Network" <jgragert@gmail.com>; "Rebecca Draeger" <Rebecca.Draeger@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Recreation" <Recreation@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Rep. Jodi Emerson" <rep.emerson@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Richard Kremer (richard.kremer@wpr.org)" <richard.kremer@wpr.org>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Scott Rogers" <rogers@eauclairechamber.org>; "Spectator" <C-J02@uwec.edu>; "Spectrum News - Wisconsin" <SpectrumNewsWI@charter.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tom Giffey" <giffey@volumeone.org>; "UWEC - Communication & Journalism" <cj.dept@uwec.edu>; "UW-EC Integrated Marketing & Communications Team" <imc@uwec.edu>; "Volume One - Editorial" <editorial@volumeone.org>; "WEAU (news@weau.com)" <news@weau.com>; "Wisconsin Free Press" <newswifreepress@gmail.com>; "WQOW NEWS" <news@wqow.com>; "WWIB" <WWIB@WWIB.COM>  
**Subject:** Public Notices  
**Attachments:** Public Notices--101923.pdf

City Council Public Hearing – 10/23 CANCELLED  
City Council Legislative Session – 10/24  
Housing Authority – 10/24  
South Barstow BID Entertainment Committee – 10/24  
DECI Parking and Infrastructure Committee – 10/25  
South Barstow BID Outreach & Special Projects – 10/25  
BIPOC Steering Committee – 10/26  
DECI Executive committee – 10/26  
North Barstow/Medical BID Executive Committee – 10/26  
Waterways and Parks Commission – CANCELLED  
City Council Invitation to Community Informational Meeting “Who is my Neighbor?” – 10/23  
City Council Invitation to Fire Department Swearing-In Ceremony – 11/2

## **Tess Morgan**

**Media/Communications Specialist**

P: 715.839.4902

E: [Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of  
"greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 07:36:12 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] TV18 IMMIGRATION MEETING COVERAGE {OR NON COVERASGE}

Dear Citizens:

If you watched the TV18 Coverage of the Meeting on IMMIGRATION coming to Eau Claire

Like me you were TERRIBLY DISSAPOINTED in how this meeting was Represented by TV18's reporter

TAXATION without REPRESENTATION was the NEVER MENTIONED in this very Biased Reporting.

CK OUT

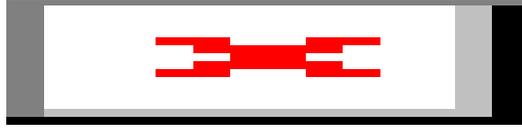
[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG)

for WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL  
And its GOALS for 75 Families  
Coming to Eau Claire

CLICK ON TV18 NEWS for their Story about the meeting at the VFW

Marty Green

PS if fighting the WATER PLANT was TOUGH this is TOUGHER.  
OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup> at the LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY we must participate  
But you Need To Sign Up to even attend this WORLD RELIEF EFFORT



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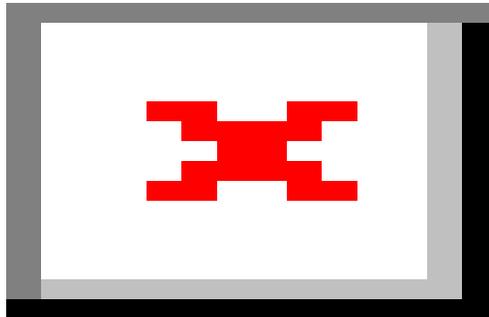
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——— Top Stories ———



## **Friday looking great; the weekend in general looking decent outside of isolated showers Friday Night, Saturday**

Just like we did Wednesday, we had a few scattered showers track across the area on our Thursday and those that saw rain didn't see much at all. Eau Claire got lucky and saw some rain both days.

----- Sports -----



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WQOW 5545 Hwy 93, Eau Claire, WI 54701

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 13:44:58 -0500  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson"  
<emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry  
Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann"  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** "Becky Hoschouer" <beckyhoschouer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 15:23:51 -0500  
**To:** "" <Jeremy.Gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Representation

Hello,

I hope this finds you well.

I am writing as I have heard the issue of elected representation has been bypassed.

Is it true that a contract with World Relief Organization for settling refugees unvetted by our local sheriff and not voted on by my representative, yourself, has been signed by the city manager, who is not an elected entity?

So much of this bypasses of state and local law.

I hope this isn't a financial boondoggle such as the county supervisors publicly endured recently regarding misspent tax dollars. It's my understanding that the non-profit covers 90 days and we pay for interpreters and housing!

We already have a housing shortage and issues with homelessness.

I am also concerned about recent world events. Will the sheriff's office be able to vet these refugees? How much will that cost?

Because democracy dies in darkness, I am relying on you and not the at-large members to represent me. Please speak up on my behalf.

Also, I can't speak for myself because Monday's public meeting is cancelled, but you have been elected to represent me.

Very Respectfully and yet Very Concerned,  
Rebecca Hoschouer, M.A.  
1816 Lloyd Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54701

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

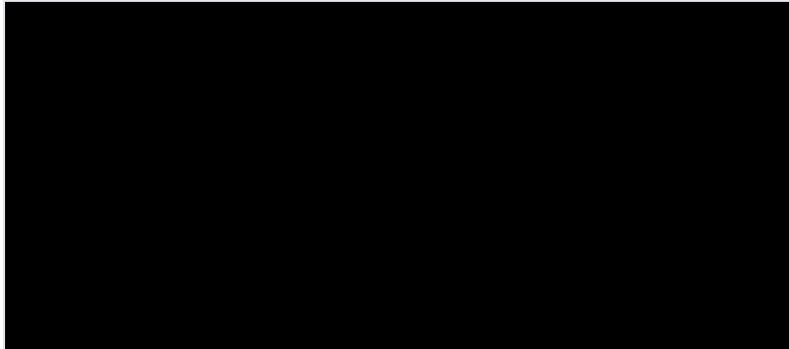
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 12:03:16 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] more INFO IMMIGRATION MTG MONDAY 6 PM LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY

.com>

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**From:** Cyndi Burton <[cyndimburton@gmail.com](mailto:cyndimburton@gmail.com)>

Register for the meeting at the Eau Claire library and let them know how many people care about this. Monday night, October 23, 2023 6:00-7:00pm. Information session on World Relief at LE Phillips Library. You can register for the meeting here: <https://worldrelief.org/.../who-is-my-neighbor-community.../>

**Is this NGO even operating legally?** Excerpt from 8 US Code 1522

The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities.

Notice the word "**SHALL**". It does not say **MAY**. This process must be adhered to and they did not.

Contact city council members with your concerns about the lack of inclusion of our elected representatives in this process and about the blatant lack of transparency about the use of our tax dollars in our community. <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/.../city.../city-council-members>

And/or rally at the library 5:30-7:00. Bring signs if you wish.

**Democracy Dies in Darkness**

**No Taxation Without Representation**

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



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[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



**World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down  
Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSCHINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support Opening.pdf

This Letter was sent to  
Holly Herrera  
Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
US DEPT OF STATE  
Washington DC  
5/15/2023

**From:** Fred Kappus <[jfkappus@charter.net](mailto:jfkappus@charter.net)>

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The question is, did she do this on her own or is the City Council involved as well?

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**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
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**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:40:40 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Derek Thomas" <Derek.Thomas@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Terry Wilkinson" <joyous\_praise@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:43:55 +0000  
**To:** "Terry Wilkinson" <joyous\_praise@yahoo.com>  
**Bcc:** "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that the city council abdicated its responsibility in the decision about refugees (8 US Code 1522) by delegating it to the city manager.

Taxes will go up once federal aid ends. People on fixed incomes and people who are not well-off will be hurt the most. We need to consider all members of our society in making these decisions.

Our country was founded on the principle that we should not have taxation without representation. The city manager is not an elected official. A decision this major should not be made by an unelected official.

The people of the city need a voice in the decision whether it is by a referendum or through their elected officials.

Sincerely,  
Terry Wilkinson

**From:** "Wilkinson Jennifer" <wilkinsonja@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 17:45:58 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that the city council let the unelected city manager make an important decision concerning refugees, a decision that should have been addressed by our elected officials (8 US Code 1522).

Once federal aid ends, our taxes will go up. Low-income families and people on fixed incomes will be hurt the most by these tax increases.

We should have no taxation without representation. This principle was central in the birth of our nation, and we must continue to live by it.

The people of Eau Claire need a voice in the decision about refugees. This could be by referendum or a vote by our elected officials. The decision must not be delegated to an unelected official.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Wilkinson

**From:** "Communication Measures" <comm\_measures@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tue, 24 Oct 2023 00:32:45 +0000  
**To:** "Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief information

Dear Jeremy,

I am concerned that there has been little information re: planning and possible establishment of a World Relief VOLAG (voluntary non-governmental agency) in Eau Claire. The intent as stated by World Relief would be to resettle 75 refugees in the City of Eau Claire and the surrounding area.

I have just finished reading '**8 US Code 1522**-Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees'. I noted in Section a (1) (B) (iii), states that "local voluntary agency activities should be conducted in close cooperation and advance consultation with State and local governments." It appears that this advance consultation has been neglected.

Furthermore, Section a (2) (A) states that "the Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities." I cannot find evidence that local officials were consulted regarding this action. Can you reassure me that the law has been followed in this case? Please provide names and dates of conversations re this topic.

Local Taxpayers will experience additional financial burden when 'refugees' or 'immigrants' are "placed" by an external agency. I note that after the first 90 days of placement, the responsibility for refugee/immigrant job-training, language-learning, housing, medical expenses, education, etc. passes from the World Relief VOLAG to the local taxpayers. Your lack of transparency and information to your constituents is unacceptable. It appears at this time that further action by World Relief in Eau Claire is imprudent. Please describe your plans with World Relief to the people of Eau Claire through paper, web and social media and solicit taxpayer feedback prior to implementing any such actions.

Thomas L. Hintgen

[Comm\\_measures@yahoo.com](mailto:Comm_measures@yahoo.com)

10-23-23

**From:** "Joshua Miller" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 10:20:28 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-1669577877655b988a69f-eda6-4b6a-850b-bdf0ccbcb17d.png, OutlookEmoji-16695778776554c6f8599-a515-4030-a5c0-ae8f8b6b91f.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765511ee105e-32ca-4a3e-b791-52384c65906d.png

Anoosheh,

I plan on attending the meeting. In case you hadn't seen it, here is the registration page:

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Thanks,

**Joshua Miller**  
**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.

Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Joshua Miller" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 10:33:02 -0500  
**To:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Ms. Meyers.

World Relief Wisconsin is having a community meeting at the Eau Claire library on Monday, October 23. I'll be attending to learn more about their refugee program and what ideas they have. It's a community meeting and anyone can register. Here's the link.

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Regarding the establishment of an office, they already have an office in Eau Claire. Any organization has the right to have an office and there is no reason to stop an office from being established, nor would the city have the legal right to stop them.

According to their website, they work with the US Department of State with their refugee resettlement program. I have confidence that the State Department is following US laws regarding refugees and is approving the people being considered for relocation. You can see their statement on refugee resettlement on this page:

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I will be attending their meeting to learn more and see what their program entails for Eau Claire and western Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

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**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55:07 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

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Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

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What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305

1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Joshua Miller" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 11:52:49 -0500  
**To:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-16695778776557f0749bf-35da-4de5-8e9c-c8a5e851f322.png, OutlookEmoji-16695778776555a031c23-fb28-4a69-a7a9-f63cd4c21683.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655a46af5ed-a6c8-4ae3-a3bd-68a9f6fa9abb.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655dd3e3293-e625-4c4d-a3c5-4ebb8dbc7d78.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655d96d7fd0-f601-40fb-a07b-626fc9f56324.png

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Joshua Miller  
Eau Claire City Council

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 10:46:47 AM  
**To:** Joshua Miller  
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715-497-4359

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**From:** "Joshua Miller" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 11:51:16 -0500  
**To:** "Sheila Wilkinson" <skwilkin@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-16695778776558e959cb0-b161-4dba-8ea2-959ab95c3519.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655fb12f17e-5d8e-4ffc-af55-291696a3b486.png, OutlookEmoji-16695778776559aedfbfb-dc75-4855-a93c-880daadb84f1.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655640455a5-1d99-40b4-9ba5-9c868b40ae22.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655a382a67d-59b9-48f8-b388-be82cc726c4d.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765576072b02-f03e-46b4-b595-4b3cdc29acb0.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765553e1760e-18b1-4d08-a093-4891184c19c7.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765578c55cd7-4e74-49bb-9aa0-a3ab36ece0fd.png, OutlookEmoji-16695778776555d7f91b0-7a26-403a-8388-e71d91eddd90.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655bf3758e3-42a5-41a7-8a76-da401750106c.png, OutlookEmoji-16695778776556bfc1379-fc71-4ffb-9d6d-fd618bbd7519.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765548b7d6d3-cf2d-4dbf-b261-f6c67bc47e86.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655fdce65ff-544e-43e0-a28a-f6b148429224.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765518cf7bfd-6b07-4450-89e9-6252135593d7.png

Ms. Wilkinson,

Eau Claire city ordinance 2.04.012 states that the "The Council shall engage for an indefinite term a city manager who shall have charge of the executive side of the city government and who shall be responsible for the efficiency of its administration. (Ord. 5521 §2, 1995)." Therefore the city manager is the chief executive of the city and a member of the city government. Once does not need to be elected to be a member of government.

Therefore, if World Relief has had discussions with the city manger, they have fulfilled the requirement to be in contact with local government.

I will be attending World Relief's community discussion this Monday. I am very interested to learn how Eau Claire can become a haven for those seeking refuge as I believe our city should be a welcoming place where all are welcome. The Hmong community became established in our city over a generation ago and are now an integral part of our community. It would be exciting to be able to have that happen with another group.

**Joshua Miller**  
**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** Sheila Wilkinson <skwilkin@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 7:44:35 PM  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that World Relief and the state of Wisconsin failed to abide by 8 US Code 1522 in that they failed to include the local governments in their decision to bring refugees to Eau Claire. They claim to have spoken to the city manager, but that individual is not an elected person.

Consequently, the people of Eau Claire are not being represented in this major decision. Other cities which have invited so many refugees have suffered from high tax increases that occur after the federal and state funds run out.

We have many people on fixed incomes that are not even keeping up with the inflation rate now and certainly cannot afford more increases.

I ask you to please halt this process. Disregarding 8 US Code 1522 is illegal, and the people need to have a voice.

Sincerely,  
Sheila Wilkinson





**From:** "Joshua Miller" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 06:33:36 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Member Update  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-16695778776551cf8b170-07a4-43b0-b301-84e5f61cea44.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765522d1a832-210f-422b-88a2-65b1451c89c6.png, OutlookEmoji-16695778776557d56015d-d85c-4936-9797-031c82ded8d0.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655df673400-4be4-440b-9bae-d0fb05984e06.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765547f6481f-0234-4e6a-8a72-17f347adeaf3.png

Emily, that sounds like a good idea. It'd be nice to have an official gathering where we aren't engaged in official business under Robert's Rules. I could attend a meeting on January 30.

Thanks for the suggestion!

**Joshua Miller**  
**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** Emily Berge  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 1:44:58 PM  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*



**From:** "Joshua Miller" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 12:52:13 -0500  
**To:** "ron branstner" <golfer\_4\_1999@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-1669577877655aad1a2c1-1052-4315-b98e-ea27daee351e.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765503af26a4-1bc3-4f71-966d-368a0d113403.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765534893b17-98ce-4293-ada5-d965fb7a8ade.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655d48743eb-92fd-4720-abec-eb74e658c7b5.png, OutlookEmoji-16695778776553ec9f304-c10b-4ec9-b6f4-f2c7e1ee7363.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765508205fa2-92e7-43bc-8c10-5d9d86fa4bae.png

Mr. Branstner,

I have not replied yet to the email that you sent over the weekend because I will be attending the World Relief community meeting this evening and will have more information after that meeting.

**Joshua Miller**  
**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** ron branstner <golfer\_4\_1999@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 9:26:04 PM  
**To:** Joshua Miller  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Dear Councilman Miller, According to 8 U.S code 1522 Local officials were to be involved in the resettlement of refugees in Eau Claire. I am doing a date request from the City of Eau Claire, WI . I am looking to see if any elected council members were in the mandatory meetings as required. If not, the city was in violation of federal law. This will be first hand information.

I have not received a response from my last e-mail.

Ron Branstner

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 02:20:12 PM PDT  
**Subject:** Fwd: Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

----- Original Message -----

**Subject:**Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Date:**2023-10-19 11:52  
**From:**Joshua Miller <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>

**To:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>

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Eau Claire City Council

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**To:** Joshua Miller

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**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:05:07 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 5/12  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 05 12 2023.pdf

Hello all –

Topics in this week's Update include:

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** Q&A on Triaging Tree Removal, Housing Survey, More Thank Yous to Street Crews, Hmong Chamber of Commerce Open House, World Relief, PERM Program, Some Prevention Updates, Managing Risk Article, Chippewa River Trail Tree Removal
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Rebecca Scharlau
- **A Few More Pictures**

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 25 Sep 2023 15:48:49 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 9/25  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 09 25 2023.pdf

Hello Council Members –

Sorry for the delay on this. We, internally, are trying to figure out a way to have just one newsletter that goes out weekly to the Council, the staff, and the public. We're trying to determine the best email marketing/newsletter platform to use. In the meantime, here's this week's. (And you'll get it again in the new format...)

Feel free to share any feedback or suggestions!

Stephanie

-  
-

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 6 Oct 2023 20:11:54 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: FROM /MARTY

[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org)

**TV 18 REPORTS**

**WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL**

**Bringing 75 families of immigrants to Eau Claire**

Legal immigration BUILT AMERICA\  
{MY GRAND PARENTS NO LESS

Are these New (75} IMMIGRATES predicted to be settled here BY  
World Relief Global active Wi since 2012 in Appleton

**COMING HERE LEGALLY** and **VETTED PROPERLY** is the  
**ONLY RIGHT QUESTION**

**If they are Then how will they be housed Educated and Supported and be  
EMPLOYED?**

QUESTIONS

October 23<sup>rd</sup> at LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY Informational session OPEN TO THE PUBLIC'  
TIME TBA MUST answer these questions

---

Marty



## [Marty Green](#)

CLICK on Name for Video

2006 Wisconsin Broadcasters Hall of Fame

60 years in Broadcasting former MGR of WAXX/WAYY

[Greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:Greenmarty1943@gmail.com)

Use this E Mail in the future not my Charter E Mail

715 834 2987 or {Cell } 559 2807

--

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:14 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andwerth@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 10:46:47 -0500  
**To:** "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Thank you for your response. It is more important you attend the meeting tonight at the VFW. The one-sided information you will receive from World Relief is not reality.

On 2023-10-19 10:33, Joshua Miller wrote:

Ms. Meyers.

World Relief Wisconsin is having a community meeting at the Eau Claire library on Monday, October 23. I'll be attending to learn more about their refugee program and what ideas they have. It's a community meeting and anyone can register. Here's the link.

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Regarding the establishment of an office, they already have an office in Eau Claire. Any organization has the right to have an office and there is no reason to stop an office from being established, nor would the city have the legal right to stop them.

According to their website, they work with the US Department of State with their refugee resettlement program. I have confidence that the State Department is following US laws regarding refugees and is approving the people being considered for relocation. You can see their statement on refugee resettlement on this page:

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/about-us-chippewa-valley/>

I will be attending their meeting to learn more and see what their program entails for Eau Claire and western Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

**Joshua Miller**  
**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55:07 AM

**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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[domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Tess Morgan" <tess.morgan@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:06:16 -0500  
**To:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Alia Johnson" <Alia.Johnson@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "apmlw@ap.org" <apmlw@ap.org>; "Benjamin Hundt" <Benjamin.Hundt@eauclairewi.gov>; "Bridget Coit" <Bridget.Coit@eauclairewi.gov>; "Carrie Riepl" <Carrie.Riepl@eauclairewi.gov>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Chris Kirchman" <kirchmca@uwec.edu>; "Colleen Schian" <Colleen.Schian@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Elizabeth Giese (elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us)" <elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Herzog, Chris" <chris@stokesherzog.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "John Murphy" <murphy@wayy790.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Julian Emerson" <julianemersonec@gmail.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kelly Shea" <Kelly.Shea@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Kelsey Brunner" <Kelsey.Brunner@eauclairewi.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Liam Marlaire" <liam.marlaire@ecpc.com>; "Librarian" <librarian@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Matt Milner - Editor L-T" <Matt.Milner@ecpc.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "news@chippewa.com" <news@chippewa.com>; "news@midwestfamilyec.com" <news@midwestfamilyec.com>; "News8@wkb.com" <News8@wkb.com>; "newsroom@ecpc.com" <newsroom@ecpc.com>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Nick Meyer" <nick@volumeone.org>; "Progressive Media Network" <jgragert@gmail.com>; "Rebecca Draeger" <Rebecca.Draeger@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Recreation" <Recreation@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Rep. Jodi Emerson" <rep.emerson@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Richard Kremer (richard.kremer@wpr.org)" <richard.kremer@wpr.org>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Scott Rogers" <rogers@eauclairechamber.org>; "Spectator" <C-J02@uwec.edu>; "Spectrum News - Wisconsin" <SpectrumNewsWI@charter.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tom Giffey" <giffey@volumeone.org>; "UWEC - Communication & Journalism" <cj.dept@uwec.edu>; "UW-EC Integrated Marketing & Communications Team" <imc@uwec.edu>; "Volume One - Editorial" <editorial@volumeone.org>; "WEAU (news@weau.com)" <news@weau.com>; "Wisconsin Free Press" <newswifreepress@gmail.com>; "WQOW NEWS" <news@wqow.com>; "WWIB" <WWIB@WWIB.COM>  
**Subject:** Public Notices  
**Attachments:** Public Notices--101923.pdf

City Council Public Hearing – 10/23 CANCELLED  
City Council Legislative Session – 10/24  
Housing Authority – 10/24  
South Barstow BID Entertainment Committee – 10/24  
DECI Parking and Infrastructure Committee – 10/25  
South Barstow BID Outreach & Special Projects – 10/25  
BIPOC Steering Committee – 10/26  
DECI Executive committee – 10/26  
North Barstow/Medical BID Executive Committee – 10/26  
Waterways and Parks Commission – CANCELLED  
City Council Invitation to Community Informational Meeting “Who is my Neighbor?” – 10/23  
City Council Invitation to Fire Department Swearing-In Ceremony – 11/2

## **Tess Morgan**

**Media/Communications Specialist**

P: 715.839.4902

E: [Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of  
"greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 07:36:12 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] TV18 IMMIGRATION MEETING COVERAGE {OR NON COVERASGE}

Dear Citizens:

If you watched the TV18 Coverage of the Meeting on IMMIGRATION coming to Eau Claire

Like me you were TERRIBLY DISSAPOINTED in how this meeting was Represented by TV18's reporter

TAXATION without REPRESENTATION was the NEVER MENTIONED in this very Biased Reporting.

CK OUT

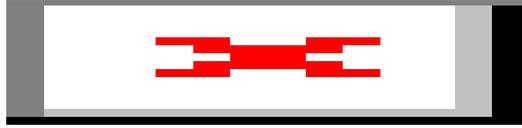
[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG)

for WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL  
And its GOALS for 75 Families  
Coming to Eau Claire

CLICK ON TV18 NEWS for their Story about the meeting at the VFW

Marty Green

PS if fighting the WATER PLANT was TOUGH this is TOUGHER.  
OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup> at the LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY we must participate  
But you Need To Sign Up to even attend this WORLD RELIEF EFFORT



[TOP STORIES](#)

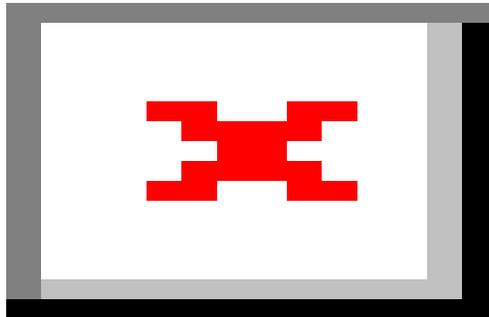
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[WEATHER](#)

[SPORTS](#)

[WATCH LIVE](#)

——— Top Stories ———



## **Friday looking great; the weekend in general looking decent outside of isolated showers Friday Night, Saturday**

Just like we did Wednesday, we had a few scattered showers track across the area on our Thursday and those that saw rain didn't see much at all. Eau Claire got lucky and saw some rain both days.

----- Sports -----



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[SPORTS](#)

[WATCH LIVE](#)

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WQOW 5545 Hwy 93, Eau Claire, WI 54701

**From:** "Sheila Wilkinson" <skwilkin@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 00:44:35 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that World Relief and the state of Wisconsin failed to abide by 8 US Code 1522 in that they failed to include the local governments in their decision to bring refugees to Eau Claire. They claim to have spoken to the city manager, but that individual is not an elected person.

Consequently, the people of Eau Claire are not being represented in this major decision. Other cities which have invited so many refugees have suffered from high tax increases that occur after the federal and state funds run out.

We have many people on fixed incomes that are not even keeping up with the inflation rate now and certainly cannot afford more increases.

I ask you to please halt this process. Disregarding 8 US Code 1522 is illegal, and the people need to have a voice.

Sincerely,  
Sheila Wilkinson

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 13:44:58 -0500  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson"  
<emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry  
Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann"  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** "Sheila Wilkinson" <skwilkin@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 19:12:35 +0000  
**To:** "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Thank you for your response here. I will be checking on this city ordinance because if we have truly given such authority to the city manager, maybe we should look at changing that. Our country was founded largely because the people were being taxed without representation. We have no representation if one individual can make these decisions.

Just so you do not misunderstand my concerns - Many of our friends are immigrants - immigrants from several different countries. They came legally and worked hard to become part of our community. We all have richer lives because of this.

I also would like for our country to be welcoming to those who are true refugees. However, when we try to distribute several million illegal immigrants into our communities, problems arise.

I would hope that World Relief could work better to inform the people of the community of all aspects of this kind of mobilization. Then, I would also hope the city council would likewise keep us informed and consider our concerns. I, too, want what is best for the community and all involved.

Sincerely,  
Sheila W.

On Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 11:51:22 AM CDT, Joshua Miller <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com> wrote:

Ms. Wilkinson,

Eau Claire city ordinance 2.04.012 states that the "The Council shall engage for an indefinite term a city manager who shall have charge of the executive side of the city government and who shall be responsible for the efficiency of its administration. (Ord. 5521 §2, 1995)." Therefore the city manager is the chief executive of the city and a member of the city government. Once does not need to be elected to be a member of government.

Therefore, if World Relief has had discussions with the city manger, they have fulfilled the requirement to be in contact with local government.

I will be attending World Relief's community discussion this Monday. I am very interested to learn how Eau Claire can become a haven for those seeking refuge as I believe our city should be a welcoming place where all are welcome. The Hmong community became established in our city over a generation ago and are now an integral part of our community. It would be exciting to be able to have that happen with another group.

**Joshua Miller**

**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** Sheila Wilkinson <skwilkin@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 7:44:35 PM

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that World Relief and the state of Wisconsin failed to abide by 8 US Code 1522 in that they failed to include the local governments in their decision to bring refugees to Eau Claire. They claim to have spoken to the city manager, but that individual is not an elected person.

Consequently, the people of Eau Claire are not being represented in this major decision. Other cities which have invited so many refugees have suffered from high tax increases that occur after the federal and state funds run out.

We have many people on fixed incomes that are not even keeping up with the inflation rate now and certainly cannot afford more increases.

I ask you to please halt this process. Disregarding 8 US Code 1522 is illegal, and the people need to have a voice.

Sincerely,  
Sheila Wilkinson

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

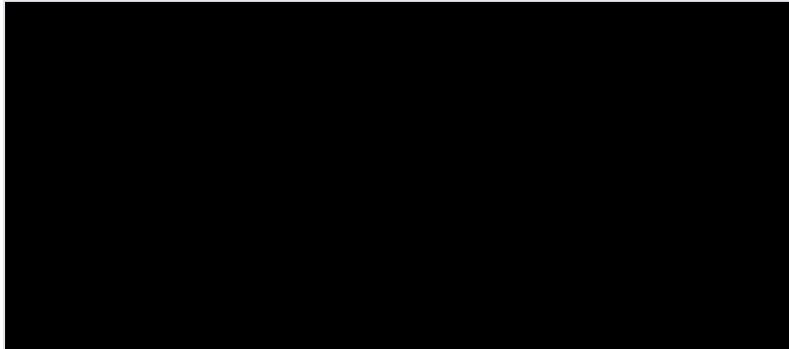
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 12:03:16 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] more INFO IMMIGRATION MTG MONDAY 6 PM LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY

.com>

---

**From:** Cyndi Burton <[cyndimburton@gmail.com](mailto:cyndimburton@gmail.com)>

Register for the meeting at the Eau Claire library and let them know how many people care about this. Monday night, October 23, 2023 6:00-7:00pm. Information session on World Relief at LE Phillips Library. You can register for the meeting here: <https://worldrelief.org/.../who-is-my-neighbor-community.../>

**Is this NGO even operating legally?** Excerpt from 8 US Code 1522

The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities.

Notice the word "**SHALL**". It does not say **MAY**. This process must be adhered to and they did not.

Contact city council members with your concerns about the lack of inclusion of our elected representatives in this process and about the blatant lack of transparency about the use of our tax dollars in our community. <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/.../city.../city-council-members>

And/or rally at the library 5:30-7:00. Bring signs if you wish.

**Democracy Dies in Darkness**

**No Taxation Without Representation**

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



**World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down  
Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSCHINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support Opening.pdf

This Letter was sent to  
Holly Herrera  
Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
US DEPT OF STATE  
Washington DC  
5/15/2023

**From:** Fred Kappus <[jfkappus@charter.net](mailto:jfkappus@charter.net)>

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**From:** "ron branstner" <golfer\_4\_1999@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 02:26:04 +0000  
**To:** "Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Dear Councilman Miller, According to 8 U.S code 1522 Local officials were to be involved in the resettlement of refugees in Eau Claire. I am doing a date request from the City of Eau Claire, WI . I am looking to see if any elected council members were in the mandatory meetings as required. If not, the city was in violation of federal law. This will be first hand information.

I have not received a response from my last e-mail.

Ron Branstner

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 02:20:12 PM PDT  
**Subject:** Fwd: Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

----- Original Message -----

**Subject:**Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Date:**2023-10-19 11:52  
**From:**Joshua Miller <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**To:**meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>

It is most important to get information from the primary source. In this case, that is World Relief. Since they have not yet had their community information meeting, it does not seem likely that more accurate information could be presented from a third party, in this case, the meeting at the VFR. Thank you for the suggestion, but I must decline to attend the meeting tonight.

Joshua Miller

Eau Claire City Council

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 10:46:47 AM  
**To:** Joshua Miller  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Thank you for your response. It is more important you attend the meeting tonight at the VFW. The one-sided information you will receive from World Relief is not reality.

On 2023-10-19 10:33, Joshua Miller wrote:

Ms. Meyers.

World Relief Wisconsin is having a community meeting at the Eau Claire library on Monday, October 23. I'll be attending to learn more about their refugee program and what ideas they have. It's a community meeting and anyone can register. Here's the link.

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Regarding the establishment of an office, they already have an office in Eau Claire. Any organization has the right to have an office and there is no reason to stop an office from being established, nor would the city have the legal right to stop them.

According to their website, they work with the US Department of State with their refugee resettlement program. I have confidence that the State Department is following US laws regarding refugees and is approving the people being considered for relocation. You can see their statement on refugee resettlement on this page:

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/about-us-chippewa-valley/>

I will be attending their meeting to learn more and see what their program entails for Eau Claire and western Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

**Joshua Miller**  
**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55:07 AM

**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:40:40 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Derek Thomas" <Derek.Thomas@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Terry Wilkinson" <joyous\_praise@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:43:55 +0000  
**To:** "Terry Wilkinson" <joyous\_praise@yahoo.com>  
**Bcc:** "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that the city council abdicated its responsibility in the decision about refugees (8 US Code 1522) by delegating it to the city manager.

Taxes will go up once federal aid ends. People on fixed incomes and people who are not well-off will be hurt the most. We need to consider all members of our society in making these decisions.

Our country was founded on the principle that we should not have taxation without representation. The city manager is not an elected official. A decision this major should not be made by an unelected official.

The people of the city need a voice in the decision whether it is by a referendum or through their elected officials.

Sincerely,  
Terry Wilkinson

**From:** "Wilkinson Jennifer" <wilkinsonja@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 17:45:58 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that the city council let the unelected city manager make an important decision concerning refugees, a decision that should have been addressed by our elected officials (8 US Code 1522).

Once federal aid ends, our taxes will go up. Low-income families and people on fixed incomes will be hurt the most by these tax increases.

We should have no taxation without representation. This principle was central in the birth of our nation, and we must continue to live by it.

The people of Eau Claire need a voice in the decision about refugees. This could be by referendum or a vote by our elected officials. The decision must not be delegated to an unelected official.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Wilkinson

**From:** "Jessica Schoen" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 10:28:30 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning Anoosheh,

I plan to attend the 10/23 meeting (tomorrow).

Thank you,  
Jess

**Jess Schoen**

City Council Member, District 1  
Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com  
(715) 255-0297

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701





**From:** "Jessica Schoen" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 10:51:56 -0500  
**To:** "Kathy Kivlin" <kathykivlin4@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Syrian Refugees

Good morning Kathy,

Thank you for reaching out to me with your concerns. I attended an informational meeting with World Relief last week. I can offer a few points of clarification (below) based on the information available to me presently. I am happy to hear that you plan to attend the meeting tomorrow evening and am hopeful it will be a productive and positive meeting for all who participate.

- You reference information that was provided at the meeting on Thursday evening at the VFW. I was not in attendance at this meeting and am unfamiliar with who presented and how accurate the information may have been.
- World Relief is one of 10 resettlement agencies that assist with refugee resettlement efforts in the United States. World Relief has 20 different offices in the United States (the nearest being in the Fox Valley area in Wisconsin which opened in 2012).
- World Relief has been in contact with City staff including the City Manager regarding this matter. World Relief will gather quarterly with resettlement partners which will include local government, employers, volunteer groups, law enforcement, school districts, etc.

Please let me know if you have any other questions. Thank you,

**Jess Schoen**

City Council Member, District 1  
Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com  
(715) 255-0297  
**From:** Kathy Kivlin <kathykivlin4@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 8:51:11 PM  
**To:** Jessica Schoen  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Syrian Refugees

Ms. Schoen,

I am extremely concerned about the Syrian Refugees who may be coming to the Chippewa Valley. The informational meeting held at VFW, Starr Ave. Thursday evening was extremely disconcerting for a number of reasons, mainly because this seemed to be done under the cover of darkness, with many discrepancies. The taxpayers in the Chippewa Valley were not given a heads up that this was taking place, therefore no one had an opportunity to voice their MANY concerns. Do you remember whom you represent?

Attendees at the Thursday meeting were told that this was coordinated by the Sheriff. This was a lie as the Sheriff knows nothing about this!!

What is going on??!

I expect every City Council/County Board member to be present at the Library, 6 PM, 10/23. Remember whom you represent.

Regards,

Kathleen Kivlin

**From:** "Jessica Schoen" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 10:56:12 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief - Citizen Inquiries

Good morning Stephanie,

I attended an informational session with World Relief last week on Wednesday. I received a lot of helpful information. An attendee at the meeting raised questions regarding whom at the City had been working with World Relief. I have since received several emails with questions of a similar nature. As I understand, you have had communication with World Relief, and have informally briefed Council on the matters through your City Manager Updates. Can you share with me the most accurate way to answer the questions I have been receiving? I want to ensure I am providing factual details to the best of my ability. It seems the community is receiving partial details/inaccurate information.

Thank you,

**Jess Schoen**  
City Council Member, District 1  
Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com  
(715) 255-0297

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 25 Sep 2023 15:48:49 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 9/25  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 09 25 2023.pdf

Hello Council Members –

Sorry for the delay on this. We, internally, are trying to figure out a way to have just one newsletter that goes out weekly to the Council, the staff, and the public. We're trying to determine the best email marketing/newsletter platform to use. In the meantime, here's this week's. (And you'll get it again in the new format...)

Feel free to share any feedback or suggestions!

Stephanie

-  
-

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 6 Oct 2023 20:11:54 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: FROM /MARTY

[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org)

**TV 18 REPORTS**

**WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL**

**Bringing 75 families of immigrants to Eau Claire**

Legal immigration BUILT AMERICA\  
{MY GRAND PARENTS NO LESS

Are these New (75} IMMIGRATES predicted to be settled here BY  
World Relief Global active Wi since 2012 in Appleton

**COMING HERE LEGALLY** and **VETTED PROPERLY** is the  
**ONLY RIGHT QUESTION**

**If they are Then how will they be housed Educated and Supported and be  
EMPLOYED?**

QUESTIONS

October 23<sup>rd</sup> at LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY Informational session OPEN TO THE PUBLIC'  
TIME TBA MUST answer these questions

---

Marty



## [Marty Green](#)

CLICK on Name for Video

2006 Wisconsin Broadcasters Hall of Fame

60 years in Broadcasting former MGR of WAXX/WAYY

[Greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:Greenmarty1943@gmail.com)

Use this E Mail in the future not my Charter E Mail

715 834 2987 or {Cell } 559 2807

--

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

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10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:14 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andwerth@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of  
"greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 07:36:12 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] TV18 IMMIGRATION MEETING COVERAGE {OR NON COVERASGE}

Dear Citizens:

If you watched the TV18 Coverage of the Meeting on IMMIGRATION coming to Eau Claire

Like me you were TERRIBLY DISSAPOINTED in how this meeting was Represented by TV18's reporter

TAXATION without REPRESENTATION was the NEVER MENTIONED in this very Biased Reporting.

CK OUT

[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG)

for WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL  
And its GOALS for 75 Families  
Coming to Eau Claire

CLICK ON TV18 NEWS for their Story about the meeting at the VFW

Marty Green

PS if fighting the WATER PLANT was TOUGH this is TOUGHER.  
OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup> at the LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY we must participate  
But you Need To Sign Up to even attend this WORLD RELIEF EFFORT

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 13:44:58 -0500  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson"  
<emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry  
Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann"  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

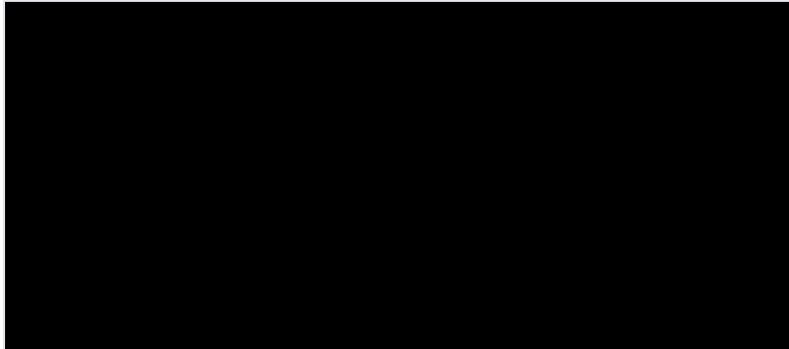
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 12:03:16 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] more INFO IMMIGRATION MTG MONDAY 6 PM LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY

.com>

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**From:** Cyndi Burton <[cyndimburton@gmail.com](mailto:cyndimburton@gmail.com)>

Register for the meeting at the Eau Claire library and let them know how many people care about this. Monday night, October 23, 2023 6:00-7:00pm. Information session on World Relief at LE Phillips Library. You can register for the meeting here: <https://worldrelief.org/.../who-is-my-neighbor-community.../>

**Is this NGO even operating legally?** Excerpt from 8 US Code 1522

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Notice the word "**SHALL**". It does not say **MAY**. This process must be adhered to and they did not.

Contact city council members with your concerns about the lack of inclusion of our elected representatives in this process and about the blatant lack of transparency about the use of our tax dollars in our community. <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/.../city.../city-council-members>

And/or rally at the library 5:30-7:00. Bring signs if you wish.

**Democracy Dies in Darkness**

**No Taxation Without Representation**

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

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**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

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[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



**World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down  
Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

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**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSCHINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support Opening.pdf

This Letter was sent to  
Holly Herrera  
Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
US DEPT OF STATE  
Washington DC  
5/15/2023

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So I am not against welcoming new people Legally here in our Country State or City

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So I am not against welcoming new people Legally here in our Country State or City

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:04:27 -0500  
**To:** "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning ☺Thank you Jessica .

---

**From:** Jessica Schoen <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 10:29 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning Anoosheh,

I plan to attend the 10/23 meeting (tomorrow).

Thank you,

Jess

**Jess Schoen**  
City Council Member, District 1  
[Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com)  
(715) 255-0297

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.

Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:40:40 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Derek Thomas" <Derek.Thomas@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:27:47 -0500  
**To:** "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief - Citizen Inquiries

Thanks, Jess! Yes, there seems to be quite a lot of confusion. Let me know if the update from last night provides enough information.

---

**From:** Jessica Schoen <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief - Citizen Inquiries

Good morning Stephanie,

I attended an informational session with World Relief last week on Wednesday. I received a lot of helpful information. An attendee at the meeting raised questions regarding whom at the City had been working with World Relief. I have since received several emails with questions of a similar nature. As I understand, you have had communication with World Relief, and have informally briefed Council on the matters through your City Manager Updates. Can you share with me the most accurate way to answer the questions I have been receiving? I want to ensure I am providing factual details to the best of my ability. It seems the community is receiving partial details/inaccurate information.

Thank you,

**Jess Schoen**  
City Council Member, District 1  
[Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com)  
(715) 255-0297

**From:** "Susan Hintgen" <sghintgen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 19:31:05 -0500  
**To:** "" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed Refugee Resettlement

Dear Ms. Schoen,

Thank you for your service to Eau Claire.

I am writing to you to express my concern about the possible establishment of a World Relief VOLAG (voluntary non-governmental agency) in Eau Claire, which would initially spearhead the resettlement of 75 refugees in the City of Eau Claire and the surrounding area.

I have just finished reading ‘**8 US Code 1522**-Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees’. The first concern I noted was in Section a (1) (B) (iii), which states that “local voluntary agency activities should be conducted in close cooperation and advance consultation with State and local governments.” Based on the information I have, I do not believe that this has occurred.

Furthermore, Section a (2) (A) states that “the Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities.” Which local officials knew about this, and were consulted? Again, I do not believe that this has occurred, and therefore the law has not been followed.

All of this was new to me as of last week. I do not know of any local citizen who was aware that this is being considered. Why wouldn’t the government, citizens and taxpayers of Eau Claire be apprised of such an impactful proposal? Why wouldn’t local shareholders like businesses, hospitals, churches, and school administrators be advised? Especially since after the first 90 days here, the responsibility for refugee job-training, language-learning, housing, medical expenses, education, etc. passes from the World Relief VOLAG to the Eau Claire taxpayers. And if 75 refugees arrive the first year, how many other refugees (e.g., family members and others) will follow the next year?

I ask that you investigate what is being proposed, and halt this “intended distribution of refugees,” not because they are refugees, but because Eau Claire already has a large homeless population, a shortage of affordable housing, and illegal immigrants coming here from our open southern border.

Sincerely,

Susan Hintgen  
404 West Fillmore Ave.  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
[sghintgen@gmail.com](mailto:sghintgen@gmail.com)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:05:07 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 5/12  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 05 12 2023.pdf

Hello all –

Topics in this week's Update include:

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** Q&A on Triaging Tree Removal, Housing Survey, More Thank Yous to Street Crews, Hmong Chamber of Commerce Open House, World Relief, PERM Program, Some Prevention Updates, Managing Risk Article, Chippewa River Trail Tree Removal
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Rebecca Scharlau
- **A Few More Pictures**

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 25 Sep 2023 15:48:49 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 9/25  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 09 25 2023.pdf

Hello Council Members –

Sorry for the delay on this. We, internally, are trying to figure out a way to have just one newsletter that goes out weekly to the Council, the staff, and the public. We're trying to determine the best email marketing/newsletter platform to use. In the meantime, here's this week's. (And you'll get it again in the new format...)

Feel free to share any feedback or suggestions!

Stephanie

-  
-

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 6 Oct 2023 20:11:54 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: FROM /MARTY

[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org)

**TV 18 REPORTS**

**WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL**

**Bringing 75 families of immigrants to Eau Claire**

Legal immigration BUILT AMERICA\  
{MY GRAND PARENTS NO LESS

Are these New (75} IMMIGRATES predicted to be settled here BY  
World Relief Global active Wi since 2012 in Appleton

**COMING HERE LEGALLY** and **VETTED PROPERLY** is the  
**ONLY RIGHT QUESTION**

**If they are Then how will they be housed Educated and Supported and be  
EMPLOYED?**

QUESTIONS

October 23<sup>rd</sup> at LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY Informational session OPEN TO THE PUBLIC'  
TIME TBA MUST answer these questions

---

Marty



## [Marty Green](#)

CLICK on Name for Video

2006 Wisconsin Broadcasters Hall of Fame

60 years in Broadcasting former MGR of WAXX/WAYY

[Greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:Greenmarty1943@gmail.com)

Use this E Mail in the future not my Charter E Mail

715 834 2987 or {Cell } 559 2807

--

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:14 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andwerth@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 07:36:12 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] TV18 IMMIGRATION MEETING COVERAGE {OR NON COVERASGE}

Dear Citizens:

If you watched the TV18 Coverage of the Meeting on IMMIGRATION coming to Eau Claire

Like me you were TERRIBLY DISSAPOINTED in how this meeting was Represented by TV18's reporter

TAXATION without REPRESENTATION was the NEVER MENTIONED in this very Biased Reporting.

CK OUT

[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG)

for WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL  
And its GOALS for 75 Families  
Coming to Eau Claire

CLICK ON TV18 NEWS for their Story about the meeting at the VFW

Marty Green

PS if fighting the WATER PLANT was TOUGH this is TOUGHER.  
OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup> at the LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY we must participate  
But you Need To Sign Up to even attend this WORLD RELIEF EFFORT

**From:** "Sheila Wilkinson" <skwilkin@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 00:44:35 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that World Relief and the state of Wisconsin failed to abide by 8 US Code 1522 in that they failed to include the local governments in their decision to bring refugees to Eau Claire. They claim to have spoken to the city manager, but that individual is not an elected person.

Consequently, the people of Eau Claire are not being represented in this major decision. Other cities which have invited so many refugees have suffered from high tax increases that occur after the federal and state funds run out.

We have many people on fixed incomes that are not even keeping up with the inflation rate now and certainly cannot afford more increases.

I ask you to please halt this process. Disregarding 8 US Code 1522 is illegal, and the people need to have a voice.

Sincerely,  
Sheila Wilkinson

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 13:44:58 -0500  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson"  
<emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry  
Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann"  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

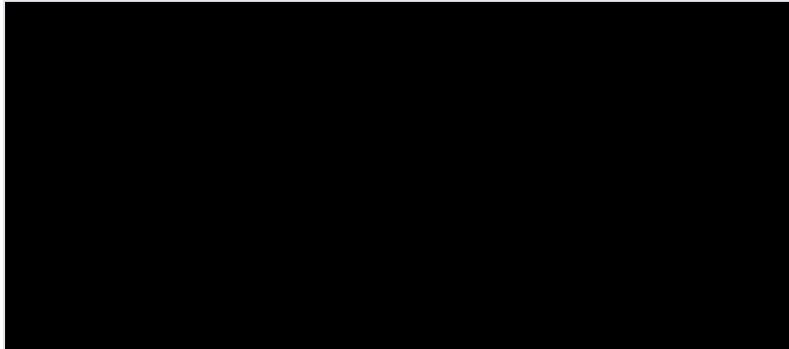
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 12:03:16 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] more INFO IMMIGRATION MTG MONDAY 6 PM LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY

.com>

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**From:** Cyndi Burton <[cyndimburton@gmail.com](mailto:cyndimburton@gmail.com)>

Register for the meeting at the Eau Claire library and let them know how many people care about this. Monday night, October 23, 2023 6:00-7:00pm. Information session on World Relief at LE Phillips Library. You can register for the meeting here: <https://worldrelief.org/.../who-is-my-neighbor-community.../>

**Is this NGO even operating legally?** Excerpt from 8 US Code 1522

The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities.

Notice the word "**SHALL**". It does not say **MAY**. This process must be adhered to and they did not.

Contact city council members with your concerns about the lack of inclusion of our elected representatives in this process and about the blatant lack of transparency about the use of our tax dollars in our community. <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/.../city.../city-council-members>

And/or rally at the library 5:30-7:00. Bring signs if you wish.

**Democracy Dies in Darkness**

**No Taxation Without Representation**

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



**World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down  
Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSCHINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support Opening.pdf

This Letter was sent to  
Holly Herrera  
Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
US DEPT OF STATE  
Washington DC  
5/15/2023

**From:** Fred Kappus <[jfkappus@charter.net](mailto:jfkappus@charter.net)>

Marty,

Attached is the letter written by the City Manager touting the opening of a World Relief office in Eau Claire.

The question is, did she do this on her own or is the City Council involved as well?

This is the last thing Eau Claire needs is to welcome middle east refugees. Look what happened to Dearborn, Michigan.

Fred

MONDAY AT 6 PM AT THE LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY THIS & Many other questions need to be addressed.

Whether the idea is bring Refugees....or IMMGRANTS from South America or GAZA etc.

Did they Follow US...CODE 8 ....1522 Section 2 and Did Our City Manager have the approval or backing of Our City Council to even send this letter.

Here are some Questions that Citizens have the Right To ask.

Are these Refugees here Legally and How are they Vetted? The ones arriving in Sanctuary cities like New York Chicago Milwaukee are NOT.

Who has responsibility for assisting these immigrants after World Relief or area Church's completes its term of support?

When the Operation is up and Fully operational how many immigrant's will be added each year.

How Long does WORLD RELIEF Assist each immigrant family.?

How much money does WORLD RELIEF receive for Each immigrant ? FROM us government OR THE UN ??????

Who is responsible for their assistance after World Relief completes its TERM OF SUPPORT?

The City of Eau Claire? How will affect our Schools They are UNDER S TAFFED as is our LAW ENFORCEMENT Departments.

Has our co ordinating personnel talked to other cities EXAMPLE..... ST CLOUD MINNESOTA. Or HUDSON WI who rejected this proposal.

Many citizen knew nothing about this proposal until TV18 Did a Story 1 day a few weeks ago. Otherwise No One would have learned of this until it

Was TOO LATE.

Marty Green

Former General Manager of WAXX Radio

Former Member of the Eau RDA

Citizen of Eau Claire and Wisconsin for over 50 years

My Grand Parents Migrated from Russia & Poland

So I am not against welcoming new people Legally here in our Country State or City

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSCHINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claيره.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support Opening.pdf

This Letter was sent to  
Holly Herrera  
Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
US DEPT OF STATE  
Washington DC  
5/15/2023

**From:** Fred Kappus <[jfkappus@charter.net](mailto:jfkappus@charter.net)>

Marty,

Attached is the letter written by the City Manager touting the opening of a World Relief office in Eau Claire.

The question is, did she do this on her own or is the City Council involved as well?

This is the last thing Eau Claire needs is to welcome middle east refugees. Look what happened to Dearborn, Michigan.

Fred

MONDAY AT 6 PM AT THE LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY THIS & Many other questions need to be addressed.

Whether the idea is bring Refugees....or IMMGRANTS from South America or GAZA etc.

Did they Follow US...CODE 8 ....1522 Section 2 and Did Our City Manager have the approval or backing of Our City Council to even send this letter.

Here are some Questions that Citizens have the Right To ask.

Are these Refugees here Legally and How are they Vetted? The ones arriving in Sanctuary cities like New York Chicago Milwaukee are NOT.

Who has responsibility for assisting these immigrants after World Relief or area Church's completes its term of support?

When the Operation is up and Fully operational how many immigrant's will be added each year.

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The City of Eau Claire? How will affect our Schools They are UNDER S TAFFED as is our LAW ENFORCEMENT Departments.

Has our co ordinating personnel talked to other cities EXAMPLE..... ST CLOUD MINNESOTA. Or HUDSON WI who rejected this proposal.

Many citizen knew nothing about this proposal until TV18 Did a Story 1 day a few weeks ago. Otherwise No One would have learned of this until it

Was TOO LATE.

Marty Green

Former General Manager of WAXX Radio

Former Member of the Eau RDA

Citizen of Eau Claire and Wisconsin for over 50 years

My Grand Parents Migrated from Russia & Poland

So I am not against welcoming new people Legally here in our Country State or City

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSCHINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/ AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION  
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Holly Herrera  
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Citizen of Eau Claire and Wisconsin for over 50 years

My Grand Parents Migrated from Russia & Poland

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**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:40:40 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Derek Thomas" <Derek.Thomas@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Terry Wilkinson" <joyous\_praise@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:43:55 +0000  
**To:** "Terry Wilkinson" <joyous\_praise@yahoo.com>  
**Bcc:** "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that the city council abdicated its responsibility in the decision about refugees (8 US Code 1522) by delegating it to the city manager.

Taxes will go up once federal aid ends. People on fixed incomes and people who are not well-off will be hurt the most. We need to consider all members of our society in making these decisions.

Our country was founded on the principle that we should not have taxation without representation. The city manager is not an elected official. A decision this major should not be made by an unelected official.

The people of the city need a voice in the decision whether it is by a referendum or through their elected officials.

Sincerely,  
Terry Wilkinson

**From:** "Wilkinson Jennifer" <wilkinsonja@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 17:45:58 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that the city council let the unelected city manager make an important decision concerning refugees, a decision that should have been addressed by our elected officials (8 US Code 1522).

Once federal aid ends, our taxes will go up. Low-income families and people on fixed incomes will be hurt the most by these tax increases.

We should have no taxation without representation. This principle was central in the birth of our nation, and we must continue to live by it.

The people of Eau Claire need a voice in the decision about refugees. This could be by referendum or a vote by our elected officials. The decision must not be delegated to an unelected official.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Wilkinson

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:05:02 -0500  
**To:** "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Information on World Relief

Awe, thanks SO MUCH for sending this note!! ☐ If you don't mind, I'll pass it along to Anoosheh and Ka. It's especially discouraging to our current immigrants and BIPOC resident to hear how fearful and angry some residents are about the possibility of more immigrants, particularly immigrants of color.

---

**From:** Kate Felton <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief

Hey Stephanie,

Just wanted to leave you a word of appreciation for your work to welcome World Relief, thereby welcoming new neighbors to our city. We have been getting some emails about this, and though of course not everyone in our community will support these actions, the resounding message I've gotten over my 8 years in service is that our community wants to lead with compassion, kindness, and generosity. I fully support the work you're doing here and I have good reason to believe that the majority of our council and our community support this work too.

Thank you! Keep up this good work!

**KATE FELTON** (formerly Kate Beaton)  
Eau Claire City Council, Member At-Large  
[Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com](mailto:Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com)  
Phone: 715-252-2544

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:09:31 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg; Steve Nick; Nicholas Koerner; Tess Morgan; Anoosheh Hamzehee; Doug Hoffer; Elizabeth Geise; Angela Weideman; Kathryn Schauf; Nancy Coffey; Matt Rokus  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov> on behalf of "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 07:57:50 -0500  
**To:** "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hi Larry – You might want to join in on this too, which is right before our discussion on the LVRF. No pressure – just thought you might be interested.

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2023 8:46 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee; Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami Mclaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 15:17:20 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; "ginwinclose@gmail.com" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Just switching to a larger meeting, we'll meet at the North Conference room.  
Looking forward to see you all ☺

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:05:07 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 5/12  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 05 12 2023.pdf

Hello all –

Topics in this week's Update include:

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** Q&A on Triaging Tree Removal, Housing Survey, More Thank Yous to Street Crews, Hmong Chamber of Commerce Open House, World Relief, PERM Program, Some Prevention Updates, Managing Risk Article, Chippewa River Trail Tree Removal
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Rebecca Scharlau
- **A Few More Pictures**

Stephanie

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 25 Sep 2023 15:48:49 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 9/25  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 09 25 2023.pdf

Hello Council Members –

Sorry for the delay on this. We, internally, are trying to figure out a way to have just one newsletter that goes out weekly to the Council, the staff, and the public. We're trying to determine the best email marketing/newsletter platform to use. In the meantime, here's this week's. (And you'll get it again in the new format...)

Feel free to share any feedback or suggestions!

Stephanie

-  
-

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

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L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:14 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andwerth@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Tess Morgan" <tess.morgan@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:06:16 -0500  
**To:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Alia Johnson" <Alia.Johnson@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "apmlw@ap.org" <apmlw@ap.org>; "Benjamin Hundt" <Benjamin.Hundt@eauclairewi.gov>; "Bridget Coit" <Bridget.Coit@eauclairewi.gov>; "Carrie Riepl" <Carrie.Riepl@eauclairewi.gov>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Chris Kirchman" <kirchmca@uwec.edu>; "Colleen Schian" <Colleen.Schian@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Elizabeth Giese (elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us)" <elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Herzog, Chris" <chris@stokesherzog.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "John Murphy" <murphy@wayy790.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Julian Emerson" <julianemersonec@gmail.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kelly Shea" <Kelly.Shea@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Kelsey Brunner" <Kelsey.Brunner@eauclairewi.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Liam Marlaire" <liam.marlaire@ecpc.com>; "Librarian" <librarian@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Matt Milner - Editor L-T" <Matt.Milner@ecpc.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "news@chippewa.com" <news@chippewa.com>; "news@midwestfamilyec.com" <news@midwestfamilyec.com>; "News8@wkb.com" <News8@wkb.com>; "newsroom@ecpc.com" <newsroom@ecpc.com>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Nick Meyer" <nick@volumeone.org>; "Progressive Media Network" <jgragert@gmail.com>; "Rebecca Draeger" <Rebecca.Draeger@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Recreation" <Recreation@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Rep. Jodi Emerson" <rep.emerson@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Richard Kremer (richard.kremer@wpr.org)" <richard.kremer@wpr.org>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Scott Rogers" <rogers@eauclairechamber.org>; "Spectator" <C-J02@uwec.edu>; "Spectrum News - Wisconsin" <SpectrumNewsWI@charter.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tom Giffey" <giffey@volumeone.org>; "UWEC - Communication & Journalism" <cj.dept@uwec.edu>; "UW-EC Integrated Marketing & Communications Team" <imc@uwec.edu>; "Volume One - Editorial" <editorial@volumeone.org>; "WEAU (news@weau.com)" <news@weau.com>; "Wisconsin Free Press" <newsfreepress@gmail.com>; "WQOW NEWS" <news@wqow.com>; "WWIB" <WWIB@WWIB.COM>  
**Subject:** Public Notices  
**Attachments:** Public Notices--101923.pdf

City Council Public Hearing – 10/23 CANCELLED  
City Council Legislative Session – 10/24  
Housing Authority – 10/24  
South Barstow BID Entertainment Committee – 10/24  
DECI Parking and Infrastructure Committee – 10/25  
South Barstow BID Outreach & Special Projects – 10/25  
BIPOC Steering Committee – 10/26  
DECI Executive committee – 10/26  
North Barstow/Medical BID Executive Committee – 10/26  
Waterways and Parks Commission – CANCELLED  
City Council Invitation to Community Informational Meeting “Who is my Neighbor?” – 10/23  
City Council Invitation to Fire Department Swearing-In Ceremony – 11/2

## **Tess Morgan**

**Media/Communications Specialist**

P: 715.839.4902

E: [Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Sheila Wilkinson" <skwilkin@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 00:44:35 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that World Relief and the state of Wisconsin failed to abide by 8 US Code 1522 in that they failed to include the local governments in their decision to bring refugees to Eau Claire. They claim to have spoken to the city manager, but that individual is not an elected person.

Consequently, the people of Eau Claire are not being represented in this major decision. Other cities which have invited so many refugees have suffered from high tax increases that occur after the federal and state funds run out.

We have many people on fixed incomes that are not even keeping up with the inflation rate now and certainly cannot afford more increases.

I ask you to please halt this process. Disregarding 8 US Code 1522 is illegal, and the people need to have a voice.

Sincerely,  
Sheila Wilkinson

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 13:44:58 -0500  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson"  
<emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry  
Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann"  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

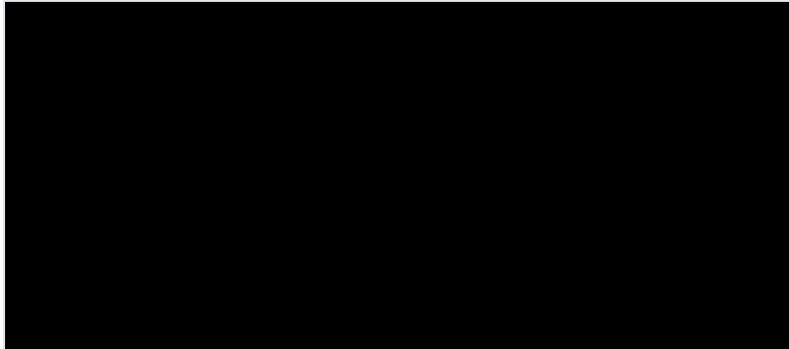
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees. Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov> on behalf of "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:45:13 -0500  
**To:** "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

For background, here's when we originally met with World Relief...

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch **On Behalf Of** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 7:58 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee; Larry Mboga  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Hi Larry – You might want to join in on this too, which is right before our discussion on the LVRF. No pressure – just thought you might be interested.

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <>  
**Sent:** [Wednesday, March 22, 2023 8:46 AM](#)  
**To:** [Anoosheh Hamzehee; Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise](#)  
**Subject:** [Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency](#)  
**When:** [Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM \(UTC-06:00\) Central Time \(US & Canada\)](#).  
**Where:** [Rivers Conference Room](#)

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:40:40 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Derek Thomas" <Derek.Thomas@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Terry Wilkinson" <joyous\_praise@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:43:55 +0000  
**To:** "Terry Wilkinson" <joyous\_praise@yahoo.com>  
**Bcc:** "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that the city council abdicated its responsibility in the decision about refugees (8 US Code 1522) by delegating it to the city manager.

Taxes will go up once federal aid ends. People on fixed incomes and people who are not well-off will be hurt the most. We need to consider all members of our society in making these decisions.

Our country was founded on the principle that we should not have taxation without representation. The city manager is not an elected official. A decision this major should not be made by an unelected official.

The people of the city need a voice in the decision whether it is by a referendum or through their elected officials.

Sincerely,  
Terry Wilkinson

**From:** "Wilkinson Jennifer" <wilkinsonja@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 17:45:58 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that the city council let the unelected city manager make an important decision concerning refugees, a decision that should have been addressed by our elected officials (8 US Code 1522).

Once federal aid ends, our taxes will go up. Low-income families and people on fixed incomes will be hurt the most by these tax increases.

We should have no taxation without representation. This principle was central in the birth of our nation, and we must continue to live by it.

The people of Eau Claire need a voice in the decision about refugees. This could be by referendum or a vote by our elected officials. The decision must not be delegated to an unelected official.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Wilkinson

**From:** "Wilkinson Jennifer" <wilkinsonja@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 20:41:32 +0000  
**To:** "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief refugees

Thank you for your kind response. I'm working tonight, so I won't be able to attend the meeting. I know people who are attending, and they'll share the information with me.

Jennifer

On Monday, October 23, 2023 at 12:51:28 PM CDT, Larry Mboga <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com> wrote:

Hi Wilkinson

I appreciate you for reaching out and sharing your concerns. Would you be able to attend tonight meeting at Library 6pm-7pm ?

**From:** Wilkinson Jennifer <wilkinsonja@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 12:45:58 PM  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that the city council let the unelected city manager make an important decision concerning refugees, a decision that should have been addressed by our elected officials (8 US Code 1522).

Once federal aid ends, our taxes will go up. Low-income families and people on fixed incomes will be hurt the most by these tax increases.

We should have no taxation without representation. This principle was central in the birth of our nation, and we must continue to live by it.

The people of Eau Claire need a voice in the decision about refugees. This could be by referendum or a vote by our elected officials. The decision must not be delegated to an unelected official.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Wilkinson

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:05:07 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 5/12  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 05 12 2023.pdf

Hello all –

Topics in this week's Update include:

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** Q&A on Triaging Tree Removal, Housing Survey, More Thank Yous to Street Crews, Hmong Chamber of Commerce Open House, World Relief, PERM Program, Some Prevention Updates, Managing Risk Article, Chippewa River Trail Tree Removal
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Rebecca Scharlau
- **A Few More Pictures**

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 25 Sep 2023 15:48:49 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 9/25  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 09 25 2023.pdf

Hello Council Members –

Sorry for the delay on this. We, internally, are trying to figure out a way to have just one newsletter that goes out weekly to the Council, the staff, and the public. We're trying to determine the best email marketing/newsletter platform to use. In the meantime, here's this week's. (And you'll get it again in the new format...)

Feel free to share any feedback or suggestions!

Stephanie

-  
-

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 6 Oct 2023 20:11:54 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: FROM /MARTY

[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.org)

**TV 18 REPORTS**

**WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL**

**Bringing 75 families of immigrants to Eau Claire**

Legal immigration BUILT AMERICA\  
{MY GRAND PARENTS NO LESS

Are these New (75} IMMIGRATES predicted to be settled here BY  
World Relief Global active Wi since 2012 in Appleton

**COMING HERE LEGALLY** and **VETTED PROPERLY** is the  
**ONLY RIGHT QUESTION**

**If they are Then how will they be housed Educated and Supported and be  
EMPLOYED?**

QUESTIONS

October 23<sup>rd</sup> at LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY Informational session OPEN TO THE PUBLIC'  
TIME TBA MUST answer these questions

---

Marty



## [Marty Green](#)

CLICK on Name for Video

2006 Wisconsin Broadcasters Hall of Fame

60 years in Broadcasting former MGR of WAXX/WAYY

[Greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:Greenmarty1943@gmail.com)

Use this E Mail in the future not my Charter E Mail

715 834 2987 or {Cell } 559 2807

--

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 08:55:33 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

All,  
Just sharing this for information.

Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting - please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley

10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes

10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:40:29 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Not a sad good bye

All,

In case you have not heard, I just wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave the EDI Coordinator position with the City of Eau Claire. My last day with the City is today, Friday, October 13, I wanted to thank you for your support in EDI efforts as well as this role. Continue to do the amazing work you all do and know that our path will cross again.

I am transitioning to work with World Relief to provide support for refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley. Their new office is just across the river, 221 W. Madison St. I hope to see some of you at their partnership meeting on Oct. 18, from 9:30—11am or on Oct. 23 in the evening for the community gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large. Both events will be held at the library. And of course you're always welcome to visit the new World Relief office on W. Madison St. at any time.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023

Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

Here's the link for more information about the Community Gathering on Oct. 23:  
<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Again, thank you so much for your support and thank you for the work you do!

The City has already posted the EDI Coordinator position on their website. [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:14 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andwerth@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "meyersdm1" <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:55:07 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge phone 715-575-9795" <Emily.Berge@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen 715-255-0297" <Jessica.Schoen@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <Emily.Anderson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "<Jeremy.Gragert@EC-CityCouncil.com>, Jill Christopherson 715-271-2489" <Jill.Christopherson@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann 715-495-2451" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Kate Felton 715-252-2544" <Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones 715-600-3299" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga 715-379-0508" <Larry.Mboga@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller 715-575-1143" <Joshua.Miller@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "Charlie Johnson 651-491-5888" <Charlie.Johnson@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Tess Morgan" <tess.morgan@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:06:16 -0500  
**To:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Alia Johnson" <Alia.Johnson@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "apmlw@ap.org" <apmlw@ap.org>; "Benjamin Hundt" <Benjamin.Hundt@eauclairewi.gov>; "Bridget Coit" <Bridget.Coit@eauclairewi.gov>; "Carrie Riepl" <Carrie.Riepl@eauclairewi.gov>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Chris Kirchman" <kirchmca@uwec.edu>; "Colleen Schian" <Colleen.Schian@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Elizabeth Giese (elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us)" <elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Herzog, Chris" <chris@stokesherzog.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "John Murphy" <murphy@wayy790.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Julian Emerson" <julianemersonec@gmail.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kelly Shea" <Kelly.Shea@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Kelsey Brunner" <Kelsey.Brunner@eauclairewi.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Liam Marlaire" <liam.marlaire@ecpc.com>; "Librarian" <librarian@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Matt Milner - Editor L-T" <Matt.Milner@ecpc.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "news@chippewa.com" <news@chippewa.com>; "news@midwestfamilyec.com" <news@midwestfamilyec.com>; "News8@wkb.com" <News8@wkb.com>; "newsroom@ecpc.com" <newsroom@ecpc.com>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Nick Meyer" <nick@volumeone.org>; "Progressive Media Network" <jgragert@gmail.com>; "Rebecca Draeger" <Rebecca.Draeger@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Recreation" <Recreation@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Rep. Jodi Emerson" <rep.emerson@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "Richard Kremer (richard.kremer@wpr.org)" <richard.kremer@wpr.org>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Scott Rogers" <rogers@eauclairechamber.org>; "Spectator" <C-J02@uwec.edu>; "Spectrum News - Wisconsin" <SpectrumNewsWI@charter.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tom Giffey" <giffey@volumeone.org>; "UWEC - Communication & Journalism" <cj.dept@uwec.edu>; "UW-EC Integrated Marketing & Communications Team" <imc@uwec.edu>; "Volume One - Editorial" <editorial@volumeone.org>; "WEAU (news@weau.com)" <news@weau.com>; "Wisconsin Free Press" <newswifreepress@gmail.com>; "WQOW NEWS" <news@wqow.com>; "WWIB" <WWIB@WWIB.COM>  
**Subject:** Public Notices  
**Attachments:** Public Notices--101923.pdf

City Council Public Hearing – 10/23 CANCELLED  
City Council Legislative Session – 10/24  
Housing Authority – 10/24  
South Barstow BID Entertainment Committee – 10/24  
DECI Parking and Infrastructure Committee – 10/25  
South Barstow BID Outreach & Special Projects – 10/25  
BIPOC Steering Committee – 10/26  
DECI Executive committee – 10/26  
North Barstow/Medical BID Executive Committee – 10/26  
Waterways and Parks Commission – CANCELLED  
City Council Invitation to Community Informational Meeting “Who is my Neighbor?” – 10/23  
City Council Invitation to Fire Department Swearing-In Ceremony – 11/2

## **Tess Morgan**

**Media/Communications Specialist**

P: 715.839.4902

E: [Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of  
"greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 07:36:12 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] TV18 IMMIGRATION MEETING COVERAGE {OR NON COVERASGE}

Dear Citizens:

If you watched the TV18 Coverage of the Meeting on IMMIGRATION coming to Eau Claire

Like me you were TERRIBLY DISSAPOINTED in how this meeting was Represented by TV18's reporter

TAXATION without REPRESENTATION was the NEVER MENTIONED in this very Biased Reporting.

CK OUT

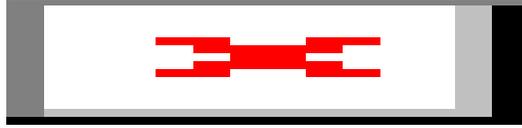
[WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG](http://WWW.WORLDRELIEF.ORG)

for WORLD RELIEF GLOBAL  
And its GOALS for 75 Families  
Coming to Eau Claire

CLICK ON TV18 NEWS for their Story about the meeting at the VFW

Marty Green

PS if fighting the WATER PLANT was TOUGH this is TOUGHER.  
OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup> at the LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY we must participate  
But you Need To Sign Up to even attend this WORLD RELIEF EFFORT



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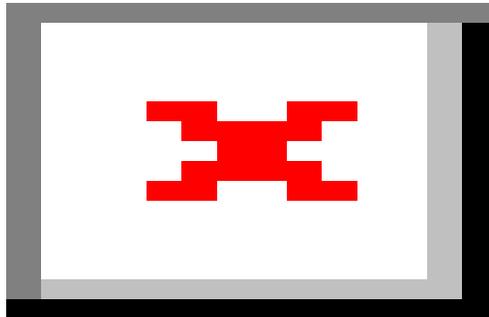
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[WEATHER](#)

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——— Top Stories ———



## **Friday looking great; the weekend in general looking decent outside of isolated showers Friday Night, Saturday**

Just like we did Wednesday, we had a few scattered showers track across the area on our Thursday and those that saw rain didn't see much at all. Eau Claire got lucky and saw some rain both days.

----- Sports -----



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WQOW 5545 Hwy 93, Eau Claire, WI 54701

**From:** "Sheila Wilkinson" <skwilkin@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 00:44:35 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that World Relief and the state of Wisconsin failed to abide by 8 US Code 1522 in that they failed to include the local governments in their decision to bring refugees to Eau Claire. They claim to have spoken to the city manager, but that individual is not an elected person.

Consequently, the people of Eau Claire are not being represented in this major decision. Other cities which have invited so many refugees have suffered from high tax increases that occur after the federal and state funds run out.

We have many people on fixed incomes that are not even keeping up with the inflation rate now and certainly cannot afford more increases.

I ask you to please halt this process. Disregarding 8 US Code 1522 is illegal, and the people need to have a voice.

Sincerely,  
Sheila Wilkinson

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 13:44:58 -0500  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson"  
<emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry  
Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann"  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** "Scott Bolstad" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 22:20:31 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

## Members of the Eau Claire City Council

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement. An official from World Relief admitted that she spoke to no elected officials, only the city manager.

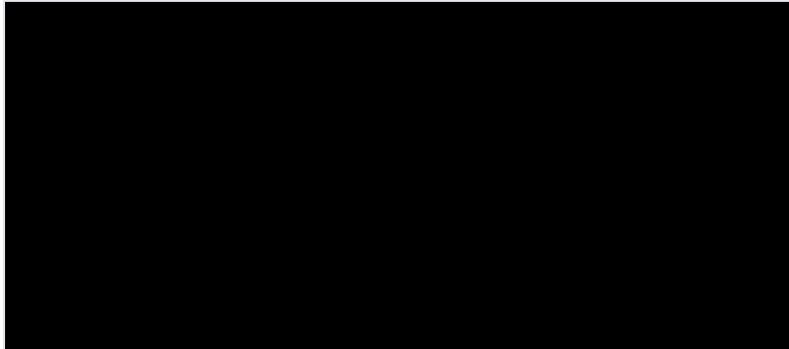
I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for.

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? According to the State Refugee Resettlement Coordinator and World Relief the country of origin for the refugees coming to Eau Claire will be Somalia. During the stakeholder's meeting five possible countries were mentioned, and none of them was Somalia.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this so far. This is the time to step up and lead.

I would like to leave you with an article about World Relief: [Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

Thank you for your time

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 12:03:16 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] more INFO IMMIGRATION MTG MONDAY 6 PM LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY

.com>

---

**From:** Cyndi Burton <[cyndimburton@gmail.com](mailto:cyndimburton@gmail.com)>

Register for the meeting at the Eau Claire library and let them know how many people care about this. Monday night, October 23, 2023 6:00-7:00pm. Information session on World Relief at LE Phillips Library. You can register for the meeting here: <https://worldrelief.org/.../who-is-my-neighbor-community.../>

**Is this NGO even operating legally?** Excerpt from 8 US Code 1522

The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities.

Notice the word "**SHALL**". It does not say **MAY**. This process must be adhered to and they did not.

Contact city council members with your concerns about the lack of inclusion of our elected representatives in this process and about the blatant lack of transparency about the use of our tax dollars in our community. <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/.../city.../city-council-members>

And/or rally at the library 5:30-7:00. Bring signs if you wish.

**Democracy Dies in Darkness**

**No Taxation Without Representation**

**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 13:54:41 -0500  
**To:** "" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



### **World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" on behalf of "greenmarty1943@gmail.com" <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSCHINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/ AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support Opening.pdf

This Letter was sent to  
Holly Herrera  
Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
US DEPT OF STATE  
Washington DC  
5/15/2023

**From:** Fred Kappus <[jfkappus@charter.net](mailto:jfkappus@charter.net)>

Marty,

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**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:10:25 -0500  
**To:** "David Minor" <minor@eauclaيرهamber.org>; "NICK STEPHEN" <stephen.nick@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EC POLICE CHIEF MATT ROKUS" <matt.rokus@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "BARRON JIM SWENSON" <jimmy22263@gmail.com>; "<bwestrate@charter.net>, CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE" <amanda.radle.ccgop@gmail.com>; "Chippewa Valley Tea Party" <chippewavalleyteaparty@gmail.com>; "CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara" <rpclarkcounty@gmail.com>; "" <DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM>," <DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com>; "DUNN BILL ARNDT" <arndtwilliam@hotmail.com>; "JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com" <vickijames31@yahoo.com>; "JOHN JACOBSON" <john@jneilstrategies.com>; "KEVIN NICHOLSON" <kevin@nobetterfriendcorp.com>; "REP PRONSCHINSKE" <rep.pronschinske@legis.wi.gov>; "Republican DEAN GULLICKSON" <dgullickson@att.net>; "Republican Party Eau Claire County" <rpeauclaيره@gmail.com>; "REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD" <bolstad1@yahoo.com>; "REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY" <tomtiffany@newnorth.net>; "ROB SUMMERFIELD" <rep.summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "ROBIN VOSS" <rep.vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "RUSK TRAVIS EWER" <rusk.chairman@wisgop.info>; "TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS" <team@tomtiffany.com>; "TOMMY THOMPSON" <tthompson@thompson-holdings.com>; ""WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}"" <rep.petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov>; "<warrenpetryk@gmail.com>, 'ANDREW WERTHMANN'" <Andrew.Werthmann@EC-CityCouncil.com>; "CHARLIE JOHNSON" <charlie.johanson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EC REDEVELOPMENT/AARON WHITE" <aaron.white@eauclaيرهwi.gov>; "EMILY ANDERSON" <Emily.Anderson@EC-citycouncil.com>; "EMILY BERGE" <Emily.Berge@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JEREMY. GRAGERT" <Jeremy.Gragert@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "JESSICA SCHOEN" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JILL CHRISTOPHEREN" <jill.christophersen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "JOSHUA MILLER" <Joshua.miller@EC-citycouncil.com>; "KATE FELTON" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "LARRY MbOGA" <larryMboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "RODERICK JONES" <roderick.jones@EC-Citycouncil.com>; "<chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us>, DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF" <SHF@co.dunn.wi.us>; "EC SHERIFF OFFICE" <sheriff@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; "<sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us>, ST CROIX SHERIFF" <scott.knudson@sccwi.gov>  
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**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:40:40 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Derek Thomas" <Derek.Thomas@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Terry Wilkinson" <joyous\_praise@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:43:55 +0000  
**To:** "Terry Wilkinson" <joyous\_praise@yahoo.com>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that the city council abdicated its responsibility in the decision about refugees (8 US Code 1522) by delegating it to the city manager.

Taxes will go up once federal aid ends. People on fixed incomes and people who are not well-off will be hurt the most. We need to consider all members of our society in making these decisions.

Our country was founded on the principle that we should not have taxation without representation. The city manager is not an elected official. A decision this major should not be made by an unelected official.

The people of the city need a voice in the decision whether it is by a referendum or through their elected officials.

Sincerely,  
Terry Wilkinson

**From:** "Wilkinson Jennifer" <wilkinsonja@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 17:45:58 +0000  
**To:** "" <>," <" <>, >; "Undisclosed Address" <Undisclosed Address>  
**Bcc:** "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief refugees

Dear Councilmember,

I understand that the city council let the unelected city manager make an important decision concerning refugees, a decision that should have been addressed by our elected officials (8 US Code 1522).

Once federal aid ends, our taxes will go up. Low-income families and people on fixed incomes will be hurt the most by these tax increases.

We should have no taxation without representation. This principle was central in the birth of our nation, and we must continue to live by it.

The people of Eau Claire need a voice in the decision about refugees. This could be by referendum or a vote by our elected officials. The decision must not be delegated to an unelected official.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Wilkinson

**From:** "Communication Measures" <comm\_measures@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tue, 24 Oct 2023 00:33:34 +0000  
**To:** "Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com" <Roderick.Jones@EC-CityCouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief information

Dear Roderick,

I am concerned that there has been little information re: planning and possible establishment of a World Relief VOLAG (voluntary non-governmental agency) in Eau Claire. The intent as stated by World Relief would be to resettle 75 refugees in the City of Eau Claire and the surrounding area.

I have just finished reading '**8 US Code 1522**-Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees'. I noted in Section a (1) (B) (iii), states that "local voluntary agency activities should be conducted in close cooperation and advance consultation with State and local governments." It appears that this advance consultation has been neglected.

Furthermore, Section a (2) (A) states that "the Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities." I cannot find evidence that local officials were consulted regarding this action. Can you reassure me that the law has been followed in this case? Please provide names and dates of conversations re this topic.

Local Taxpayers will experience additional financial burden when 'refugees' or 'immigrants' are "placed" by an external agency. I note that after the first 90 days of placement, the responsibility for refugee/immigrant job-training, language-learning, housing, medical expenses, education, etc. passes from the World Relief VOLAG to the local taxpayers. Your lack of transparency and information to your constituents is unacceptable. It appears at this time that further action by World Relief in Eau Claire is imprudent. Please describe your plans with World Relief to the people of Eau Claire through paper, web and social media and solicit taxpayer feedback prior to implementing any such actions.

Thomas L. Hintgen

[Comm\\_measures@yahoo.com](mailto:Comm_measures@yahoo.com)

10-23-23

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 08:07:17 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Invite or Not?

Hi Anoosheh! I think it would be great to include all of those people. If there's any way to gauge their availability, that would be great. Like, if Tami has some flexibility, then you could offer up a few options to the group. You might include a sentence that explains the context too, such as: We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2023 9:23 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Invite or Not?  
**Importance:** High

Good morning Stephanie,

I hope you're enjoying your trip ☺  
I talked to World relief director in Fox Valley.  
She's coming to Eau Claire to visit with us and all the key players.  
Is it ok to invite Katheryn and Lieske, Holley, Deb and Don too?  
Do you think we should have Billie too because she has housing questions for us as well or you will take care of them?

This is the email I'm going to send and I've already booked it on your schedule

"World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. TAMI MCLAUGHLIN is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire to meet with us and do an assessment. I appreciate if you can attend please."

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**  
**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4903  
E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)  
203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 12:39:57 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Want to reach out to Bea and Ginny to ask how a World Relief would relate to what they're trying to do?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:38 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

FYI,

---

**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>; Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Dear Anoosheh,

I just wanted to let you know that there is also an existing refugee resettlement organization in Eau Claire called Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN). Wnn has been operating under the sponsorship of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan—home office Milwaukee—as a CoSponsorship program. WNN has accepted and settled 7 Afghan men and also supported two Afghan families who came to Eau Claire as a secondary migration. WNN is also moving to become a recognized Refugee Resettlement agency.

Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US &

Canada).

**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 29 Mar 2023 07:07:58 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Feel free to add it to my calendar...

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 4:20:15 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Can you please block your Thursday afternoon, 1:00 pm for meeting with WNN?thank you

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 1:14:38 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Thanks Anoosheh. This is very helpful. Just fyi I am awaiting more replies from our WNN Steering Committee regarding a meeting with you this week. Can you hold 1pm Thursday for now. That looks like the best day and I just picked 1pm. There are 4 of us thus far but I am hoping Don Mowry and Bea Evans can attend as well.

Ginny

On Mon, Mar 27, 2023 at 1:10 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

FYI, attached is a document created by World Relief resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM),

as a guide to assess a community's ability to resettle refugees. World Relief will complete the assessment and use it to assist in

determining if they are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 11:26:18 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: update for council

Thanks!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 10:26 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: update for council

We are exploring the feasibility of expanding the City's capacity to welcome immigrants and refugees. Our dual objectives are to address employee shortages and to cultivate a vibrant, multi-cultural community. One potential avenue is the prospect of World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency establishing a new office in Wisconsin. We are thrilled to be one of two candidates under consideration, and Tami McLaughlin, Director of World Relief Fox Valley, will visit Eau Claire in April to conduct an assessment. Additionally, we are actively exploring ways to boost the local workforce by utilizing PERM (employment) visas. To this end, we have engaged with the Chamber, CVTC, and ECD and are in the process of planning an information session for Eau Claire's businesses and employers.

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 8:46 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** update for council

Hi – Can you prepare a paragraph update for the City Council newsletter on the PERM/Refugee efforts?

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 1 Apr 2023 09:50:04 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Terry Weld" <Terry.Weld@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 03 31 2023.pdf

Attached is this week's City Manager Update to the City Council.

Topics in this week's Update include:

- **From the City Manager:** Bridge Repair, Street Conditions, Other Community Services Updates, Brush Site to Open Soon, Parking Ramp Changes Coming Soon, Issues Related to Residents who are Unhoused, Housing Needs Assessment Update, Zoning Overhaul, Regency Update, Trash Hauler Meeting, Phoenix Steel Update, Workforce Development and Welcoming Community, Chippewa Valley Rally, Some Events, Chippewa/St. Croix Passenger Rail Update, County Health Rankings
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Officer Ellen Scott

Let me know if you have thoughts or questions on any of these updates. Have a great weekend!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov> on behalf of "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 07:57:50 -0500  
**To:** "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hi Larry – You might want to join in on this too, which is right before our discussion on the LVRF. No pressure – just thought you might be interested.

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2023 8:46 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee; Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami Mclaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 6 Apr 2023 13:21:14 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Interesting read

I think more newcomers will help create more inclusion and empathy which will, in turn, increase the community's capacity for helping people of all walks of life! IMO, My \$.02. ☐

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 11:03 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Interesting read

[World Relief helps refugees in Wisconsin despite political fights \(thenorthwestern.com\)](https://thenorthwestern.com)

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 17:02:20 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Yay!!!

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:00:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Who do you think from ECASD would be the best representative?  
Do we know Jody?

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hello Anoosheh,

Hope you are enjoying Wisconsin weather at its finest! We know it won't last so have to take advantage.

I am planning on returning to Eau Claire next week with two of my colleagues and hoping to schedule a visit with a representative from the ECASD. Do you have a recommendation of a contact to reach out to as there isn't an ELL contact on the website? I have also requested an appointment, per the suggestion of our state refugee coordinator, with Jody Conner from Workforce Resource and am waiting to hear back.

Also, would you have an hour to meet with us to review a few more questions and other details relating to a proposal submission? It would also give us an opportunity to schedule a visit to our office when you are in Appleton for the Toward One Diversity and Inclusive Conference. (if you are still interested)

Appreciate your assistance and hope to connect next week!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 17:13:47 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Message Recall Success: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next  
Wednesday, April 19

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 17:57:21 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

I would think Kaying and Dang, but Ka may know more. They could also visit a school that has a larger ELL enrollment.

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:00:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
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World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 18:29:16 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Great minds...

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**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 6:15:27 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Yes they both are my recommendation too!

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:57:21 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

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**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:00:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

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**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
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**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 12:28:20 -0500  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Meet with World Relief

Hi Matt – Would you be available to meet (probably for just about a half hour) with a representative from a refugee resettlement agency? They are considering setting up an office here in Eau Claire, and they wanted to ask these questions listed below... Let me or Anoosheh know if this time doesn't work! It looks free on your calendar. The agency person is free after 9:30AM on Wednesday.

World Relief, a refugee resettlement agency, is considering Eau Claire as a potential location to establish a refugee settlement office. The agency has conducted initial interviews with relevant individuals. As part of the assessment process, the director of the agency based in Appleton, Tami Laughlin, wishes to speak with the Eau Claire police chief. The following is a list of questions that will be discussed during the meeting.

- Any anti-immigrant sentiments expressed in the community? If so, how are sentiments managed?
- How are immigrant groups isolated or integrated into the community?
- Does local law enforcement have a community or cultural liaison?
- Any foreseeable barriers from public safety perspective to resettlement in community
- Any resources available for language barriers?

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 13:58:07 -0500  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Meet with World Relief

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- Does local law enforcement have a community or cultural liaison?
- Any foreseeable barriers from public safety perspective to resettlement in community
- Any resources available for language barriers?

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 21 Apr 2023 13:09:19 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Hi Anoosheh – Sorry for this question and I don't want to mess up plans... I see that there is actually a bus I could take back from Wausau, but it leaves at 3PM. Would there be any chance of going to the Warming Center before 3PM so I could make the bus?

---

**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Awesome schedule! 🙏 Ua tsaug for putting this together!

Ka

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 10:48 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Date	Time	Plan	Location
24th	9:00	Pick up rental car	2927 Hamilton Ave
24th	10:00	Head out towards Wausau	-
24th	12:00	Meet with Wausau Mayor	407 Grant Street
24th	3:00	Visit Wausau Warming center(Catholic Charities)	540 S 3rd Ave
25th	-	Conference all day	Appleton
26th	7:30	Conference	-
26th	1:30	Skip the Ending	-
26th	2:00	Visit Forward Service Corp (Refugee support Services, Menasha)	1050 Midway Road, in the same building as Subway

Date	Time	Plan	Location
26th	3:00	World Relief	510 E Wisconsin Avenue, Contact # 920-851-6399 James

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 21 Apr 2023 13:37:35 -0500  
**To:** "Kevin Burch" <kburch@cclse.org>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

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**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
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**Sent:** Fri, 21 Apr 2023 13:45:25 -0500  
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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 21 Apr 2023 13:58:49 -0500  
**To:** "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Okidoki – we will give you a full report.

---

**From:** Billie Hufford <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 1:52 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Kevin works out of LaCrosse, but they have the community day center in Wausau. The hours are 10am – 2pm. I have a few meetings Monday, but look forward to hearing about it.

---

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Thanks so much, Kevin! It'll be three of us – me, Anoosheh, and Ka (though I'm CCing Billie in case she's able to juggle her schedule to join... and if not we'll bring back good notes.)

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**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Also, not sure if Billie passed this along, but a PO for Catholic Charities came by my desk yesterday and I just signed a request for payment. We're getting so close!!! ☐

**REQUEST FOR PAYMENT**  
**(For Payments WITHIN 30 DAYS)**

<b>Name:</b>	Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse
<b>Address:</b>	3710 East Avenue South Po Box 266
<b>City:</b>	La Crosse
<b>State, Zip:</b>	WI 54602-0266

**Description of Payment (attach supporting documents)**

**Date of Service July 12, 2022 - September 30, 2022**

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**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 3:40 PM  
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Thanks in advance and sorry for the late request...

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 1:17 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

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“Our financial advocate, Erin, would prefer you not visit on a Monday because it is our walk-in day and could compromise client confidentiality. Our walk-in’s end at 3:00 if you would still be in the area then?”

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**To:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee

<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

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**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

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Ka

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26th	3:00	World Relief	510 E Wisconsin Avenue, Contact # 920-851-6399 James

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 24 Apr 2023 09:20:32 -0500  
**To:** "Kevin Burch" <kburch@cclse.org>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Thank you, Kevin! We are excited!

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**From:** Kevin Burch <kburch@cclse.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 22, 2023 11:52:25 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Billie Hufford <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Thank you, Stephanie. We look forward to your visit and hope it sheds some light on our operations and partnerships in Wausau.

**Anoosheh-** I apologize for the initial response you received. This is a public campus during the day. Although we and many of our partners will be in operation on Monday, there is no better time to visit than that. It is a public and welcoming campus. Whether that be clients or people wanting a tour to see us in action! ☐

Thank you and safe travels!

*Kevin Burch*  
*Director – Housing Services*

**Catholic Charities**  
**La Crosse, WI 54601**  
**T: 608.519.8021**

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 4:26 PM  
**To:** Kevin Burch <kburch@cclse.org>; Billie Hufford <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Thanks so much, Kevin! It'll be three of us – me, Anoosheh, and Ka (though I'm CCing Billie in case she's able to juggle her schedule to join... and if not we'll bring back good notes.)

---

**From:** Kevin Burch <[kburch@cclse.org](mailto:kburch@cclse.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 3:40 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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Hi Stephanie,

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Thank you and have a great weekend!

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203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



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**Sent:** Mon, 24 Apr 2023 09:20:07 -0500  
**To:** "Kevin Burch" <kburch@cclse.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

And since we now have the PO setup, things should move smoothly! We are really short staffed so the normal (slow) pace of bureaucracy is even slower... :(

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**Sent:** Saturday, April 22, 2023 11:57:58 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

This is great news. I've guaranteed our Board and Finance Committee that payment was coming. Thank you for your help with this. I know it was an arduous process but it is definitely worth it! ☐

*Kevin Burch*  
*Director – Housing Services*

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**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 4:32 PM  
**To:** Kevin Burch <kburch@cclse.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Wausau/Appleton days schedule

Also, not sure if Billie passed this along, but a PO for Catholic Charities came by my desk yesterday and I just signed a request for payment. We're getting so close!!! ☐

**REQUEST FOR  
(For Payments WITH**

**Name:** Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La  
**Address:** 3710 East Avenue South  
Po Box 266  
**City:** La Crosse  
**State, Zip:** WI 54602-0266

**Description of Payment (attach supporting documents)**

**Date of Service July 12, 2022 - September 30, 2022**

---

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203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701





**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 10 May 2023 12:31:40 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Employers

WOW!!! That is so exciting! Thanks for all you did to make this possible. Let me know what I can do. Also, can you write up information that I can share with the Council?

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 9:57:52 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Employers

FYI,

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 5:43 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Anoosheh,

Glad you enjoyed your stay and hope the conference was productive!

We have decided to propose Eau Claire as our recommendation for a new resettlement site. Everyone we had a conversation with was supportive and the work that your community has already done around welcoming refugees and immigrants has been impressive. It would be an honor to open an office in Eau Claire.

We are preparing the proposal which is due the end of the month and later this week I plan to send emails requesting support letters from stake holders. We expect to receive final approval late summer/early fall but will continue to move forward with plans around hiring and securing office space.

Will be in touch but let me know if you have additional questions. So appreciative of your assistance and support. The fun is just beginning J

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 12:40 PM

**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Tami,  
We enjoyed our stay in Appleton, James was a perfect host, and now we're looking forward to hear from you.  
Have you submitted the proposal? When do you expect to hear back from them?

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2023 8:56 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Thanks Anoosheh! Will do.

Hope you enjoy the conference in Appleton. Will look forward to an update from James regarding your World Relief visit]

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**Sent:** Saturday, April 22, 2023 3:00 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Tami,

Aaron would know a lot more than I do, and you're welcome to contact him directly

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 5:50:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Anoosheh,

Wrapping this week up while planning next week and would like to schedule calls with 3 – 4 employers in Eau Claire who might be interested in employing refugees. Would Aaron White be the best contact for that information? If so, I can reach out to him directly or would you prefer to?

Hope you know how much I appreciate you!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director  
World Relief Fox Valley  
[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)  
o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 12:11:29 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Not sure why it would've bounced... Do you want to draft the letter for me to sign?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 12:11:15 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "TMcLaughlin@wr.org"  
<TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**  
Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley  
[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)  
o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 16:41:46 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@Eau Claire Wi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Can you print this for me? Because I don't have my badge  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 05 12 2023.doc

Stephanie Hirsch  
City Manager  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701  
Office: 715-839-6045



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:05:07 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 5/12  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 05 12 2023.pdf

Hello all –

Topics in this week's Update include:

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** Q&A on Triaging Tree Removal, Housing Survey, More Thank Yous to Street Crews, Hmong Chamber of Commerce Open House, World Relief, PERM Program, Some Prevention Updates, Managing Risk Article, Chippewa River Trail Tree Removal
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Rebecca Scharlau
- **A Few More Pictures**

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:05:57 -0500  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Bob Nelson" <Robert.Nelson@eauclairewi.gov>; "Carrie Riepl" <Carrie.Riepl@eauclairewi.gov>; "Colleen Schian" <Colleen.Schian@eauclairewi.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>; "Lane Berg" <Lane.Berg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Travis Davis" <Travis.Davis@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Danya Morman" <Danya.Morman@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 5/12  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 05 12 2023.pdf

FYI...

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 5:05 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** Nicholas Koerner <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 5/12

Hello all –

Topics in this week's Update include:

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** Q&A on Triaging Tree Removal, Housing Survey, More Thank Yous to Street Crews, Hmong Chamber of Commerce Open House, World Relief, PERM Program, Some Prevention Updates, Managing Risk Article, Chippewa River Trail Tree Removal
- **Council Calendar**
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- **A Few More Pictures**

Stephanie

Stephanie Hirsch  
City Manager  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701  
Office: 715-839-6045



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 08:51:34 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Nice letter! Let me see how to work it out with the Council.

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Good morning,  
Draft letter is attached.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Not sure why it would've bounced... Do you want to draft the letter for me to sign?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future

newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 09:02:43 -0500  
**To:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

FYI, only...

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023 8:04 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

FYI, email below from Lieske

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 8:26 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you Anoosheh.

We will review and be in touch with Tami.

Do note that this is the type of additional tax levy supported effort from our agency that is so critical that we will have to sort out how to navigate.

Lieske

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:18 PM  
**To:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you have received this email

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** [marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov). <[marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Marisa,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials

and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you personally have done with refugee health screenings as well as the whole Eau Claire public health team to pave the way for future newcomer communities. We look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 22 May 2023 10:02:04 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"TMcLaughlin@wr.org" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hi Tami – Attached please find a letter of support. So happy to be able to send it!

Let us know if there's anything else we can do on our end.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

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Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

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[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 28 Jun 2023 19:46:46 -0500  
**To:** "Colleen Schian" <Colleen.Schian@eauclairewi.gov>; "Carrie Riepl" <Carrie.Riepl@eauclairewi.gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Travis Davis" <Travis.Davis@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Lane Berg" <Lane.Berg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Cortney Sperber" <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Matthew Jaggar" <Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Cory Tietz" <Cory.Tietz@eauclairewi.gov>; "Jennifer Pempek" <Jennifer.Pempek@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Agenda for EDI EauStat Admin Meeting  
**Attachments:** 2023-06-29\_EDIEauStatAgenda.docx

Hello all –

Attached is an agenda for the EDI EauStat meeting tomorrow.

As mentioned in other communications, we are trying to split EauStat meetings into three different types:

- Admin Meetings (IT, HR, Finance, and eventually Law) that happen in the first week of the month and that shape the topics for the operational meetings.
- Operational Meetings (Community Services, Police, Fire, etc. etc.) that happen in the last two weeks of the month.
- Project meetings that are less structured and happen at different times of the month.

EDI probably falls somewhere between an Admin Meeting (since it relates to all departments) and a project meeting.

Anyway, thank you for bearing with us as we make these adjustments!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 29 Jun 2023 12:01:22 -0500  
**To:** "Colleen Schian" <Colleen.Schian@eauclairewi.gov>; "Carrie Riepl" <Carrie.Riepl@eauclairewi.gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Travis Davis" <Travis.Davis@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Lane Berg" <Lane.Berg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Cortney Sperber" <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Matthew Jaggar" <Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov>; "Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Cory Tietz" <Cory.Tietz@eauclairewi.gov>; "Jennifer Pempek" <Jennifer.Pempek@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Agenda for EDI EauStat Admin Meeting  
**Attachments:** 2023-06-29\_EDIEauStatAgenda\_Packet.pdf

Hello –

Attached is a packet of information related to today's topics...

Stephanie

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 28, 2023 7:47 PM  
**To:** Colleen Schian <Colleen.Schian@eauclairewi.gov>; Carrie Riepl <carrie.riepl@eauclairewi.gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Elizabeth Geise <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Travis Davis <Travis.Davis@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Steve Nick <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; Doug Hoffer <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; Billie Hufford <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Lane Berg <Lane.Berg@eauclairewi.gov>; Cortney Sperber <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>; Aaron White <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Matthew Jaggar <Matt.Jaggar@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Kitzie Winters <Kitzie.Winters@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Cory Tietz <cory.tietz@eauclairewi.gov>; Jennifer Pempek <Jennifer.Pempek@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
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Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 9 Jul 2023 10:22:34 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

What a bummer about the religious requirement... That seems like it would be a really fun job!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 8, 2023 1:15 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 5:33:45 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Anoosheh,

Good to hear from you! We don't expect to receive final approve for the resettlement site until late August but are going to begin recruiting for the site director (position should be posted by the following week). I will also begin looking for office space. Do you have any recommendations regarding location? A top priority is accessibility to public transportation.

Will stay in touch as starting to move forward!

Thanks!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 3:03 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami,

Hope you are doing fine. How is World Relief Eau Claire project going? Have you heard back from the HQ yet? Have you started looking for a place/hiring?

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:13 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you!

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**  
Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley  
[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)  
o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 9 Jul 2023 10:22:18 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Aaron White"  
<Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Anoosheh – I'd suggest working with Aaron on possible locations!

---

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**Sent:** Saturday, July 8, 2023 1:15 PM  
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<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you!

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**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

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**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Jul 2023 09:48:28 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief, Eau Claire Site Manager

Geeze.

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 9:41 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief, Eau Claire Site Manager

[World Relief - Site Manager \(lever.co\)](#)

I would like to highlight :

### Requirements

- Mature and personal Christian faith
- Committed to the mission, vision, and values of World Relief
- Desire to serve and empower the Church to impact vulnerable communities
- Able to affirm and/or acknowledge World Reliefs Core Beliefs, Statement of Faith, Christian Identity and National Evangelicals For the Health of The Nation document

### Anoosheh Hamzehee

#### Associate Analyst

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701





**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 4:14 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; Nicholas Koerner <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17

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Two quick things...

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- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 7 Aug 2023 10:38:16 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh29@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Thanks for your interest in World Relief, Anoosheh

Geeze... Well, the lord works in mysterious ways.

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <anoosheh29@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 7, 2023 10:37 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Thanks for your interest in World Relief, Anoosheh

The response I received after our little "faith" chat [with WR.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[anoosheh29@gmail.com](mailto:anoosheh29@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** August 7, 2023 at 10:23:15 AM CDT  
**To:** Reza Mousavi <[rezajay@hotmail.com](mailto:rezajay@hotmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Thanks for your interest in World Relief, Anoosheh

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** World Relief <[no-reply@hire.lever.co](mailto:no-reply@hire.lever.co)>  
**Date:** August 7, 2023 at 9:24:09 AM CDT  
**To:** [anoosheh29@gmail.com](mailto:anoosheh29@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Thanks for your interest in World Relief, Anoosheh

Hi Anoosheh,

Thank you for taking the time to chat. After much consideration, we've made the decision to not move forward at this time. That being said, we'd like to keep your resume on file as our team continues to grow.

We really appreciate you taking the time to get to know our team. Best of luck with your current search!

Thanks again,  
Melissa Young

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 18 Sep 2023 15:55:26 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

When you get more details, I'll include it in the newsletter. I think this is a big accomplishment!

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 11:43 AM  
**To:** Elizabeth Giese <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cortney Sperber <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Hi Lieske,

World Relief is in the process of renting an office and hiring staff. They predict the first arrivals to occur at the end of November. I have asked Tami, the Director, for more info. I will share as soon as I receive a response. Meanwhile please let me know if there are any specific details that you would want to know.

Have a great day,  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 11:23 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Greetings.

I wanted to quickly connect to see if you have any updates for us related to the proposed resettlement efforts. I know that depending on what moves forward, there may be considerable involvement of staff and resources across our agencies. I want to be sure we are thinking about that so we have planned strategically.

Let me know what you can share.

Thanks much.

Lieske

*Lieske (Elizabeth) Giese, RN, MSPH | Health Officer - Director*

[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)

P: (715) 839-4718 F: (715) 839-1674 Cell: (715) 514-7881

720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703



Eau Claire City-County  
Health Department

[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

***For more immediate response, please contact us at [ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov).  
If there is a public health emergency outside of normal business hours, please contact  
NON-emergency dispatch at (715) 839-4972 and they will connect you with a public health  
official.***

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 25 Sep 2023 10:28:49 -0500  
**To:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 09 18 2023.doc

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**Subject:** Update from the Manager's Office - Week of 9/25/2023

Hello City Staff – We in the City Manager’s Office, with help from the IT Department, are working on reformatting the weekly newsletter... The goal is to send one newsletter that works for the City Council, City staff, and members of the public who are interested. (Additional notices outside of the weekly newsletter will also get sent for employee-specific news.) Also, we hope to make it possible for you to sign up to receive the updates on your personal email account, which may help those people who are part of teams that don’t regularly access City email. Below is how we are picturing it’ll look on a weekly basis. Stay tuned, and please feel free to share feedback on this new, proposed format! (You may get a duplicate of this email once we set up the new system, FYI...)

- **CITY UPDATES:** Here’s some news from around the city.

- **Cannery District Construction:** Our Parks Manager, Steve Plaza, shared this update on what’s happening with the construction of Cannery Park, which is in the “Cannery” neighborhood, close to the Children’s Theater, High Bridge, and the Brewing Projekt: “Cannery Park has been seeing a transformation this past month. Contractors have been grading the sledding hill, playground area, open spaces, and skatepark. The restroom has been framed and its inside painted, and it’s now visible if you take a tour in that area. The ADA walkway next to the Madison Street Bridge has been staked, as has the walkway and canoe slide to a scenic viewpoint. Footing is being prepared to be poured for concrete for the stairs and the sign. The completion of the park is scheduled for early summer 2024. Market & Johnson is the General Contractor for the project, and Cory Tietz is the City’s Project Manager for the park construction.”



- **One Book, One Community 2023:** The L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library is launching its community read for 2023. They write: “This highly-anticipated, annual program encourages residents to unite around a single book that delves into critical

social and environmental issues affecting the region. The chosen title for this year is New York Times bestseller Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard, by Douglas Tallamy. The book is a compelling exploration of biodiversity loss and the role each of us can play in preserving our natural world. The main event will be an Author Talk with Douglas Tallamy at the Chippewa Valley Book Festival on Saturday, October 14th at 9:30AM in the Riverview Room. Registration and additional events can be found here:

[www.ecpubliclibrary.info/onebook](http://www.ecpubliclibrary.info/onebook)

- **Resettlement Agency Coming to Eau Claire:** The City of Eau Claire has recently worked with partners, including resident volunteer groups, the CVTC, the Department of Human Services, and the Health Department, to explore opening an Eau Claire branch of an agency called World Relief. The organization is currently securing office space and hiring staff. They expect to be all situated by this fall, and they will begin to welcome refugees for settlement in Eau Claire in 2024. They write that: "The total number of refugees we have been approved to welcome to the Chippewa Valley for FY2024 is 75 people." New residents of Eau Claire will help fill gaps in our very tight labor market and will bring a richness of perspectives and contributions to our community.

- **QUESTION AND ANSWERS:** Here are some questions that have come through the City Manager's Office this week. *Have a question you'd like answered?* [Submit it here.](#)

### **TDS Installation Impact**

Question: "How is TDS repairing areas of grass or landscaping that have been damaged due to the installation of fiber?"

Answer from City Staff: City Engineer Dave Solberg shared: "We have worked with TDS to ensure that they complete restoration within the existing permitted areas and provide us with a timeline for restoration. We have been tracking locations based on e-mails and calls and relaying those restoration locations to TDS/Tilson daily. Last week, we started inspection of the restoration complaint locations, and that will continue through this process. TDS/Tilson is on track to have their restoration brought into compliance by the beginning of October. We've seen great improvement with the new restoration sub-contractor and their work towards meeting the restoration requirements over the past two weeks."

### **EV Charging on Forest Street**

Question: "I was wondering what the timeline is for the EV charging at Forest Street. I have seen it used by vehicles, but I have noticed that the site is not completed. and the canopy structure by Solar Forma is not yet installed."

Answer from City Staff: Planning Manger Ned Noel said: "EV charging has been going on over a year there, but the Solar Forma Design has had some business issues and delays. They have proposed to complete the project by end of October."

## Trail from Mayo

Question: “Any updates on the Half Moon Lake Trail construction from Folsom Street south to West Madison Street?”

Answer from City Staff: City Engineer Dave Solberg said: “We ran into a problem in the right of way that the City purchased 30+ years ago...but we have worked through it. Unfortunately, WisDOT’s budget is tight, and if we don’t get the contract awarded by late October, construction may not start until 2026... so we’re really pushing to get it bid ASAP!”

## Jeffers Road Trail

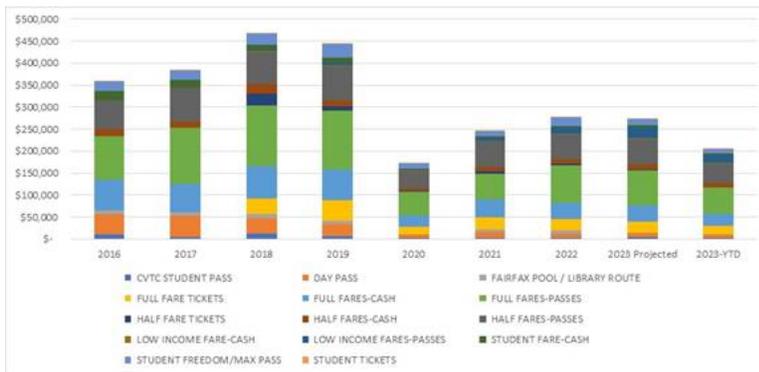
Question: “I noticed utility poles in the middle of the trail on the southern end of the Jeffers Road reconstruction, looking south toward the North Crossing. Will these be moved?”

Answer from City Staff: City Engineer Dave Solberg said: “Xcel Energy wasn’t able to move the poles this year, so we made sure we had four-foot clearance around them and paved the trail. Next year, Xcel Energy will saw a square of the trail out, move the poles, and repave the concrete square they removed.”

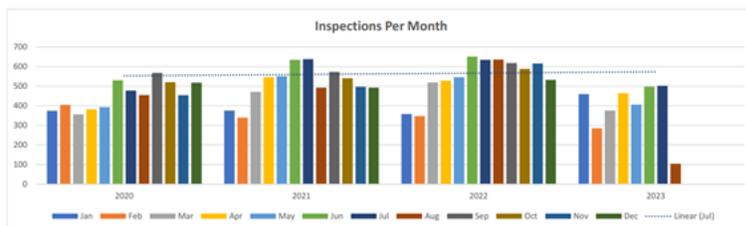


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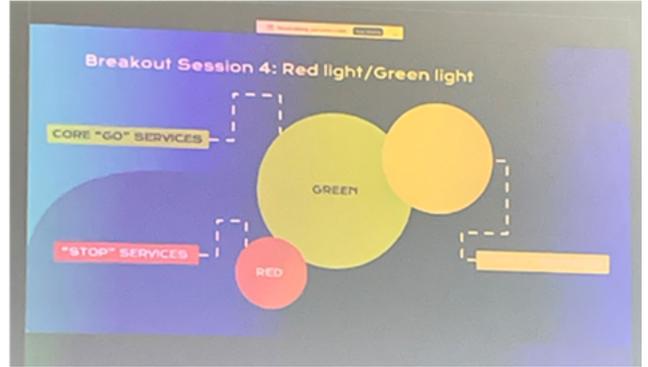
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works for the City Council, City staff, and members of the public who are interested. (Additional notices outside of the weekly newsletter will also get sent for employee-specific news.) Also, we hope to make it possible for you to sign up to receive the updates on your personal email account, which may help those people who are part of teams that don't regularly access City email. Below is how we are picturing it'll look on a weekly basis. Stay tuned, and please feel free to share feedback on this new, proposed format! (You may get a duplicate of this email once we set up the new system, FYI...)

- **CITY UPDATES:** Here's some news from around the city.

- **Cannery District Construction:** Our Parks Manager, Steve Plaza, shared this update on what's happening with the construction of Cannery Park, which is in the "Cannery" neighborhood, close to the Children's Theater, High Bridge, and the Brewing Project: "Cannery Park has been seeing a transformation this past month. Contractors have been grading the sledding hill, playground area, open spaces, and skatepark. The restroom has been framed and its inside painted, and it's now visible if you take a tour in that area. The ADA walkway next to the Madison Street Bridge has been staked, as has the walkway and canoe slide to a scenic viewpoint. Footing is being prepared to be poured for concrete for the stairs and the sign. The completion of the park is scheduled for early summer 2024. Market & Johnson is the General Contractor for the project, and Cory Tietz is the City's Project Manager for the park construction."



**One Book, One Community 2023:** The L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library is launching its community read for 2023. They write: "This highly-anticipated, annual program encourages residents to unite around a single book that delves into critical social and environmental issues affecting the region. The chosen title for this year is New York Times bestseller Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard, by Douglas Tallamy. The book is a compelling exploration of biodiversity loss and the role each of us can play in preserving our natural world. The main event will be an Author Talk with Douglas Tallamy at the Chippewa Valley Book

Festival on Saturday, October 14th at 9:30AM in the Riverview Room. Registration and additional events can be found here:

[www.ecpubliclibrary.info/onebook](http://www.ecpubliclibrary.info/onebook)

-  
**Resettlement Agency Coming to Eau Claire:** The City of Eau Claire has recently worked with partners, including resident volunteer groups, the CVTC, the Department of Human Services, and the Health Department, to explore opening an Eau Claire branch of an agency called World Relief. The organization is currently securing office space and hiring staff. They expect to be all situated by this fall, and they will begin to welcome refugees for settlement in Eau Claire in 2024. They write that: "The total number of refugees we have been approved to welcome to the Chippewa Valley for FY2024 is 75 people." New residents of Eau Claire will help fill gaps in our very tight labor market and will bring a richness of perspectives and contributions to our community.

-  
**QUESTION AND ANSWERS:** Here are some questions that have come through the City Manager's Office this week. *Have a question you'd like answered?* [Submit it here.](#)

### **TDS Installation Impact**

Question: "How is TDS repairing areas of grass or landscaping that have been damaged due to the installation of fiber?"

Answer from City Staff: City Engineer Dave Solberg shared: "We have worked with TDS to ensure that they complete restoration within the existing permitted areas and provide us with a timeline for restoration. We have been tracking locations based on e-mails and calls and relaying those restoration locations to TDS/Tilson daily. Last week, we started inspection of the restoration complaint locations, and that will continue through this process. TDS/Tilson is on track to have their restoration brought into compliance by the beginning of October. We've seen great improvement with the new restoration sub-contractor and their work towards meeting the restoration requirements over the past two weeks."

### **EV Charging on Forest Street**

Question: "I was wondering what the timeline is for the EV charging at Forest Street. I have seen it used by vehicles, but I have noticed that the site is not completed. and the canopy structure by Solar Forma is not yet installed."

Answer from City Staff: Planning Manger Ned Noel said: "EV charging has been going on over a year there, but the Solar Forma Design has had some business issues and delays. They have proposed to complete the project by end of October."

### **Trail from Mayo**

Question: “Any updates on the Half Moon Lake Trail construction from Folsom Street south to West Madison Street?”

Answer from City Staff: City Engineer Dave Solberg said: “We ran into a problem in the right of way that the City purchased 30+ years ago...but we have worked through it. Unfortunately, WisDOT’s budget is tight, and if we don’t get the contract awarded by late October, construction may not start until 2026... so we’re really pushing to get it bid ASAP!”

### **Jeffers Road Trail**

Question: “I noticed utility poles in the middle of the trail on the southern end of the Jeffers Road reconstruction, looking south toward the North Crossing. Will these be moved?”

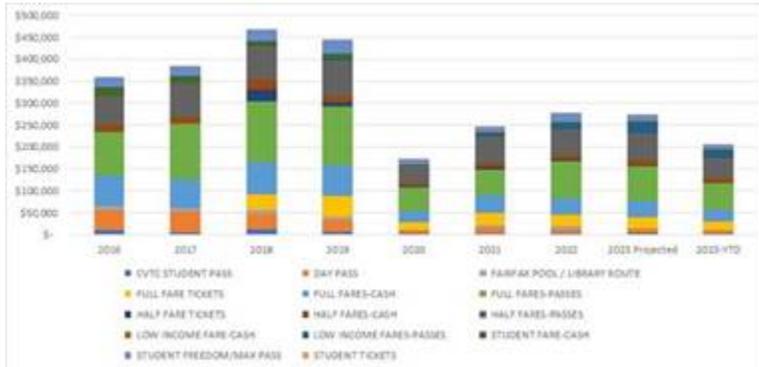
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**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 2 Oct 2023 09:54:40 -0500  
**To:** "Danya Morman" <Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Interview

I can call them... unless Anoosheh or someone else would like to.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Danya Morman <Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 9:35:33 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Interview

Got a call from WEAU looking to talk to someone about World Relief. Do you know who the best person would be for that? Person calling was Ellie Pomerleau, email is [Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com) and number is 612-562-5883

Sincerely,

**Danya Morman** *(They, Them, Theirs)*

**Management Analyst Fellow**

(715) 839-4902

[Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 2 Oct 2023 10:10:05 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Danya Morman"  
<Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan"  
<Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg"  
<dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Interview

Okay! I'll reach out to her to see if she has already been in touch with Tami for the details...

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:09 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Danya Morman  
<Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Dave  
Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Interview

I think either you or Tami ?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Danya Morman <[Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan  
<[Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee  
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**Sent:** Mon, 2 Oct 2023 10:12:00 -0500  
**To:** "mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com"  
<Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com>; "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 2 Oct 2023 10:16:06 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>;  
"ellie.pomerleau@weau.com" <ellie.pomerleau@weau.com>  
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**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Ellie and all –

In case they'd like to comment, I'm looping in:

- Anoosheh Hamzehee, who worked with World Relief to help them learn more about Eau Claire.
- Dr. Ka Vang (our EDI Coordinator);
- Aaron White (our Community Development Director);
- Emily Berge (our Council President); and
- Lieske Geise (our Health Director).

Anoosheh, can you connect Ellie with the key volunteer groups?

The City doesn't have a formal role, however, we support initiatives like this that boost our local workforce capacity and that support the City's strategic vision of "promoting a welcoming, inclusive, and diverse community" from our Strategic Plan and Vision. [637110562312000000 \(eauclairewi.gov\)](https://www.eauclairewi.gov)

A number of community partners do play a bit more formal roles, including the Human Services Department and the City/County Health Department. CVTC and the School District have also been involved as they have different educational programs for English Language Learners.

---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi guys,

Thank you for reaching out! I was looking to do a story on World Relief coming to Eau Claire and how that will impact the city.

Stephanie- would you be the best person to speak with me about this decision from the City of Eau Claire? Also, I was wondering what volunteer groups you collaborated with in the community to make this happen.

Tami- Would you be available for an on-camera pre-recorded interview on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 9:30 a.m.? I think it would be great if we could meet in Eau Claire outside of where the resettlement agency will be located. However, let me know what works for you! Also, let me know if you have any footage you could submit from World Relief for the story.

My apologies for the response at 11 p.m. I am working overnights tonight. ☐ My plan would be to film and edit this story the week of Oct. 16 and then air it that following Monday.

Let me know your thoughts!

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Subject:** World Relief

Hi Ellie –

I have a message from my staff that you're interested in learning more about the World Relief office opening? I'm CCing Tami, who is from World Relief and can give you more details...

Let us know if we can help with anything else!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 4 Oct 2023 05:07:03 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Anoosheh - Could you connect Ellie to the CVTC person we've been working with?

---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 2:33 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Elizabeth Geise <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; Aaron White <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you for these details! Do you have a specific contact from the school district who you worked with to set up educational programs?

Anoosheh- If you could get me more details about which volunteer groups are helping with the project that would be great.

Let me know if you need anything for me.

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

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News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 9:34 AM  
**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Elizabeth Geise <[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Ellie and all –

In case they'd like to comment, I'm looping in:

- Anoosheh Hamzehee, who worked with World Relief to help them learn more about Eau Claire.
- Dr. Ka Vang (our EDI Coordinator);
- Aaron White (our Community Development Director);
- Emily Berge (our Council President); and
- Lieske Geise (our Health Director).

Anoosheh, can you connect Ellie with the key volunteer groups?

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**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
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My apologies for the response at 11 p.m. I am working overnights tonight. ☹ My plan would be to film and edit this story the week of Oct. 16 and then air it that following Monday.

Let me know your thoughts!

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Let us know if we can help with anything else!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
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**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 5 Oct 2023 11:14:47 -0500  
**To:** "'Katrina Lim'" <klim@wqow.com>; "'Tami McLaughlin'" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Interview Request

Hi Katrina –

The City doesn't have a formal role, however, we support initiatives like this that boost our local workforce capacity and that support the City's strategic vision of "promoting a welcoming, inclusive, and diverse community" from our Strategic Plan and Vision. [637110562312000000 \(eauclairewi.gov\)](https://www.eauclairewi.gov)

A number of community partners do play a bit more formal roles, including the Human Services Department and the City/County Health Department. CVTC and the School District have also been involved as they have different educational programs for English Language Learners.

The main person to talk to would be Tami McLaughlin who works for World Relief. I've CCed her here!

**From:** Katrina Lim <klim@wqow.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 10:35 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Interview Request

Hi Stephanie,

Hope you've been doing well. I'm reaching out to see if you or someone from the city of Eau Claire may be available today to either do an in-person on-camera interview or an on-camera virtual Zoom interview with one of my reporters about the resettlement agency that's coming to Eau Claire in the fall. We read a little about it in your weekly city manager update.

City Manager Weekly Update from  
09/29/2023: <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/Home/Components/News/News/11081/90>

If you're available any time between 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. today that would be great. Thank you very much and hope we can work something out,

--

**Katrina Lim**

Assignment Editor

WQOW News 18 "Eau Claire's Own"

Cell: 541-805-0991

Office: 715-831-1824

Email: [klim@wqow.com](mailto:klim@wqow.com)



@KatrinaLimTV



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 14:55:15 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Draft Blurp

Please edit/add/subtract however!

\*\*\*

We are saying farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. Ka has done so much for us in the time she has been here, and we are very sad to see her go. That said, we are excited about the position she is shifting into. She will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. Ka has said that she feels it's her life mission to work with refugees. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship. While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited a BIPOC Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 12 Oct 2023 09:33:49 -0500  
**To:** "stephanie@stephaniehirsch.org"  
<stephanie@stephaniehirsch.org>  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 10 09 2023.doc

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 12 Oct 2023 15:27:44 -0500  
**To:** "Tj" <atkins77@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** EDI Coordinator

Hi TJ –

I know that many people have asked you this, including me the last time around! ☹️ But I thought I'd add another ask to the list... They say that women need to be asked like 10 times to run for office, and I'm using that same theory here.

Our amazing Ka is going on to run the new World Relief program. We need someone brave, brilliant, strong, savvy, determined to spearhead these EDI projects. We have the \$800K set aside to spend on transforming the Chippewa Valley and it's pretty much the number one thing on my priority list. I hope you'll consider applying for the position! ☹️

Stephanie

\*\*

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** This past week, we held an EDI EauStat meeting at which we discussed the many big projects underway in this department. We are sad to say farewell to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley.

Starting Monday, Ka will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

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Please spread the word about our search for our next EDI Coordinator! [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) This person will have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive.

Stephanie Hirsch  
City Manager  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701  
Office: 715-839-6045



<emily.bee@eauclairewi.gov>; "erin.klaus2@eauclairewi.gov"  
<erin.klaus2@eauclairewi.gov>; "mariah.hallen@eauclairewi.gov"  
<mariah.hallen@eauclairewi.gov>

**Subject:** City Manager's Weekly Update 10/13/2023: Regional Growth, Creative Problem Solving, Covid Updates

**Attachments:** image003.jpg, image007.jpg, image011.png, image015.jpg, image018.jpg, image020.jpg, image022.png, image024.jpg, image002.jpg

Hi all – We're working on getting you directly registered to receive this, however, in the meantime, here's this week's newsletter! This new version will go out to staff, the Council, and the public each Friday.

\*\*

Hello City of Eau Claire residents, staff, and Council Members,

I'm writing to share news from the City of Eau Claire. We are using a new format to send news out. [Prior updates can be found here](#). Take a look at our weekly newsletter to stay on top of what we are working on. Pass it along to friends who can [sign up for different City updates here](#). We welcome you at Council Meetings, Neighborhood Association Meetings, Library Events, and anywhere else that City work takes place. Bear with us as we work out any kinks of this new approach! Also, feel free to [send me feedback](#).

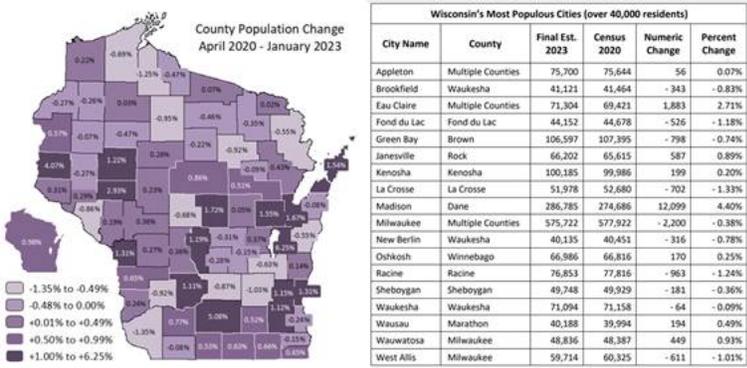
**CITY UPDATES:** Here's some news from around the city.

**2024 Budget Development Continues:** This past week, we held a public hearing and a work session on the 2024 budget. This included an overview of the finances, along with a list of changes we are proposing in the 2024 budget. We also shared accomplishments from 2023 and goals for 2024. Please find the material here: [Budget | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#) We welcome you to join the conversation at a second public hearing on the budget, which is scheduled for Monday, November 13th

**Seventh Biggest City:** This week, the Wisconsin Department of Administration released final population estimates for counties and municipalities as of January 1st, 2023. The City of Eau Claire and Eau Claire County continue to show strong growth: This document provides the most basic summary: [https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/Final\\_Ests\\_Summary\\_2023.pdf](https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/Final_Ests_Summary_2023.pdf)

The City of Eau Claire, according to this estimate, has now passed the City of Waukesha, to become the seventh largest city in the State of Wisconsin. Compared to the 2020 Census, the City of Eau Claire has gained 1,883 residents, a 2.71 percent increase, second only to Madison in both numerical gain and percentage increase for cities above 40,000 people in the state. Perhaps even more interesting, there isn't a single other city above 40,000 people that grew by even 1 percent during this period, and most cities (10 of the 18) above 40,000 people actually lost population during this period. Note that the City of Altoona has had incredible growth between

the 2020 Census and January 1st, 2023: An increase of 1,027 people, or 12.38 percent! (Thank you to Council Member Gragert for creating this summary).



**COVID-19 Continues to be High:** As of this week, COVID-19 activity in Eau Claire remained higher than in previous months, according to wastewater data. Right now, the amount of COVID being found in Eau Claire's wastewater remains at a "very high" level (on a scale of very low to very high). The updated fall COVID vaccine is in the process of being made available to the public. As it's being distributed to vaccinators, vaccine supply is temporarily limited, and appointment availability will vary from provider to provider. We expect availability to increase soon and vaccine appointments to become widely available in Eau Claire County in the coming weeks.

People who have health insurance should plan to get the vaccine at their doctor's office or local pharmacy. Most health insurance plans will fully cover the cost of getting the fall COVID vaccine at an in-network provider. The Health Department is not offering mass COVID vaccination clinics this fall, but people who don't have health insurance or people whose insurance doesn't cover vaccinations can get a fall COVID vaccine at the Health Department at no cost through the federal Bridge to Access Program. For those who are uninsured or those whose health insurance doesn't cover vaccinations, please call us at 715-839-4718 to schedule a vaccination appointment. Not sure if you're up to date on your COVID vaccines? [Find out here.](#)

Another round of free mail-order COVID tests is now available! Every household can place an order to get four rapid home tests delivered for free to their home. To order, visit [www.covid.gov/tests](http://www.covid.gov/tests) or call 1-800-232-0233. You can sign up to get these emails directly if you are interested. Please do not hesitate to contact our department if you are interested in more information: [ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov) or through our general phone number: 715-839-4718.

**Voices of the Valley:** Students from a CVTC class recently presented stories of immigration, including stories of their homelands, their moves to the United States, and their lives in Eau Claire. They had worked with an English Language Instructor from CVTC, Alyssa Hedenstrom,

to refine the stories and compile them to share. You can read all of their stories here: [CVTC Blog | Chippewa Valley Technical College](#)

### CVTC BLOG ARTICLES



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
EMINE AKIN TUNALI



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
OUMOU TANGARA



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
KEUM HEE (ROSA) CHOI

The event, called "CVTC Voices of the Valley," was held at the Library. Deputy City Manager Dave Solberg and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator Dr. Ka Vang also shared comments on immigration. Here's the text of Ka and Dave's comments:

#### **From Dr. Ka Vang (EDI Coordinator)**

“As a refugee myself, I am so excited to support the Voices of the Valley event tonight. The promise of new opportunities and brighter future was enough to entice my parents to make the decision to bring our whole family to America in 1979, after the Secret War in Laos. As we continue to embrace our new home and carve our path, I will never forget the sacrifices my parents made so that I can be here.

There is a common theme from Voices of the Valley: Immigrant Stories from Students of Chippewa Valley Technical College -- leaving everything you know behind and learning to adjust to:

- new home,
- new country,
- new people,
- new customs,
- new, new, ect.,

all for various reasons... like leaving due to war and violence or leaving because of a love connection.

Just know that what you have written in this collection is not finished. Your journey just started. There will be more to your story. I encourage you to continue to document and write your story. Leave your footprint here in the Chippewa Valley for generations to come. Your stories and your voices add to the richness of The City of Eau Claire. Thank you for choosing to make the Chippewa Valley your home.”

#### **From Dave Solberg (Deputy City Manager)**

“As a father of two immigrants and a staff member of the City of Eau Claire, I wanted to express how important the immigrant community is to western Wisconsin, the City of Eau Claire, and myself personally. A diverse community is a strong community. The fabric of who we are as a society is made up of so many different colors, shapes, sizes, and fabrics...it’s the diversity of everyone that makes us a colorful, strong, vibrant community. Reading the stories in the collection, it is also striking how similar the stories are to everyday life in our area. We’re all humans with stories to tell.

It is common for students going on to secondary education and young adults entering the workforce to struggle with the transition...now consider attempting this while learning the English language at the same time. The achievements that they have made are remarkable given their challenges. Their achievements are testaments to their hard work, character, resilience, and desire to make themselves better and make us all better. In fact, these are the exact qualities we look for in employees at the City, and I hope a number of our new friends consider bringing their diversity and talents to our organization!”

**QUESTION AND ANSWERS:** Here are some questions that have come through the City Manager’s Office this week. *Have a question you’d like answered? [Submit it here.](#)*

### **Traffic Law Enforcement**

Question: “How does the Police Department handle traffic enforcement?”

Answer: Chief Matt Rokus shared the following information: “Resident concerns about speeding and traffic safety are frequently shared with us. Concerns related to speed and traffic safety are triaged and prioritized amongst other types of issues and complaints, such as burglaries, car prowlers, drug houses, quality of life issues associated with homelessness, loud parties, underage alcohol consumption, and others.

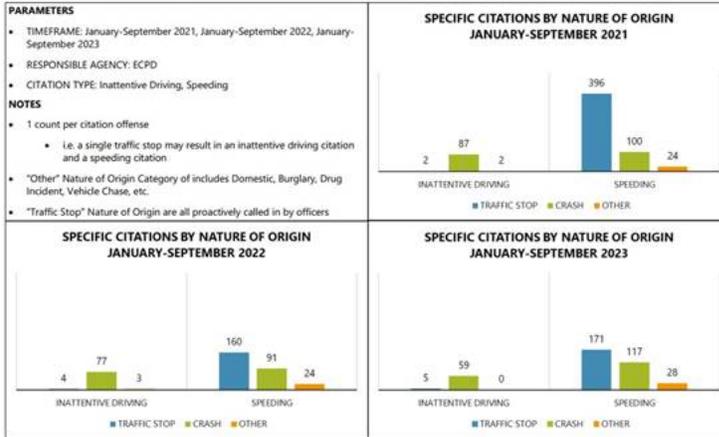
Our Patrol Officers and their supervisors do their best to prioritize proactive traffic safety efforts in geographic areas where we have more crashes, as determined by data analysis, resident complaints, and officer observations. To provide the proactive focus, we allocate officer time to enforcement in the target areas. However, their time available is limited given the percent of time they are obligated responding to calls for service.

The table below contains some basic information related to traffic citations. The two main categories of traffic enforcement come from two types of incidents -- proactive traffic stops or enforcement following traffic-related incidents, most likely crashes.”



**SPECIFIC CITATIONS BY NATURE OF ORIGIN**  
JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2021-2023

CITATION TYPE	JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2021			JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2022			JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2023		
	TRAFFIC STOP	CRASH	OTHER	TRAFFIC STOP	CRASH	OTHER	TRAFFIC STOP	CRASH	OTHER
INATTENTIVE DRIVING	2	87	2	4	77	3	5	59	0
SPEEDING	396	100	24	160	91	24	171	117	28



## Trick-or-Treating

Question: “Will the City share information about trick-or-treating protocols?”

Answer: Media and Communications Specialist Tess Morgan shared: “The City of Eau Claire does not designate official tick-or-treat hours for the community. Aside from some safety reminders for kids and motorists, and helping to publicize the DECI Downtown event, we don’t post about Halloween. In the past, individual neighborhoods have chosen to hold their own events when it’s convenient for their area, but otherwise it’s generally understood that trick-or-treating occurs on the holiday itself, October 31st, with the hours of 5-7:30PM still being relatively light out and therefor safer for kids to be visiting neighbors.”

## Park Planning

Question: “Could a park be changed significantly without a public planning process?”

Answer: Our Parks Manager, Steve Plaza, shared the following feedback: “Any proposed changes to parks go through a planning process that includes review by nearby neighborhoods, the Waterways and Parks Commission, and the City Council. In general, park developments try to follow the parks and open space master plan, which will be updated this year. The purpose of the plan is described on page 11:

‘Parks and recreation programs and services are important to the overall quality of life and Eau Claire Parks, Recreation, and Forestry plays an integral role in the quality of life of all of Eau Claire’s citizens and visitors. The purpose of the System Master Plan is to serve as a guide for all programming, services, and operations of the department. Further, the System Master Plan will provide insight into ongoing industry trends and changes within the community, serve to assess

levels of service provided to the community, evaluate available resources, and develop a prioritized action plan approved by the City Manager and City Council.”

**EAUSTAT NEWS:** The City holds weekly meetings with departments to talk about their data, their goals, and any challenges they may be facing. This program is called "EauStat". Read on below for some data from the meetings we held this week.

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** This past week, we held an EDI EauStat meeting at which we discussed the many big projects underway in this department. We are sad to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley.

Starting Monday, Ka will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, CVTC, other community organizations, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited an EDI Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy. Ka is pictured below (on the left) with a student tour.

Please spread the word about our search for our next EDI Coordinator! [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) This person will have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive.



**Human Resources:** This past week, we held an HR EauStat meeting. In our EauStat meetings, we talk about the work that the HR Department does. One of their main duties is to recruit, hire, and work to retain employees. With the current labor shortage and dramatic increase in wages due to inflation, municipalities have been struggling to recruit and retain employees. Our HR Department has done a great job trying to manage these challenges. We regularly monitor the number of recruitments underway (see image below for our numbers for 2023 YTD). The bulk of our recruitments are for the numerous seasonal employees we have, and this takes a lot of effort, however, it also provides a critical service to constituents, while also helping to mentor many

young people. We are working to develop and monitor a “retention rate” metric, as we work to identify metrics for all of our departments. Also, we are working with a consultant to create an “Employer of Choice” plan to try to increase retention and quality of life for our employees.

# Positions Filled	# Filled Internally	# Filled Externally
264	129	135

**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:** We have the best employees! Get to know one of them this week. (And [submit your suggestion for an employee to spotlight here...](#))

Today we highlight **Renae Casper**. A co-worker said this about Renae: “Renae answers lot of tough questions from residents, many of whom are animated, and answers them politely and with aplomb. Renae has also worked very hard with her predecessor, Rebecca Draeger, to put on employee appreciation events. The employee appreciation lunch was a big success and even brought in some retired employees. The cornhole tournament was also a hit. Renae has also helped fill in for her coworkers when they are absent and is very reliable.”

Here’s some more information about Renae (pictured below with her family and dog):

- Your Position: “I am one of two Administrative Associates for the Engineering Department. I’ve been with the city since January of this year.”
- Something People May Not Know: “I was born and lived in Cheyenne, WY until I was nine years old.
- Favorite Activity: “I enjoy traveling, going to Minnesota sporting events, attending music festivals and concerts. I enjoy playing volleyball and attending CrossFit classes.”
- Thing about Working for City: “I love that I am proud of where I work. Everyone here does what they can day in and day out to really make Eau Claire thrive. I also feel that I am supported in any decisions that I make and that my co-workers genuinely care about my well-being, both personally and professionally.”
- Life Philosophy: “Always be kind. You never know who you are talking to.”
- Anything else? “I am obsessed with dogs, so feel free to stop by with yours to say hello!”



## **SHOUT-OUTS**

**Creative Problem Solving:** Our Streets Division does not get as many shout-outs as they deserve, in part because the work they do is more specialized and behind-the-scenes than some other divisions. Here's an awesome shout-out to a team from the Streets Division that captures how creative they are in finding technical solutions in our budget-constrained environment. Read about both the original, unique, way to clean the street sweeper and then the much-improved method that our very skilled tradespeople built...

Community Services Director Lane Berg wrote:

“I want to share some work that was done by our Street Division recently that I am extremely proud of. I am continually amazed by the vast skill set of our employees and this is a shining example of that!

Some of our street sweepers have a ‘not so great’ system for washing them out at the end of a shift. It requires operating a fire hydrant and discharging water onto the pavement. The sweeper must drive over the wet pavement and vacuum up the water. The load of water and debris is then dumped and the process is repeated until the machine is deemed clean. As you can imagine, this is an inefficient system and is also disruptive to any neighboring properties.

Our employees reached out to supervisor Tim Anderson to see if they could work on coming up with a better system, and they were granted approval. The group was led by Jeff Wilczek, who sought input from many of his co-workers. The team developed a concept, designed the system, and built it with no help from outside contractors or designers, thus saving the City thousands of dollars. The new system (shown in pictures below) is a station that the sweeper backs into. A ball valve is opened which floods the basin, and the sweeper vacuums up the water. The water is then turned off, a drain valve is opened for the basin, and the sweeper dumps the water and debris, while remaining in the same location, and the contents drain to a holding pond. The

process can be repeated, if necessary, in just a couple minutes. This system is so efficient and will save time for years to come at no disruption to residents.

I am so incredibly proud of this for several reasons. We had a system that was not very functional, and our employees wanted to improve it. We have so many talented people, and they were allowed to use their skills and knowledge to make this happen. All involved were able to voice their opinions, and the final design reflected this input.

Special thanks to this group of talented people: Tim Anderson, Jeff Wilczek, Rich Bauer, Don Diesterhaft, Ryan Yule, Paul Rosolack, Brady Johnson, Jake Clauson, Joel Thompson, Cory Wright, Justin Meinen, Jericho Jurewicz, and John Rademacher.”



**Water Plant Kudos:** On September 20<sup>th</sup>, the Sustainability Advisory Committee held their monthly meeting at the Water Plant. City staff gave them an in-depth tour of the facility and showed them some of the sustainable features that have been added recently. Staff and the Committee had a great dialogue and used the opportunity to discuss ideas for improved sustainability in the future. Truly a great collaborative effort!

Pictured L to R: Ben Spanel, (Utilities Manager), Cole Cloutier, (Utilities Engineer), Cameron Bump, Brian Graff, James Schumacher, Janis Tyler, Gary Pesicka (Committee Members) and Joe Dahl, (Water Plant Supervisor).



## **COUNCIL CALENDAR**

- Monday, October 23rd: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
- Tuesday, October 24th: Council Meeting (City Council Operating Budget Work Session #4 – Amendment Discussion)
- *November 3rd – City Council Budget Amendments Due*
- Monday, November 6th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion (with Housing Study presentation)
- Monday, November 13th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night (Public Hearing #2 on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget)
- Tuesday, November 14th: Council Meeting (City Council action on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget and levy)
- Monday, December 18th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion

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## CVTC BLOG ARTICLES



**VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
EMINE AKIN TUNALI**

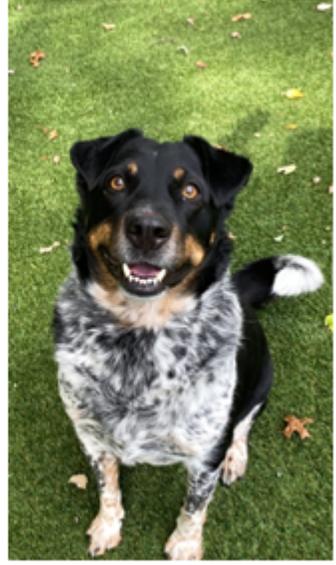


**VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
OUMOUM TANGARA**



**VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
KEUM HEE (ROSA) CHOI**





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**CVTC BLOG ARTICLES**



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
EMINE AKIN TUNALI



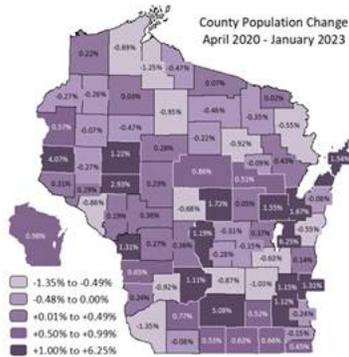
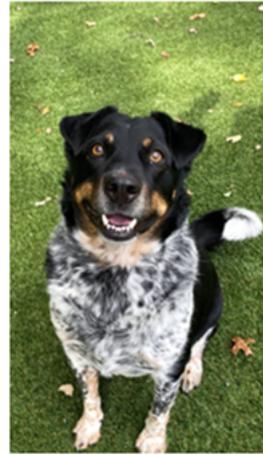
VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
OUMOUM TANGARA



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
KEUM HEE (ROSA) CHOI

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Wisconsin's Most Populous Cities (over 40,000 residents)					
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Madison	Dane	286,785	274,686	12,099	4.40%
Milwaukee	Multiple Counties	575,722	577,922	-2,200	-0.38%
New Berlin	Waukesha	40,135	40,451	-316	-0.78%
Ozaukee	Winnebago	66,966	66,816	170	0.25%
Racine	Racine	76,853	77,816	-963	-1.24%
Sheboygan	Sheboygan	49,748	49,929	-181	-0.36%
Waukesha	Waukesha	71,094	71,158	-64	-0.09%
Wausau	Marathon	40,188	39,994	194	0.49%
Wauwatosa	Milwaukee	48,836	48,387	449	0.93%
West Allis	Milwaukee	59,714	60,325	-611	-1.01%

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 14:17:55 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "atkins77@gmail.com" <atkins77@gmail.com>;  
"tamishabutler@gmail.com" <tamishabutler@gmail.com>;  
"3davism.d@gmail.com" <3davism.d@gmail.com>; "antoinehill@yahoo.com"  
<antoinehill@yahoo.com>; "jacksosm@uwec.edu" <jacksosm@uwec.edu>;  
"legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com"  
<legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com>; "jdjones@uwec.edu"  
<jdjones@uwec.edu>; "leemai@uwec.edu" <leemai@uwec.edu>;  
"clindstrom6@cvtc.edu" <clindstrom6@cvtc.edu>; "khp\_95@hotmail.com"  
<khp\_95@hotmail.com>; "efren.martinez@icloud.com"  
<efren.martinez@icloud.com>; "emitchell@ecasd.us" <emitchell@ecasd.us>;  
"stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org" <stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org>;  
"addison.vang@wisc.edu" <addison.vang@wisc.edu>; "vuenc123@hotmail.com"  
<vuenc123@hotmail.com>; "cpwoods jr@gmail.com" <cpwoods jr@gmail.com>;  
"larkong@hmongchamber.org" <larkong@hmongchamber.org>;  
"angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com" <angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com>; "Dang Yang"  
<dyang1@ecasd.us>; "Berlye Middleton" <middletonberlye@gmail.com>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Kavang37@yahoo.com" <Kavang37@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** EDI Position and Interview Committee - Please consider  
applying or serving on interview panel

Hello BIPOC Committee –

I know Ka reached out, and here's a follow-up note. As Ka mentioned, she has moved over to manage the World Relief agency that just moved to Eau Claire. More about Ka's time at the City and about her new role is below.

I'm writing to ask two things...

**Spread the Word:** First, with Ka's transition, the EDI Coordinator position is now open and accepting applications through 10/22. Please consider applying yourself and/or spread the word about the opening. More information is here: [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) Our EDI Coordinator will continue to have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive. We have the \$810K set aside to spend on transforming the Chippewa Valley to work on these goals. As City Manager, I consider this work one of my highest priorities, and I'm committed to being part of the EDI team, along with other staff, at every step. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions!

**Serve on Selection Committee:** Next, if you are not interested in applying, would you consider serving on the interview committee? The interviews will be held on Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Depending on the number of candidates, they will last several hours. Please let me know if you're willing!

Thanks in advance for considering these requests!

Stephanie

\*\*

More about Dr. Ka Vang & Position...

**Farewell to Ka and Position Open:** We are sad to say farewell to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley. Starting Monday, Ka has started work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

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**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 15:28:57 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Looks good – thanks! That fits with my email...

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 2:43 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Ka's email to BIPOC

**From:** Dang Yang <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 2:28 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Anoosheh,

I finally got back to my office and here is the email that Ka sent to the BIPOC Steering Committee, announcing her departure. Let me know if you need anything else. Thank you!

--Dang Yang  
[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 11, 2023 at 1:03 PM  
**Subject:** BIPOC Steering Committee updates  
**To:** [atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com) <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>, [tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com) <[tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com)>, [3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com) <[3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com)>, [antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com) <[antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com)>, [jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu) <[jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu)>, [legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com) <[legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com)>, [jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu) <[jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu)>, [leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu) <[leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu)>, [clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu) <[clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu)>, [khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com) <[khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com)>, [efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com) <[efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com)>, [emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us) <[emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us)>, [stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org) <[stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org)>, [addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu) <[addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu)>, [vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com) <[vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com)>, [cpwoods jr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoods jr@gmail.com) <[cpwoods jr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoods jr@gmail.com)>, [larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org) <[larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org)>, [angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com) <[angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com)>  
**Cc:** [dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com) <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>, Berlye Middleton <[middletonberlye@gmail.com](mailto:middletonberlye@gmail.com)>

All,

I wanted to let you know that the BIPOC Steering Committee now has a website:

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/government/our-departments/administrative-services/edi-equity-diversity-inclusion/bipoc-steering-committee>

This is where you can find all the meeting agendas, packets, minutes and more. Check it out when you get a chance!

I also wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave my position with The City of Eau Claire. Friday, Oct. 13 will be my last day. I will transition to work with World Relief to support new refugees/immigrants coming to Eau Claire. So the good news is I'm not going far, literally across the river ☺.

It's been a pleasure working with all of you. Thank you for doing this work.

The committee will continue as planned: large meeting 1x month, last Thursdays of the month and other subcommittees as organized by you all. Next large meeting is Oct. 26, 6:30pm in the North Conference Room at City Hall.

By they way, my position will be posted soon and I encourage you to apply if interested.

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@EauClaireWi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



--

**Dang Yang (he/him/his)**

[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 15:49:59 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Yes! Let me think about how that could work. Monday's meeting is actually canceled so it would need to be a resolution or proclamation or something on Tuesday.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:35:21 PM  
**To:** stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Stephanie,

Just wanted to run this idea by you, would it be a good idea for WR to say a few words at Monday's council meeting?

Let me know your thoughts.

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 07:29:29 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Hi Ka – Because the agenda for next week is already worked out, we're thinking that a Council member who attends next week's WR meeting can share updates on it. Then, later on, we can do a resolution or proclamation welcoming the refugees. How does that sound?

p.s. Would you like to be on the interview committee for the new director?

---

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:35 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Stephanie,

Just wanted to run this idea by you, would it be a good idea for WR to say a few words at Monday's council meeting?

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**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**  
Site Manager  
World Relief Wisconsin  
Chippewa Valley  
[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:27:12 -0500  
**To:** "'hirschk-t@charter.net'" <hirschk-t@charter.net>  
**Subject:** FW: City Manager's Weekly Update 10/13/2023: Regional Growth, Creative Problem Solving, Covid Updates  
**Attachments:** image003.jpg, image007.jpg, image011.png, image015.jpg, image018.jpg, image020.jpg, image022.png, image024.jpg, image002.jpg

FYI...

\*\*

Hello City of Eau Claire residents, staff, and Council Members,

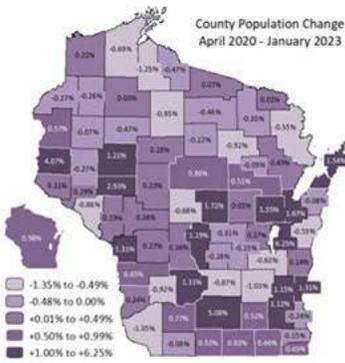
I'm writing to share news from the City of Eau Claire. We are using a new format to send news out. [Prior updates can be found here](#). Take a look at our weekly newsletter to stay on top of what we are working on. Pass it along to friends who can [sign up for different City updates here](#). We welcome you at Council Meetings, Neighborhood Association Meetings, Library Events, and anywhere else that City work takes place. Bear with us as we work out any kinks of this new approach! Also, feel free to [send me feedback](#).

**CITY UPDATES:** Here's some news from around the city.

**2024 Budget Development Continues:** This past week, we held a public hearing and a work session on the 2024 budget. This included an overview of the finances, along with a list of changes we are proposing in the 2024 budget. We also shared accomplishments from 2023 and goals for 2024. Please find the material here: [Budget | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#) We welcome you to join the conversation at a second public hearing on the budget, which is scheduled for Monday, November 13th

**Seventh Biggest City:** This week, the Wisconsin Department of Administration released final population estimates for counties and municipalities as of January 1st, 2023. The City of Eau Claire and Eau Claire County continue to show strong growth: This document provides the most basic summary: [https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/Final\\_Ests\\_Summary\\_2023.pdf](https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/Final_Ests_Summary_2023.pdf)

The City of Eau Claire, according to this estimate, has now passed the City of Waukesha, to become the seventh largest city in the State of Wisconsin. Compared to the 2020 Census, the City of Eau Claire has gained 1,883 residents, a 2.71 percent increase, second only to Madison in both numerical gain and percentage increase for cities above 40,000 people in the state. Perhaps even more interesting, there isn't a single other city above 40,000 people that grew by even 1 percent during this period, and most cities (10 of the 18) above 40,000 people actually lost population during this period. Note that the City of Altoona has had incredible growth between the 2020 Census and January 1st, 2023: An increase of 1,027 people, or 12.38 percent! (Thank you to Council Member Gragert for creating this summary).



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DuKosh	Winnebago	66,986	66,816	170	0.25%
Racine	Racine	76,853	77,816	-963	-1.24%
Sheboygan	Sheboygan	49,748	49,929	-181	-0.36%
Waukesha	Waukesha	71,094	71,158	-64	-0.09%
Wausau	Marathon	40,188	39,994	194	0.49%
Wauwatosa	Milwaukee	48,836	48,387	449	0.93%
West Allis	Milwaukee	59,714	60,325	-611	-1.01%

**COVID-19 Continues to be High:** As of this week, COVID-19 activity in Eau Claire remained higher than in previous months, according to wastewater data. Right now, the amount of COVID being found in Eau Claire's wastewater remains at a "very high" level (on a scale of very low to very high). The updated fall COVID vaccine is in the process of being made available to the public. As it's being distributed to vaccinators, vaccine supply is temporarily limited, and appointment availability will vary from provider to provider. We expect availability to increase soon and vaccine appointments to become widely available in Eau Claire County in the coming weeks.

People who have health insurance should plan to get the vaccine at their doctor's office or local pharmacy. Most health insurance plans will fully cover the cost of getting the fall COVID vaccine at an in-network provider. The Health Department is not offering mass COVID vaccination clinics this fall, but people who don't have health insurance or people whose insurance doesn't cover vaccinations can get a fall COVID vaccine at the Health Department at no cost through the federal Bridge to Access Program. For those who are uninsured or those whose health insurance doesn't cover vaccinations, please call us at 715-839-4718 to schedule a vaccination appointment. Not sure if you're up to date on your COVID vaccines? [Find out here.](#)

Another round of free mail-order COVID tests is now available! Every household can place an order to get four rapid home tests delivered for free to their home. To order, visit [www.covid.gov/tests](http://www.covid.gov/tests) or call 1-800-232-0233. You can sign up to get these emails directly if you are interested. Please do not hesitate to contact our department if you are interested in more information: [echealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:echealth@eauclairecounty.gov) or through our general phone number: 715-839-4718.

**Voices of the Valley:** Students from a CVTC class recently presented stories of immigration, including stories of their homelands, their moves to the United States, and their lives in Eau Claire. They had worked with an English Language Instructor from CVTC, Alyssa Hedenstrom, to refine the stories and compile them to share. You can read all of their stories here: [CVTC Blog | Chippewa Valley Technical College](#)

## CVTC BLOG ARTICLES



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
EMINE AKIN TUNALI



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
OUMOU TANGARA



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
KEUM HEE (ROSA) CHOI

The event, called "CVTC Voices of the Valley," was held at the Library. Deputy City Manager Dave Solberg and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator Dr. Ka Vang also shared comments on immigration. Here's the text of Ka and Dave's comments:

### **From Dr. Ka Vang (EDI Coordinator)**

“As a refugee myself, I am so excited to support the Voices of the Valley event tonight. The promise of new opportunities and brighter future was enough to entice my parents to make the decision to bring our whole family to America in 1979, after the Secret War in Laos. As we continue to embrace our new home and carve our path, I will never forget the sacrifices my parents made so that I can be here.

There is a common theme from Voices of the Valley: Immigrant Stories from Students of Chippewa Valley Technical College -- leaving everything you know behind and learning to adjust to:

- new home,
- new country,
- new people,
- new customs,
- new, new, ect.,

all for various reasons... like leaving due to war and violence or leaving because of a love connection.

Just know that what you have written in this collection is not finished. Your journey just started. There will be more to your story. I encourage you to continue to document and write your story. Leave your footprint here in the Chippewa Valley for generations to come. Your stories and your voices add to the richness of The City of Eau Claire. Thank you for choosing to make the Chippewa Valley your home.”

### **From Dave Solberg (Deputy City Manager)**

“As a father of two immigrants and a staff member of the City of Eau Claire, I wanted to express how important the immigrant community is to western Wisconsin, the City of Eau Claire, and myself personally. A diverse community is a strong community. The fabric of who

we are as a society is made up of so many different colors, shapes, sizes, and fabrics...it's the diversity of everyone that makes us a colorful, strong, vibrant community. Reading the stories in the collection, it is also striking how similar the stories are to everyday life in our area. We're all humans with stories to tell.

It is common for students going on to secondary education and young adults entering the workforce to struggle with the transition...now consider attempting this while learning the English language at the same time. The achievements that they have made are remarkable given their challenges. Their achievements are testaments to their hard work, character, resilience, and desire to make themselves better and make us all better. In fact, these are the exact qualities we look for in employees at the City, and I hope a number of our new friends consider bringing their diversity and talents to our organization!"

**QUESTION AND ANSWERS:** Here are some questions that have come through the City Manager's Office this week. *Have a question you'd like answered? [Submit it here.](#)*

### **Traffic Law Enforcement**

Question: "How does the Police Department handle traffic enforcement?"

Answer: Chief Matt Rokus shared the following information: "Resident concerns about speeding and traffic safety are frequently shared with us. Concerns related to speed and traffic safety are triaged and prioritized amongst other types of issues and complaints, such as burglaries, car prowlers, drug houses, quality of life issues associated with homelessness, loud parties, underage alcohol consumption, and others.

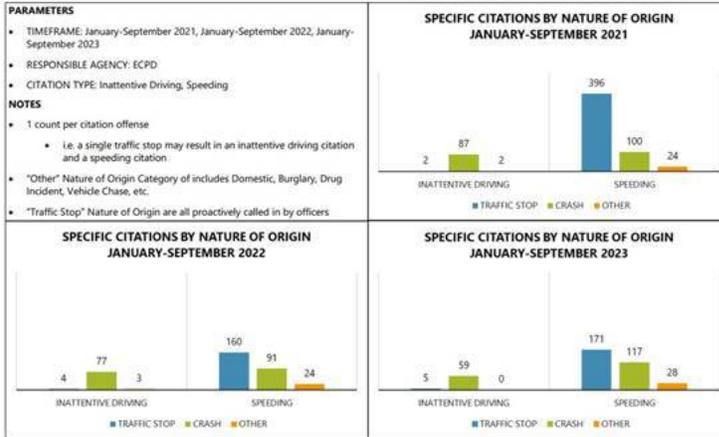
Our Patrol Officers and their supervisors do their best to prioritize proactive traffic safety efforts in geographic areas where we have more crashes, as determined by data analysis, resident complaints, and officer observations. To provide the proactive focus, we allocate officer time to enforcement in the target areas. However, their time available is limited given the percent of time they are obligated responding to calls for service.

The table below contains some basic information related to traffic citations. The two main categories of traffic enforcement come from two types of incidents -- proactive traffic stops or enforcement following traffic-related incidents, most likely crashes."



**SPECIFIC CITATIONS BY NATURE OF ORIGIN**  
JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2021-2023

CITATION TYPE	JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2021			JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2022			JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2023		
	TRAFFIC STOP	CRASH	OTHER	TRAFFIC STOP	CRASH	OTHER	TRAFFIC STOP	CRASH	OTHER
INATTENTIVE DRIVING	2	87	2	4	77	3	5	59	0
SPEEDING	396	100	24	160	91	24	171	117	28



## Trick-or-Treating

Question: “Will the City share information about trick-or-treating protocols?”

Answer: Media and Communications Specialist Tess Morgan shared: “The City of Eau Claire does not designate official tick-or-treat hours for the community. Aside from some safety reminders for kids and motorists, and helping to publicize the DECI Downtown event, we don’t post about Halloween. In the past, individual neighborhoods have chosen to hold their own events when it’s convenient for their area, but otherwise it’s generally understood that trick-or-treating occurs on the holiday itself, October 31st, with the hours of 5-7:30PM still being relatively light out and therefor safer for kids to be visiting neighbors.”

## Park Planning

Question: “Could a park be changed significantly without a public planning process?”

Answer: Our Parks Manager, Steve Plaza, shared the following feedback: “Any proposed changes to parks go through a planning process that includes review by nearby neighborhoods, the Waterways and Parks Commission, and the City Council. In general, park developments try to follow the parks and open space master plan, which will be updated this year. The purpose of the plan is described on page 11:

‘Parks and recreation programs and services are important to the overall quality of life and Eau Claire Parks, Recreation, and Forestry plays an integral role in the quality of life of all of Eau Claire’s citizens and visitors. The purpose of the System Master Plan is to serve as a guide for all programming, services, and operations of the department. Further, the System Master Plan will provide insight into ongoing industry trends and changes within the community, serve to assess

levels of service provided to the community, evaluate available resources, and develop a prioritized action plan approved by the City Manager and City Council.”

**EAUSTAT NEWS:** The City holds weekly meetings with departments to talk about their data, their goals, and any challenges they may be facing. This program is called "EauStat". Read on below for some data from the meetings we held this week.

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** This past week, we held an EDI EauStat meeting at which we discussed the many big projects underway in this department. We are sad to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley.

Starting Monday, Ka will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, CVTC, other community organizations, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited an EDI Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy. Ka is pictured below (on the left) with a student tour.

Please spread the word about our search for our next EDI Coordinator! [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) This person will have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive.



**Human Resources:** This past week, we held an HR EauStat meeting. In our EauStat meetings, we talk about the work that the HR Department does. One of their main duties is to recruit, hire, and work to retain employees. With the current labor shortage and dramatic increase in wages due to inflation, municipalities have been struggling to recruit and retain employees. Our HR Department has done a great job trying to manage these challenges. We regularly monitor the number of recruitments underway (see image below for our numbers for 2023 YTD). The bulk of our recruitments are for the numerous seasonal employees we have, and this takes a lot of effort, however, it also provides a critical service to constituents, while also helping to mentor many

young people. We are working to develop and monitor a “retention rate” metric, as we work to identify metrics for all of our departments. Also, we are working with a consultant to create an “Employer of Choice” plan to try to increase retention and quality of life for our employees.

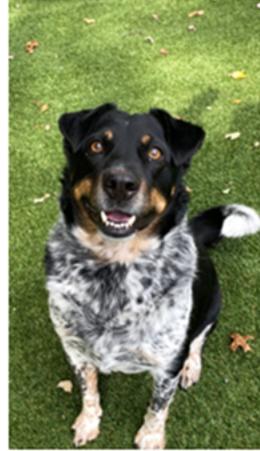
# Positions Filled	# Filled Internally	# Filled Externally
264	129	135

**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:** We have the best employees! Get to know one of them this week. (And [submit your suggestion for an employee to spotlight here...](#))

Today we highlight **Renae Casper**. A co-worker said this about Renae: “Renae answers lot of tough questions from residents, many of whom are animated, and answers them politely and with aplomb. Renae has also worked very hard with her predecessor, Rebecca Draeger, to put on employee appreciation events. The employee appreciation lunch was a big success and even brought in some retired employees. The cornhole tournament was also a hit. Renae has also helped fill in for her coworkers when they are absent and is very reliable.”

Here’s some more information about Renae (pictured below with her family and dog):

- Your Position: “I am one of two Administrative Associates for the Engineering Department. I’ve been with the city since January of this year.”
- Something People May Not Know: “I was born and lived in Cheyenne, WY until I was nine years old.
- Favorite Activity: “I enjoy traveling, going to Minnesota sporting events, attending music festivals and concerts. I enjoy playing volleyball and attending CrossFit classes.”
- Thing about Working for City: “I love that I am proud of where I work. Everyone here does what they can day in and day out to really make Eau Claire thrive. I also feel that I am supported in any decisions that I make and that my co-workers genuinely care about my well-being, both personally and professionally.”
- Life Philosophy: “Always be kind. You never know who you are talking to.”
- Anything else? “I am obsessed with dogs, so feel free to stop by with yours to say hello!”



## **SHOUT-OUTS**

**Creative Problem Solving:** Our Streets Division does not get as many shout-outs as they deserve, in part because the work they do is more specialized and behind-the-scenes than some other divisions. Here's an awesome shout-out to a team from the Streets Division that captures how creative they are in finding technical solutions in our budget-constrained environment. Read about both the original, unique, way to clean the street sweeper and then the much-improved method that our very skilled tradespeople built...

Community Services Director Lane Berg wrote:

“I want to share some work that was done by our Street Division recently that I am extremely proud of. I am continually amazed by the vast skill set of our employees and this is a shining example of that!

Some of our street sweepers have a ‘not so great’ system for washing them out at the end of a shift. It requires operating a fire hydrant and discharging water onto the pavement. The sweeper must drive over the wet pavement and vacuum up the water. The load of water and debris is then dumped and the process is repeated until the machine is deemed clean. As you can imagine, this is an inefficient system and is also disruptive to any neighboring properties.

Our employees reached out to supervisor Tim Anderson to see if they could work on coming up with a better system, and they were granted approval. The group was led by Jeff Wilczek, who sought input from many of his co-workers. The team developed a concept, designed the system, and built it with no help from outside contractors or designers, thus saving the City thousands of dollars. The new system (shown in pictures below) is a station that the sweeper backs into. A ball valve is opened which floods the basin, and the sweeper vacuums up the water. The water is then turned off, a drain valve is opened for the basin, and the sweeper dumps the water and debris, while remaining in the same location, and the contents drain to a holding pond. The

process can be repeated, if necessary, in just a couple minutes. This system is so efficient and will save time for years to come at no disruption to residents.

I am so incredibly proud of this for several reasons. We had a system that was not very functional, and our employees wanted to improve it. We have so many talented people, and they were allowed to use their skills and knowledge to make this happen. All involved were able to voice their opinions, and the final design reflected this input.

Special thanks to this group of talented people: Tim Anderson, Jeff Wilczek, Rich Bauer, Don Diesterhaft, Ryan Yule, Paul Rosolack, Brady Johnson, Jake Clauson, Joel Thompson, Cory Wright, Justin Meinen, Jericho Jurewicz, and John Rademacher.”



**Water Plant Kudos:** On September 20<sup>th</sup>, the Sustainability Advisory Committee held their monthly meeting at the Water Plant. City staff gave them an in-depth tour of the facility and showed them some of the sustainable features that have been added recently. Staff and the Committee had a great dialogue and used the opportunity to discuss ideas for improved sustainability in the future. Truly a great collaborative effort!

Pictured L to R: Ben Spanel, (Utilities Manager), Cole Cloutier, (Utilities Engineer), Cameron Bump, Brian Graff, James Schumacher, Janis Tyler, Gary Pesicka (Committee Members) and Joe Dahl, (Water Plant Supervisor).



## **COUNCIL CALENDAR**

- Monday, October 23rd: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
- Tuesday, October 24th: Council Meeting (City Council Operating Budget Work Session #4 – Amendment Discussion)
- *November 3rd – City Council Budget Amendments Due*
- Monday, November 6th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion (with Housing Study presentation)
- Monday, November 13th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night (Public Hearing #2 on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget)
- Tuesday, November 14th: Council Meeting (City Council action on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget and levy)
- Monday, December 18th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion

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## CVTC BLOG ARTICLES



**VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
EMINE AKIN TUNALI**



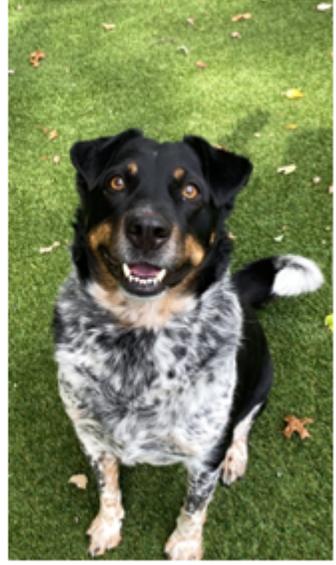
**VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
OUMOUM TANGARA**



**VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
KEUM HEE (ROSA) CHOI**

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**CVTC BLOG ARTICLES**



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
EMINE AKIN TUNALI



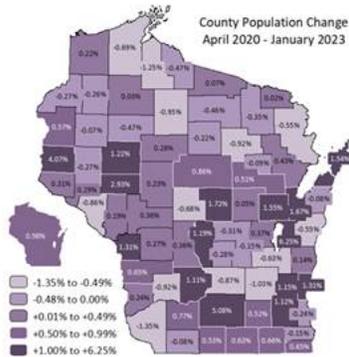
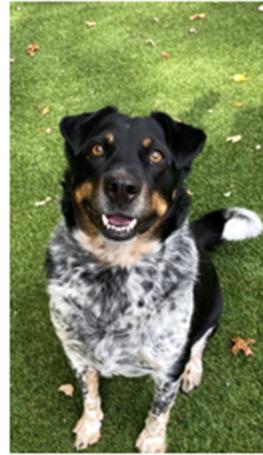
VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
OUMOU TANGARA



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
KEUM HEE (ROSA) CHOI

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Wisconsin's Most Populous Cities (over 40,000 residents)					
City Name	County	Final Est. 2023	Census 2020	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Appleton	Multiple Counties	75,700	75,644	56	0.07%
Brookfield	Waukesha	41,121	41,464	-343	-0.83%
Eau Claire	Multiple Counties	71,304	69,421	1,883	2.71%
Fond du Lac	Fond du Lac	44,152	44,678	-526	-1.18%
Green Bay	Brown	106,597	107,395	-798	-0.74%
Janesville	Rock	66,202	65,615	587	0.89%
Kenosha	Kenosha	100,185	99,986	199	0.20%
La Crosse	La Crosse	51,978	52,680	-702	-1.33%
Madison	Dane	286,785	274,686	12,099	4.40%
Milwaukee	Multiple Counties	575,722	577,922	-2,200	-0.38%
New Berlin	Waukesha	40,135	40,451	-316	-0.78%
Ozaukee	Winnebago	66,966	66,816	170	0.25%
Racine	Racine	76,853	77,816	-963	-1.24%
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Wauwatosa	Milwaukee	48,836	48,387	449	0.93%
West Allis	Milwaukee	59,714	60,325	-611	-1.01%

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:32:19 -0500  
**To:** "Tj" <atkins77@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

I understand! Any interest in being on the panel again? Could be an annual gig for you! ☐

**From:** Tj <atkins77@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 9:16 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you again for the compliment and opportunity!!! However, I am quite content with where I am at, but thank you for thinking of me.

TJ

On Thu, Oct 12, 2023, 3:28 PM Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Hi TJ –

I know that many people have asked you this, including me the last time around! ☐ But I thought I'd add another ask to the list... They say that women need to be asked like 10 times to run for office, and I'm using that same theory here.

Our amazing Ka is going on to run the new World Relief program. We need someone brave, brilliant, strong, savvy, determined to spearhead these EDI projects. We have the \$800K set aside to spend on transforming the Chippewa Valley and it's pretty much the number one thing on my priority list. I hope you'll consider applying for the position! ☐

Stephanie

\*\*

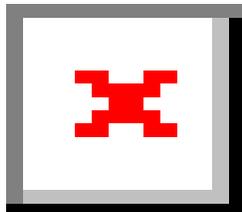
**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** This past week, we held an EDI EauStat meeting at which we discussed the many big projects underway in this department. We are sad to say farewell to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley.

Starting Monday, Ka will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, CVTC, other community organizations, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited an EDI Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy.

Please spread the word about our search for our next EDI Coordinator! [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) This person will have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive.

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:58:51 -0500  
**To:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Love it! I'm happy you are in this job, and also so discouraged by the public rhetoric and a bit worried about your safety.

---

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:47 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Ok sounds good. We just wanted to make sure council and others get the facts. That plan will work for us.

FYI, I really liked what you wrote about me so I hope it's ok for me to borrow your words in a WR press release. It would like something like the following:

World Relief announced **Dr. Ka Vang** as the new **Chippewa Valley site manager**. A 25-year resident of Eau Claire, Vang has 20 + years of experience working in higher education where she advocated for and supported students who are low-income, first generation, and/or underrepresented. "My whole family and I came to the US in 1979 as refugees after the Secret War ended in Laos," said Vang. "My refugee experience greatly shaped my whole life, and I feel called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching this community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship."

--good chance this will go out today

New director?

Ka

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 7:29 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Hi Ka – Because the agenda for next week is already worked out, we're thinking that a Council member who attends next week's WR meeting can share updates on it. Then, later on, we can do a resolution or proclamation welcoming the refugees. How does that sound?

p.s. Would you like to be on the interview committee for the new director?

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:35 PM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Stephanie,

Just wanted to run this idea by you, would it be a good idea for WR to say a few words at Monday's council meeting?

Let me know your thoughts.

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 09:18:08 -0500  
**To:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

I think it couldn't hurt to loop in the police! It seems like it would be good for someone to attend today's meeting to at least debunk any incorrect rumors (e.g. about vetting).

---

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:12 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Yes the public rhetoric is discouraging. Do you think we should notify the police about the community gathering meeting on Monday?

Please keep us in the loop if there are other safety concerns. We are aware of a group that's meeting later today. The organizer – Scott Bolstad was at the partner's meeting yesterday and he expressed some of the rhetoric. We tried our best to provide accurate information for him. Tami reached out to him if he thinks Tami and I should attend the meeting to answer any questions. His response was that we would be welcome, but we are reviewing the situation first before doing anything.

Ka

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:59 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Love it! I'm happy you are in this job, and also so discouraged by the public rhetoric and a bit worried about your safety.

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:47 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 7:29 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Hi Ka – Because the agenda for next week is already worked out, we're thinking that a Council member who attends next week's WR meeting can share updates on it. Then, later on, we can do a resolution or proclamation welcoming the refugees. How does that sound?

p.s. Would you like to be on the interview committee for the new director?

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:35 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Stephanie,

Just wanted to run this idea by you, would it be a good idea for WR to say a few words at Monday's council meeting?

Let me know your thoughts.

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:10:06 -0500  
**To:** "Tj" <atkins77@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

It's the 30<sup>th</sup> if that helps! ☐

**From:** Tj <atkins77@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 12:01 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

I'd love to be on the panel, but that date I believe is the 31st and I am booked that day.

Thanks,  
TJ

On Thu, Oct 19, 2023 at 8:32 AM Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

I understand! Any interest in being on the panel again? Could be an annual gig for you! ☐

**From:** Tj <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 9:16 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you again for the compliment and opportunity!!! However, I am quite content with where I am at, but thank you for thinking of me.

TJ

On Thu, Oct 12, 2023, 3:28 PM Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Hi TJ –

I know that many people have asked you this, including me the last time around! ☐ But I thought I'd add another ask to the list... They say that women need to be asked like 10 times to run for office, and I'm using that same theory here.

Our amazing Ka is going on to run the new World Relief program. We need someone brave, brilliant, strong, savvy, determined to spearhead these EDI projects. We have the \$800K set aside to spend on transforming the Chippewa Valley and it's pretty much the number one thing on my priority list. I hope you'll consider applying for the position! ☐

Stephanie

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:39:00 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus"  
<Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
Claire

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

Chief Rokus, do you have thoughts on safety? Dave may have more insight on this situation as well...

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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau  
Claire

I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?

Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm 1 <meyersdm 1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning <jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie <gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad <John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield <mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider <katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel <tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk <kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson <missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county

government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST (United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting,  
October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 14:16:28 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Did you decide what to do about tonight?

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**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:11:45 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Yes the public rhetoric is discouraging. Do you think we should notify the police about the community gathering meeting on Monday?

Please keep us in the loop if there are other safety concerns. We are aware of a group that's meeting later today. The organizer – Scott Bolstad was at the partner's meeting yesterday and he expressed some of the rhetoric. We tried our best to provide accurate information for him. Tami reached out to him if he thinks Tami and I should attend the meeting to answer any questions. His response was that we would be welcome, but we are reviewing the situation first before doing anything.

Ka

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:59 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Love it! I'm happy you are in this job, and also so discouraged by the public rhetoric and a bit worried about your safety.

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:47 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Ok sounds good. We just wanted to make sure council and others get the facts. That plan will work for us.

FYI, I really liked what you wrote about me so I hope it's ok for me to borrow your words in a WR press release. It would like something like the following:

World Relief announced **Dr. Ka Vang** as the new **Chippewa Valley site manager**. A 25-year resident of Eau Claire, Vang has 20 + years of experience working in higher education where she advocated for and supported students who are low-income, first generation, and/or underrepresented. "My whole family and I came to the US in 1979 as refugees after the Secret

War ended in Laos," said Vang. "My refugee experience greatly shaped my whole life, and I feel called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching this community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship."

--good chance this will go out today

New director?

Ka

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 7:29 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

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p.s. Would you like to be on the interview committee for the new director?

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Site Manager  
World Relief Wisconsin  
Chippewa Valley  
[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 14:23:17 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

That's good!

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**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 2:19:10 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Tami from the Fox Valley office will attend.  
Ka

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 2:16 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Did you decide what to do about tonight?

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---

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:11:45 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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Ka

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Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 14:26:10 -0500  
**To:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

FYI Tami from World Relief will attend to answer questions and Dave has talked to the Acting Police Chief to brief him. Fingers crossed that hearts are changed.

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**From:** Jill Christopherson <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 12:06:03 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Fyi

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
[715-271-2489](tel:715-271-2489)

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

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[domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

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Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

VFW Post 305

1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad

[715-497-4359](tel:715-497-4359)

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 14:31:21 -0500  
**To:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Hi - I learned that Tami McLaughlin from World Relief will attend tonight to dispel inaccuracies and Dave has been conferring with the ECPD

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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 1:57:05 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Thanks Stephanie:

I have two Events I am attending tonight, so I am not able to make it.

I think the biggest concern I keep hearing is that refugees coming to the community will not be vetted. That is certainly not true. I do think strongly, pushing back on that and making sure people know the truth will help.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 19, 2023, at 12:39 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
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Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

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**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?  
Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm 1 <meyersdm 1@baldwin-telecom.net>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM

**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Larry Hoekstra  
<Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook  
<dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson  
<steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk  
<Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren  
<Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey  
<nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto  
<nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy  
<Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell  
<connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar  
<nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch  
<David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue  
<Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning  
<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine  
Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin  
Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather  
DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi  
Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami  
Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle  
Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy  
Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in  
Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

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attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

## Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)

1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT-Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:41:36 -0500  
**To:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

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**From:** Emily Anderson <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:40:03 PM  
**To:** Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

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Thanks,  
Emily

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM

**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:04:04 -0500  
**To:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

Thank you!!

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**From:** Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 4:03:06 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

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## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



---

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:42 PM  
**To:** Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:40:03 PM  
**To:** Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>  
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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:33:12 -0500  
**To:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

I'm not sure... three of them are here with me and Andrew can't make it. maybe Jill?

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**From:** Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 4:21:57 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

Are any council members going to the meeting tonight?

## David A. Solberg, PE

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

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e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:40:03 PM  
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**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang

<[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:37:59 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

Gulag... like a labor/prison camp?

---

**From:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 5:36 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

---

**From:** Melody Boberg <[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 2:47 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

October 20, 2023

Dear Council Member,

My name is Melody Boberg from the Cumberland – Rice Lake area. I am writing to you today about a World Relief refugee office that I heard is opening in Eau Claire. I found out that the gulag this office will create will be a 100-mile radius, which could easily include where I'm from. I am quite concerned as my community cannot afford refugees, and we've seen what these gulags have done to places in MN like Wilmer, Austin, and St. Cloud. These towns have

been shredded fiscally, and property taxes continue to jump. I am, also, concerned about our safety. No one knows where these refugees are coming from. It was said the federal government vetted them, and seeing what a “great” job they’re doing on our southern border, we all have reason to be greatly concerned. Has anyone from your city council looked at how crime has been affected in one of these gulag cities like St. Cloud since inception?

I am very upset this World Relief office was approved without talking to the taxpayers and all of the stakeholders about it. Is that even legal? What is a big influx of refugees going to do to our schools and health care system and police stations when all the refugees’ family members come the second year? I am troubled and concerned for my community and me. Please prevent the opening of this refugee office before we all suffer the consequences.

Sincerely,

Melody Boberg

[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)

2112 13 ¼ Street

Cumberland, WI 54829

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov> on behalf of "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:45:13 -0500  
**To:** "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

For background, here's when we originally met with World Relief...

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch **On Behalf Of** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 7:58 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee; Larry Mboga  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Hi Larry – You might want to join in on this too, which is right before our discussion on the LVRF. No pressure – just thought you might be interested.

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <>  
**Sent:** [Wednesday, March 22, 2023 8:46 AM](#)  
**To:** [Anoosheh Hamzehee; Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise](#)  
**Subject:** [Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency](#)  
**When:** [Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM \(UTC-06:00\) Central Time \(US & Canada\)](#).  
**Where:** [Rivers Conference Room](#)

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

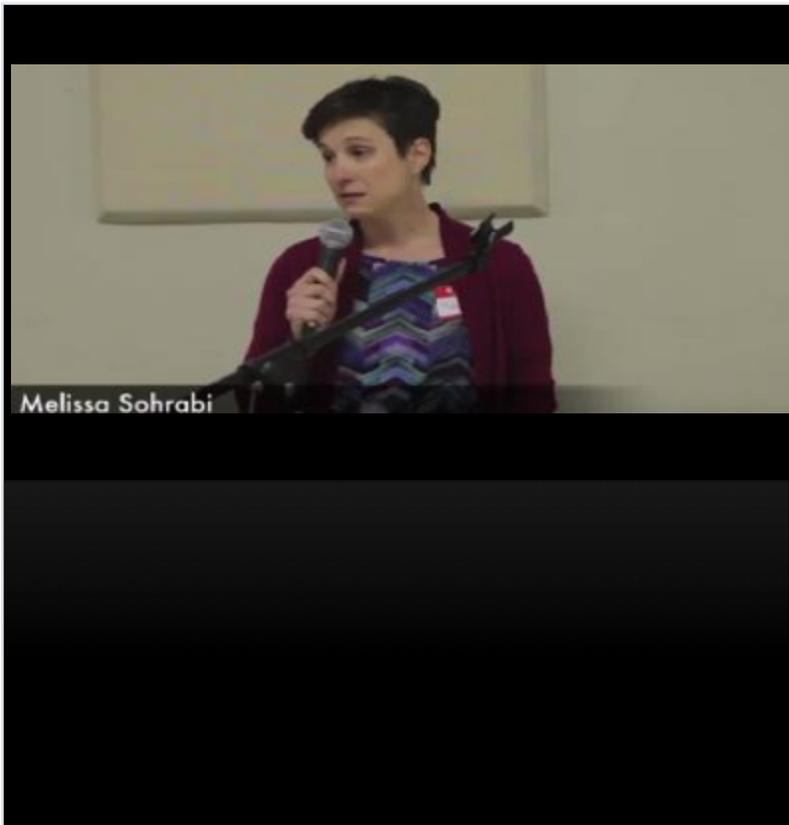
**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



**Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



**World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down  
Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.**

**Marty**

My name is Melody Boberg from the Cumberland – Rice Lake area. I am writing to you today about a World Relief refugee office that I heard is opening in Eau Claire. I found out that the gulag this office will create will be a 100-mile radius, which could easily include where I'm from. I am quite concerned as my community cannot afford refugees, and we've seen what these gulags have done to places in MN like Wilmer, Austin, and St. Cloud. These towns have been shredded fiscally, and property taxes continue to jump. I am, also, concerned about our safety. No one knows where these refugees are coming from. It was said the federal government vetted them, and seeing what a "great" job they're doing on our southern border, we all have reason to be greatly concerned. Has anyone from your city council looked at how crime has been affected in one of these gulag cities like St. Cloud since inception?

I am very upset this World Relief office was approved without talking to the taxpayers and all of the stakeholders about it. Is that even legal? What is a big influx of refugees going to do to our schools and health care system and police stations when all the refugees' family members come the second year? I am troubled and concerned for my community and me. Please prevent the opening of this refugee office before we all suffer the consequences.

Sincerely,

Melody Boberg  
[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)  
2112 13 ¼ Street  
Cumberland, WI 54829

The official from World Relief also confirmed that the refugees will be coming from Somalia. I attended the stakeholder's meeting last week and the word Somalia was never mentioned. That is at least the third lie I have caught them in.

This is not about the refugees it is about the process. World Relief believes that speaking with the local government is speaking with bureaucrats, while many of us believe speaking with local governments is speaking with elected officials. I can also tell you that no one in the county I have spoken to knows anything about this.

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

On Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 03:45:07 PM CDT, Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)> wrote:

President Berge,

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. Did they happen? If so where are the minutes fore these meetings? I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement.

I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for. Did you direct her to sign the document or has she gone rogue...again? If not do you have the authority to approve this action? Is the goal here to keep any blame for this off of the city council?

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? Not what World Relief has told you, but what the actual country of origin is? I was told it was one of two countries.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this.

I look forward to your response

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:34:37 -0500  
**To:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Statement

Here's what I'm thinking we could do about World Relief.

Do a pretty simple statement, and then circulate it to people like these who come to my mind to sign, in addition to me and Emily, and then do a press release.

David Minor  
Nancy Coffey  
Kathryn Schauf  
Luke Hanson  
Mike Golat  
Sunem Beaton-Garcia  
Jim Schmidt  
Benny Anderson

Our organizations work to promote a strong Chippewa Valley. We hope for a strong, healthy, lively, and inclusive community. Our region is growing faster than the rest of the state, and we hope it will continue to be a vibrant place where many people want to live and contribute their talents to its future growth and change. We welcome residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. They may be coming for college, for a job, for the trails, for the safety, or for the four amazing seasons of recreation.

We support and celebrate World Relief as they work to welcome new residents of Eau Claire. Like most of the people who moved here before us and before them, they will make a home here and contribute to the future of Eau Claire. Each person and each life brings gifts to share, friendships to form, stories to tell, work to contribute to our local economy, at a time when employers are struggling to hire, and even taxes to chip in to keep our government bodies running.

Please join us in welcoming our new residents, wherever they may come from.

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:42:42 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION

I think Tess put the letter on the website somewhere, though I can't find it...

---

**From:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 7:17 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION

That didn't take long.

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

---

**From:** [greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:greenmarty1943@gmail.com) <[greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:greenmarty1943@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 7:10 PM  
**To:** David Minor; Steve Nick; Matt Rokus; BARRON JIM SWENSON; [bwestrate@charter.net](mailto:bwestrate@charter.net); CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE; Chippewa Valley Tea Party; CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara; [DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM); [DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com](mailto:DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com); DUNN BILL ARNDT; JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com; JOHN JACOBSON; KEVIN NICHOLSON; REP PRONSCHINSKE; Republican DEAN GULLICKSON; Republican Party Eau Claire County; REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD; REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY; ROB SUMMERFIELD; 'ROBIN VOSS'; RUSK TRAVIS EWER; TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS; TOMMY THOMPSON; 'WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}'; [warrenpetryk@gmail.com](mailto:warrenpetryk@gmail.com); Andrew Werthmann; CHARLIE JOHNSON; Aaron White; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; JILL CHRISTOPEREN; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; LARRY MBOGA; Roderick Jones; [chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us](mailto:chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us); DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF; EC SHERIFF OFFICE; [sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us](mailto:sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us); ST CROIX SHERIFF  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION

This Letter was sent to”

Holly Herrera

Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration

US DEPT OF STATE

Washington DC

5/15/2023

**From:** Fred Kappus <[jfkappus@charter.net](mailto:jfkappus@charter.net)>

Marty,

Attached is the letter written by the City Manager touting the opening of a World Relief office in Eau Claire.

The question is, did she do this on her own or is the City Council involved as well?

This is the last thing Eau Claire needs is to welcome middle east refugees. Look what happened to Dearborn, Michigan.

Fred

MONDAY AT 6 PM AT THE LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY THIS & Many other questions need to be addressed.

Whether the idea is bring Refugees....or IMMGRANTS from South America or GAZA etc.

Did they Follow US...CODE 8 ....1522 Section 2 and Did Our City Manager have the approval or backing of Our City Council to even send this letter.

Here are some Questions that Citizens have the Right To ask.

Are these Refugees here Legally and How are they Vetted? The ones arriving in Sanctuary cities like New York Chicago Milwaukee are NOT.

Who has responsibility for assisting these immigrants after World Relief or area Church's completes its term of support?

When the Operation is up and Fully operational how many immigrant's will be added each year.

How Long does WORLD RELIEF Assist each immigrant family.?

How much money does WORLD RELIEF receive for Each immigrant ? FROM us government OR THE UN ?????

Who is responsible for their assistance after World Relief completes its TERM OF SUPPORT?

The City of Eau Claire? How will affect our Schools They are UNDER S TAFFED as is our LAW ENFORCEMENT Departments.

Has our co ordinating personnel talked to other cities EXAMPLE..... ST CLOUD MINNESOTA. Or HUDSON WI who rejected this proposal.

Many citizen knew nothing about this proposal until TV18 Did a Story 1 day a few weeks ago. Otherwise No One would have learned of this until it

Was TOO LATE.

Marty Green

Former General Manager of WAXX Radio

Former Member of the Eau RDA

Citizen of Eau Claire and Wisconsin for over 50 years

My Grand Parents Migrated from Russia & Poland

So I am not against welcoming new people Legally here in our Country State or City

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 20:44:47 -0500  
**To:** "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Oh wow – No I didn't realize there was limited participation. I'll ask Tami.

---

**From:** Elizabeth Geise <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 8:39 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Fyi that the page indicates that registration is closed. Do you know if registration is required?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:10 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <[CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg <[Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephen Nick <[stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov)>; Nicholas Koerner <[Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan <[Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Douglas Hoffer <[Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov)>; Elizabeth Geise <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Angela Weideman <[Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Nancy Coffey <[nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

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Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:23:37 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Statement

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 7:35 PM  
**To:** Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Statement

Here's what I'm thinking we could do about World Relief.

Do a pretty simple statement, and then circulate it to people like these who come to my mind to sign, in addition to me and Emily, and then do a press release.

David Minor  
Nancy Coffey  
Kathryn Schauf  
Luke Hanson  
Mike Golat  
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Jim Schmidt  
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Please join us in welcoming our new residents, wherever they may come from.

**Stephanie Hirsch**

City Manager  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701  
Office: 715-839-6045



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:44:26 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

FYI...

---

**From:** Kathryn Schauf <Kathryn.Schau@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 7:08 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Thank you Stephanie – I will use what you share to keep our board apprised as well. Let me know if you have a desire for county participation in any discussions.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:10 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <[CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg <[Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephen Nick <[stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov)>; Nicholas Koerner <[Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan <[Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Douglas Hoffer <[Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov)>; Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Angela Weideman <[Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schau@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schau@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Nancy Coffey <[nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

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Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 12:15:46 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Refugee resettlement Q&A 2nd draft  
**Attachments:** Refugee Resettlement Q&A - SH.docx

Just added a few...

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 11:42 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Refugee resettlement Q&A 2nd draft

## Anoosheh Hamzehee

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:26:29 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

I wonder if she maybe means this term, which is new to me:

Voluntary Agencies (Volags),

---

**From:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:58 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

I was confused too. I didn't even really know what it was until I looked up the word on google.

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 5:37:59 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

Gulag... like a labor/prison camp?

---

**From:** Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 5:36 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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---

**From:** Melody Boberg <[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 2:47 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

October 20, 2023

Dear Council Member,

My name is Melody Boberg from the Cumberland – Rice Lake area. I am writing to you today about a World Relief refugee office that I heard is opening in Eau Claire. I found out that the gulag this office will create will be a 100-mile radius, which could easily include where I'm from. I am quite concerned as my community cannot afford refugees, and we've seen what these gulags have done to places in MN like Wilmer, Austin, and St. Cloud. These towns have been shredded fiscally, and property taxes continue to jump. I am, also, concerned about our safety. No one knows where these refugees are coming from. It was said the federal government vetted them, and seeing what a "great" job they're doing on our southern border, we all have reason to be greatly concerned. Has anyone from your city council looked at how crime has been affected in one of these gulag cities like St. Cloud since inception?

I am very upset this World Relief office was approved without talking to the taxpayers and all of the stakeholders about it. Is that even legal? What is a big influx of refugees going to do to our schools and health care system and police stations when all the refugees' family members come the second year? I am troubled and concerned for my community and me. Please prevent the opening of this refugee office before we all suffer the consequences.

Sincerely,

Melody Boberg  
[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)  
2112 13 ¼ Street

Cumberland, WI 54829

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:27:47 -0500  
**To:** "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief - Citizen Inquiries

Thanks, Jess! Yes, there seems to be quite a lot of confusion. Let me know if the update from last night provides enough information.

---

**From:** Jessica Schoen <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief - Citizen Inquiries

Good morning Stephanie,

I attended an informational session with World Relief last week on Wednesday. I received a lot of helpful information. An attendee at the meeting raised questions regarding whom at the City had been working with World Relief. I have since received several emails with questions of a similar nature. As I understand, you have had communication with World Relief, and have informally briefed Council on the matters through your City Manager Updates. Can you share with me the most accurate way to answer the questions I have been receiving? I want to ensure I am providing factual details to the best of my ability. It seems the community is receiving partial details/inaccurate information.

Thank you,

**Jess Schoen**  
City Council Member, District 1  
[Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com)  
(715) 255-0297

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:36:32 -0500  
**To:** "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Sure – feel free to call.

---

**From:** Elizabeth Geise <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 1:32 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Do you have a minute to talk about tonight?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 8:45 PM  
**To:** Elizabeth Geise <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Oh wow – No I didn't realize there was limited participation. I'll ask Tami.

---

**From:** Elizabeth Geise <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 8:39 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Fyi that the page indicates that registration is closed. Do you know if registration is required?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:10 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <[CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg <[Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephen Nick <[stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov)>; Nicholas Koerner <[Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan <[Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Douglas Hoffer <[Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov)>; Elizabeth Geise <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Angela Weideman <[Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Nancy Coffey <[nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

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office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

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[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:05:21 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Information on World Relief

FYI, □

---

**From:** Kate Felton <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief

Hey Stephanie,

Just wanted to leave you a word of appreciation for your work to welcome World Relief, thereby welcoming new neighbors to our city. We have been getting some emails about this, and though of course not everyone in our community will support these actions, the resounding message I've gotten over my 8 years in service is that our community wants to lead with compassion, kindness, and generosity. I fully support the work you're doing here and I have good reason to believe that the majority of our council and our community support this work too.

Thank you! Keep up this good work!

**KATE FELTON** (formerly Kate Beaton)  
Eau Claire City Council, Member At-Large  
[Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com](mailto:Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com)  
Phone: 715-252-2544

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:09:31 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg; Steve Nick; Nicholas Koerner; Tess Morgan; Anoosheh Hamzehee; Doug Hoffer; Elizabeth Geise; Angela Weideman; Kathryn Schauf; Nancy Coffey; Matt Rokus  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

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**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:05:02 -0500  
**To:** "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Information on World Relief

Awe, thanks SO MUCH for sending this note!! ☐ If you don't mind, I'll pass it along to Anoosheh and Ka. It's especially discouraging to our current immigrants and BIPOC resident to hear how fearful and angry some residents are about the possibility of more immigrants, particularly immigrants of color.

---

**From:** Kate Felton <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief

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Eau Claire City Council, Member At-Large  
[Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com](mailto:Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com)  
Phone: 715-252-2544

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**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:09:31 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
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Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 15:10:36 -0500  
**To:** "Robert Haller" <Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov>; "Matthew Jaggar" <Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer" <shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Occupancy for Library

Hi Bob - Is there a way you can confirm the allowable occupancy for the Riverview Room in the Library? This relates to the World Relief event tonight. It seems that we may have more people who want to attend than there's space, so it seems we will need someone from Fire there.

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 15:33:48 -0500  
**To:** "Robert Haller" <Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Matthew Jaggar" <Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer" <shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** RE: Occupancy for Library

Thank you, Bob! Does someone from Fire need to be at the meeting?

---

**From:** Robert Haller <Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:33 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Occupancy for Library

Hi Stephanie,

The fire department does not apply the occupancy rating. The occupancy rating is set by the architect and reviewed by Planning. They may have what the allowable number of people is. Inspector Knecht and I will walk over right now and check it out and get back to you with any additional information.

## Robert Haller

Deputy Chief  
Eau Claire Fire Dept.  
216 S. Dewey St. Eau Claire Wi. 54701  
Office. 715-839-2911  
Admin. 715-839-5012  
Cell. 715-579-2330



---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:11 PM  
**To:** Robert Haller <[Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matthew Jaggar <[Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>; Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer <[shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us](mailto:shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Occupancy for Library

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**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 15:41:01 -0500  
**To:** "msoerems@wr.org" <msoerems@wr.org>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz, image002.emz, image005.emz

---

**From:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 5:43 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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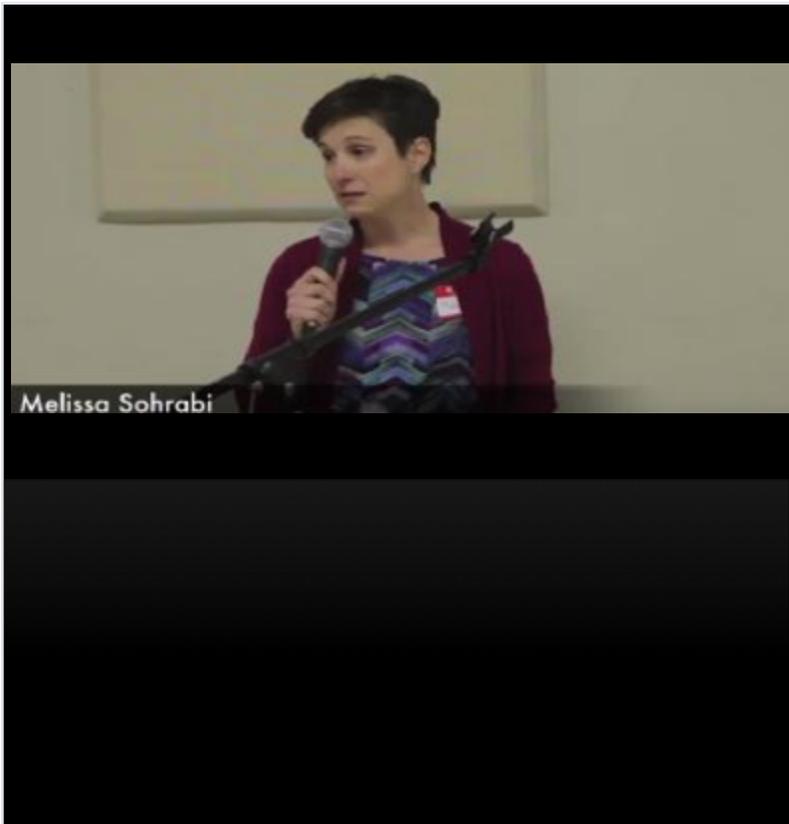
---

**From:** [greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:greenmarty1943@gmail.com) <[greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:greenmarty1943@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 1:54 PM  
**To:** [greenmarty1943@gmail.com](mailto:greenmarty1943@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees, Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



### **Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)



**World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down  
Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }??????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 16:09:29 -0500  
**To:** "Robert Haller" <Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Matthew Jaggar" <Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer" <shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** RE: Occupancy for Library

Thank you, Bob!

---

**From:** Robert Haller <Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:51 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Occupancy for Library

Hi Stephanie, the total allowable occupancy is 284 persons. The only reason to have an inspector on site would be to count the number of people in the assembly. This can be done by the event organizers to ensure they do not exceed the occupancy. If it appears that too many people are in the room, it would take the support of the people to volunteer to leave or law enforcement would have to assist.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:33:48 PM  
**To:** Robert Haller <[Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matthew Jaggar <[Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer <[shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us](mailto:shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: Occupancy for Library

Thank you, Bob! Does someone from Fire need to be at the meeting?

---

**From:** Robert Haller <[Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:33 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Occupancy for Library

Hi Stephanie,

The fire department does not apply the occupancy rating. The occupancy rating is set by the architect and reviewed by Planning. They may have what the allowable number of people is. Inspector Knecht and I will walk over right now and check it out and get back to you with any additional information.

# Robert Haller

Deputy Chief  
Eau Claire Fire Dept.  
216 S. Dewey St. Eau Claire Wi. 54701  
Office. 715-839-2911  
Admin. 715-839-5012  
Cell. 715-579-2330



---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:11 PM  
**To:** Robert Haller <[Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matthew Jaggar <[Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>; Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer <[shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us](mailto:shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Occupancy for Library

Hi Bob - Is there a way you can confirm the allowable occupancy for the Riverview Room in the Library? This relates to the World Relief event tonight. It seems that we may have more people who want to attend than there's space, so it seems we will need someone from Fire there.

Stephanie Hirsch  
City Manager  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701  
Office: 715-839-6045



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 15 Mar 2023 09:48:10 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

I'm looking into what agencies are working around Appleton that are related to what we're looking for.

One is **World Relief** that I'm very familiar with, they are a huge **Christian** NGO with branches all over the world, They accept strictly Christian employees, their model of working as a very rich agency can't be a model for us I guess? Also, they're closed on Wednesdays. The other one is a **Muslim** organization with a headquarter in **Pakistan** that helps refugees from Muslim countries, If we want to meet with them we have to email them an official request, I've got the email address. They help the refugees in their area to settle. I can't remember any other entities in Appleton that we're interested in learning more about, do you?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 15 Mar 2023 10:00:01 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch"  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/refugee/pdf/fundedagencies-rev0822.pdf>

check out this list of Refugee Resettlement Agencies....

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 9:48 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

I'm looking into what agencies are working around Appleton that are related to what we're looking for.  
One is **World Relief** that I'm very familiar with, they are a huge **Christian** NGO with branches all over the world, They accept strictly Christian employees, their model of working as a very rich agency can't be a model for us I guess? Also, they're closed on Wednesdays. The other one is a **Muslim** organization with a headquarter in **Pakistan** that helps refugees from Muslim countries, If we want to meet with them we have to email them an official request, I've got the email address. They help the refugees in their area to settle. I can't remember any other entities in Appleton that we're interested in learning more about, do you?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**  
**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4903  
E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)  
203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 15 Mar 2023 10:01:52 -0500  
**To:** "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

Thank you, I will

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**From:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:00 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/refugee/pdf/fundedagencies-rev0822.pdf>

check out this list of Refugee Resettlement Agencies....

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 9:48 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Resettlement agencies in Fox valley

I'm looking into what agencies are working around Appleton that are related to what we're looking for. One is **World Relief** that I'm very familiar with, they are a huge **Christian** NGO with branches all over the world, They accept strictly Christian employees, their model of working as a very rich agency can't be a model for us I guess? Also, they're closed on Wednesdays. The other one is a **Muslim** organization with a headquarter in **Pakistan** that helps refugees from Muslim countries, If we want to meet with them we have to email them an official request, I've got the email address. They help the refugees in their area to settle. I can't remember any other entities in Appleton that we're interested in learning more about, do you?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**  
**Associate Analyst**  
P: 715-839-4903  
E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)  
W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 22 Mar 2023 09:22:53 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Invite or Not?  
**Importance:** High

Good morning Stephanie,

I hope you're enjoying your trip ☺  
I talked to World relief director in Fox Valley.  
She's coming to Eau Claire to visit with us and all the key players.  
Is it ok to invite Katheryn and Lieske, Holley, Deb and Don too?  
Do you think we should have Billie too because she has housing questions for us as well or you will take care of them?

This is the email I'm going to send and I've already booked it on your schedule

"World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. TAMI MCLAUGHLIN is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire to meet with us and do an assessment. I appreciate if you can attend please."

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 08:37:45 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami Mclaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** ""Billie Hufford" <billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov>" <"Billie Hufford" <billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 08:53:44 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Accepted: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning,

This is an awesome idea! Do we have any preliminary information on needs from a community to host this program? How much housing would a program like this need available? Or is it a program with host families? If housing is needed, what price points? It would be helpful to know what criteria they look at in order to be able to be prepared to answer questions during the meeting.

Billie

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 08:57:38 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

FYI, I have made that sentence bold ☐

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:54 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Cortney Sperber <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>; Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning Anoosheh.

I am sharing this with Marisa and Cortney to see if one person may be able to be there. **We do have a specific communicable disease role in resettlement and also have an interest more broadly in JEDI issues.**

I am not able to participate but we will see who can be available. Otherwise we are interested in outcome.

Lieske

.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 23 Mar 2023 12:38:20 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

FYI,

---

**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>; Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Dear Anoosheh,

I just wanted to let you know that there is also an existing refugee resettlement organization in Eau Claire called Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN). Wnn has been operating under the sponsorship of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan—home office Milwaukee—as a CoSponsorship program. WNN has accepted and settled 7 Afghan men and also supported two Afghan families who came to Eau Claire as a secondary migration. WNN is also moving to become a recognized Refugee Resettlement agency.

Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment. I'm

scheduling the

meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 08:11:27 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** PRM New Site Development Guide - 2021 Revision - with highlighted sections.docx

Good morning Stephanie,  
I think it's a good idea to share the attached with the stake holders before the meeting, your thoughts please?

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 7:29 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Hello Anoosheh,

I enjoyed our discussion yesterday regarding World Relief establishing a refugee resettlement site in Eau Claire. Will look forward to continuing the conversation with a wider network of community stakeholders on Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> and am very thankful for your willingness to coordinate this meeting.

Attached is a document created by our resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), as a guide to assess a community's ability to resettle refugees. World Relief will complete the assessment and use to assist in determining if we are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire. This would be followed by submitting a proposal to PRM as ultimately it is their decision to approve new sites. As I mentioned, we are also assessing the community of La Crosse and would most likely only support opening one new office next year.

Please feel free to send the guide to your stakeholders. Attachments Two and Three on pages 19 – 25 contain specific questions related to the assessment, and we will use the Evaluation Matrix to begin our conversation. My goal would be to have the assessment completed by the end of April and will plan to make one or two additional trips to Eau Claire.

Regarding housing questions, we would expect to resettle no more than a total of 75 people the first year. (most likely arriving after January 1, 2024). We are currently resettling mainly Congolese in the Fox Valley; singles to families as large as 9 people so renting 1 – 4 bedroom housing, ranging from \$650 - \$1400. Housing is a challenge in all of our communities so will be a priority in the assessment!

Hope this information is helpful as we begin this process. Please feel free to reach out with questions....resettlement is a collaborative and community response and we look forward to developing a strong partnership.

Thank you for your help and I look forward to meeting you soon.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 9:34 AM

**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Subject:** April 5th Meeting in Eau Claire

Good morning Tami,

I have invited Health Director, County Director and the city manager, Human Services Director, our housing project coordinator, ELL program Manager from CVTC, and a few more to the meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00. Most of them will be here☐

Our housing project manager asked me a couple of questions to get ready for the meeting, I thought I'll forward them to you:

“Do we have any preliminary information on needs from a community to host this program? How much housing would a program like this need available?  
If housing is needed, what price points? It would be helpful to know what criteria they look at in order to be able to be prepared to answer questions during the meeting. “

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 09:36:03 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** getting ready to meet with World Relief

I would suggest that we meet with a few people like Aaron and Billie and... to discuss Housing and possibly other subjects which will be on the assessment. Could housing situation be a deal breaker?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 24 Mar 2023 12:55:44 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2023 11:32 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Mowry, Donald D. <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; Bea Evans <beaevans2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Good morning Anoosheh,

Thank you for being so welcoming!! ☺ If it would work for you, a few of us would like to meet with you prior to the 5th, perhaps next week? We would especially like to tell you our Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN) 'story'. Also, we would like to share what we have learned, connections we have made, and other immigrant support efforts already at work of which you may or may not already be aware. Learning more of the City of Eau Claire perspective and the World Relief connection would be of great value as WNN envisions our community becoming an even more immigrant welcoming one, working in partnership with those seeking that same outcome.

Anoosheh, in order to proceed with setting up a meeting, could you please give us a couple of choices of days, times, and a meeting place that would work for you? There is such great interest within our Steering Committee, that I would estimate 4-5 of us wanting to join you.

Happy Friday,  
Ginny Close  
WNN Steering Committee Member

On Thu, Mar 23, 2023 at 3:03 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Ginny,

Yes to both, we can meet before April 5<sup>th</sup> and you're welcome to join us for that meeting☺

**From:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 2:59 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>; Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Hello Anoosheh,

Yes Welcoming New Neighbors is still a volunteer driven organization. From our Afghan welcoming experience, we are exploring expanding to become a 501c3 in support of new immigrants and of those already here.

It is exciting to hear that World Relief is considering EC. All kinds of questions come to mind however and I would like to hear more of the back story of how EC got to be considered as a possible future resettlement location? Would you be available to meet with a few of WNN volunteers prior to April 5 or could a few of us attend that meeting?

Looking forward to working together to become a truly welcoming community.  
Ginny Close

On Thu, Mar 23, 2023, 12:53 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Thank you Don! Hello Bea and Ginny! I wish I knew this earlier, I was under the impression that Welcoming neighborhood is volunteer based. Has that changed? How a World relief agency in town would relate with what you're doing? I used to work for DHS and have met a few of the WNN members and also all the 7 Afghan refugees who were settled then. Are all or some of the Afghan refugees still living in Eau Claire? I am aware that World Relief will contact Lutheran Social Services before doing the assessment for Eau Claire.

Thank you  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Mowry, Donald D. <[DMOWRY@uwec.edu](mailto:DMOWRY@uwec.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Bea Evans <[beaevans2@gmail.com](mailto:beaevans2@gmail.com)>; Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Dear Anoosheh,

I just wanted to let you know that there is also an existing refugee resettlement organization in Eau Claire called Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN). Wnn has been operating under the sponsorship of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan—home office Milwaukee—as a CoSponsorship program. WNN has accepted and settled 7 Afghan men and also supported two Afghan families who came to Eau Claire as a secondary migration. WNN is also moving to become a recognized Refugee Resettlement agency.

Two primary contacts for WNN are Ginny Close and Bea Evans, and I will copy them on this email.

Best,

Don Mowry

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Anosheh Hamzehee <[Anosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:38 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch; Ka Vang; Kathryn Schauf; Hassemer, Holly; Mowry, Donald D.; Billie Hufford; Elizabeth Geise

**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

**When:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** Rivers Conference Room

Good morning,

We have been working on assessing the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees, with the two goals of addressing employee shortages and of promoting a more multi-cultural community.

World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency is considering opening another office in Wisconsin, and Eau Claire is one of the 2 candidates. Tami McLaughlin is their Fox Valley office director and she is coming to Eau Claire on April 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with us and do an assessment.  
I'm

sche

during the meeting for 9:00 AM, if there's any conflict please let me know, Tami's schedule is flexible

Thank you  
Anosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 13:10:15 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov" <Diane.Cable@eauclairecounty.gov>; "ron.schmidt@eauclairecounty.gov" <ron.schmidt@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ginny Close" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency  
**Attachments:** PRM New Site Development Guide - 2021 Revision - with highlighted sections.docx

FYI, attached is a document created by World Relief resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), as a guide to assess a community's ability to resettle refugees. World Relief will complete the assessment and use it to assist in determining if they are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 27 Mar 2023 16:20:15 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Can you please block your Thursday afternoon, 1:00 pm for meeting with WNN?thank you

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 1:14:38 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Thanks Anoosheh. This is very helpful. Just fyi I am awaiting more replies from our WNN Steering Committee regarding a meeting with you this week. Can you hold 1pm Thursday for now. That looks like the best day and I just picked 1pm. There are 4 of us thus far but I am hoping Don Mowry and Bea Evans can attend as well.

Ginny

On Mon, Mar 27, 2023 at 1:10 PM Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

FYI, attached is a document created by World Relief resettlement contractor, The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM),

as a guide to assess a community's ability to resettle refugees. World Relief will complete the assessment and use it to assist in

determining if they are supportive of opening a site in Eau Claire.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 29 Mar 2023 11:02:40 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Interesting read

[World Relief helps refugees in Wisconsin despite political fights \(thenorthwestern.com\)](https://thenorthwestern.com)

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 31 Mar 2023 10:25:49 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: update for council

We are exploring the feasibility of expanding the City's capacity to welcome immigrants and refugees. Our dual objectives are to address employee shortages and to cultivate a vibrant, multi-cultural community. One potential avenue is the prospect of World Relief Refugee Resettlement agency establishing a new office in Wisconsin. We are thrilled to be one of two candidates under consideration, and Tami Mclaughlin, Director of World Relief Fox Valley, will visit Eau Claire in April to conduct an assessment. Additionally, we are actively exploring ways to boost the local workforce by utilizing PERM (employment) visas. To this end, we have engaged with the Chamber, CVTC, and ECD and are in the process of planning an information session for Eau Claire's businesses and employers.

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 8:46 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** update for council

Hi – Can you prepare a paragraph update for the City Council newsletter on the PERM/Refugee efforts?

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 3 Apr 2023 15:17:20 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Hassemer, Holly" <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>; "Mowry, Donald D." <DMOWRY@uwec.edu>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Aaron White" <Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; "ginwinclose@gmail.com" <ginwinclose@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Meeting with World Relief Resettlement agency

Just switching to a larger meeting, we'll meet at the North Conference room.  
Looking forward to see you all ☺

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 12 Apr 2023 13:15:49 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami McLaughlin World Relief visit

FYI,

**From:** Ginny Close <ginwinclose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 3:21 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Karen Crisler <KCrisler@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami McLaughlin World Relief visit

Great news Tami! We try to keep our meetings to an hour. You and Karen, if available, would be first on the agenda. I would foresee your introduction to World Relief and the Good Neighbor Team Model with question/answer time using 30-45 minutes. At the moment I do not have any other pressing agenda items and this fits perfectly as we educate ourselves on all things immigration related.

The meeting is Thursday, April 13, 6:30 pm CDT. Here is the zoom link. Anoosheh, please share with anyone you think may be interested.

Looking forward to seeing you again and hopefully meeting Karen.

Ginny

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89073725592?pwd=ZmowT2Q0dXNWcnNFK2tzWVFDWVVGUT09>

Meeting ID: 890 7372 5592

Passcode: 042629

On Wed, Apr 5, 2023 at 5:31 PM Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)> wrote:

Thank you Anoosheh and Ginny,

I was very impressed and encouraged by our conversation today and look forward to additional dialogue.

Ginny, our Community Engagement Manager, Karen Crisler, is returning from vacation on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup>. If she is available, I know she would be very interested in participating on your call. Either way, I am available and one or both of us will provide an overview of

World Relief and specifically our Good Neighbor Team model. I've copied Karen on this email so please send us both an invite.

We most likely will have additional questions around community engagement and appreciate your willingness to include your group in that discussion. Please advise regarding time allotted as want to be considerate of your agenda that evening.

Thank you again. Looking forward to next steps!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 3:12 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Cc:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami Mclaughlin World Relief visit

Hi Tami,  
I'm forwarding Ginny's email to your address to make sure you receive it and I'm copying Ginny so that she'll have your email address.

Anoosheh

**From:** Ginny Close <[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 3:06 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; [wrfxvalley@wr.org](mailto:wrfxvalley@wr.org)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Eau Claire - Tami Mclaughlin World Relief visit

Hello again Anoosheh and Tami,

Anoosheh, thank you so much for including Welcoming New Neighbors (WNN) again into the conversation this morning. I know there is great interest within our steering committee and am looking forward to any and all future conversations welcoming immigrants.

Tami, I did not find an email address for you so I am using the World Relief Fox Valley address. It was so good to meet you this morning, however briefly. Thank you for being open to considering Eau Claire for a World Relief office!

Also, I am wondering if it would be of value to you to meet more of our WNN volunteers? I can safely speak for the larger group being interested in learning more of the World Relief community relationship building model: 'Neighbor to Neighbor'. (Sorry, I did not retain the exact name!!)

WNN meets via zoom the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm. Our next meeting is next Thursday the 13th. At that time, I will introduce World Relief's consideration of Eau Claire as a refugee agency site. BUT it would be of greater value and interest if you or your representative could attend and give a brief introduction to the organization. Of course, our folks would be open to assessment questions you may have regarding the community engagement piece.

Of course, WNN is open to any further conversation at Anoosheh's or your request at anytime by whatever means! We are definitely excited about the possibility for welcoming more new neighbors to Eau Claire and for partnering with World Relief.

Forward!!  
Ginny

--

Ginny Close  
[ginwinclose@gmail.com](mailto:ginwinclose@gmail.com)  
715-577-8336

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 17:00:55 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Who do you think from ECASD would be the best representative?  
Do we know Jody?

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hello Anoosheh,

Hope you are enjoying Wisconsin weather at its finest! We know it won't last so have to take advantage.

I am planning on returning to Eau Claire next week with two of my colleagues and hoping to schedule a visit with a representative from the ECASD. Do you have a recommendation of a contact to reach out to as there isn't an ELL contact on the website? I have also requested an appointment, per the suggestion of our state refugee coordinator, with Jody Conner from Workforce Resource and am waiting to hear back.

Also, would you have an hour to meet with us to review a few more questions and other details relating to a proposal submission? It would also give us an opportunity to schedule a visit to our office when you are in Appleton for the Toward One Diversity and Inclusive Conference. (if you are still interested)

Appreciate your assistance and hope to connect next week!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 17:06:23 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Dang Yang" <dyang1@ecasd.us>; "Xiong, Kaying"  
<kxiong@ecasd.us>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Awesome!

Here's a few names:

Dang Yang: [dyang1@ecasd.us](mailto:dyang1@ecasd.us)

Dr. Kaying Xiong: [kxiong@ecasd.edu](mailto:kxiong@ecasd.edu)

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:02 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Yay!!!

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---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:00:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang  
<[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Who do you think from ECASD would be the best representative?  
Do we know Jody?

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hello Anoosheh,

Hope you are enjoying Wisconsin weather at its finest! We know it won't last so have to take advantage.

I am planning on returning to Eau Claire next week with two of my colleagues and hoping to schedule a visit with a representative from the ECASD. Do you have a recommendation of a contact to reach out to as there isn't an ELL contact on the website? I have also requested an appointment, per the suggestion of our state refugee coordinator, with Jody Conner from Workforce Resource and am waiting to hear back.

Also, would you have an hour to meet with us to review a few more questions and other details relating to a proposal submission? It would also give us an opportunity to schedule a visit to our office when you are in Appleton for the Toward One Diversity and Inclusive Conference. (if you are still interested)

Appreciate your assistance and hope to connect next week!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 17:11:17 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Dang Yang" <dyang1@ecasd.us>; "Xiong, Kaying"  
<kxiong@ecasd.us>  
**Subject:** Recall: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April  
19

Ka Vang would like to recall the message, "[EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19".

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Apr 2023 18:15:27 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Yes they both are my recommendation too!

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:57:21 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

I would think Kaying and Dang, but Ka may know more. They could also visit a school that has a larger ELL enrollment.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:00:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Who do you think from ECASD would be the best representative?  
Do we know Jody?

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief visit next Wednesday, April 19

Hello Anoosheh,

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I am planning on returning to Eau Claire next week with two of my colleagues and hoping to schedule a visit with a representative from the ECASD. Do you have a recommendation of a contact to reach out to as there isn't an ELL contact on the website? I have also requested an appointment, per the suggestion of our state refugee coordinator, with Jody Conner from Workforce Resource and am waiting to hear back.

Also, would you have an hour to meet with us to review a few more questions and other details relating to a proposal submission? It would also give us an opportunity to schedule a visit to our

office when you are in Appleton for the Toward One Diversity and Inclusive Conference. (if you are still interested)

Appreciate your assistance and hope to connect next week!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 17 Apr 2023 11:00:02 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief meeting with Chief Rokus (April 19th)

World Relief, a refugee resettlement agency, is considering Eau Claire as a potential location to establish a refugee settlement office.

The agency has conducted initial interviews with relevant individuals. As part of the assessment process, the director of the agency based in Appleton, Tami Laughlin, wishes to speak with the Eau Claire police chief. The following is a list of questions that will be discussed during the meeting.

Any anti-immigrant sentiments expressed in the community? If so, how are sentiments managed?

How are immigrants groups isolated or integrated into the community?

Does local law enforcement have a community or cultural liaison?

Any foreseeable barriers from public safety perspective to resettlement in community

Any resources available for language barriers?

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4903

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

W: [www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 10 May 2023 09:57:52 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Employers

FYI,

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 5:43 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Anoosheh,

Glad you enjoyed your stay and hope the conference was productive!

We have decided to propose Eau Claire as our recommendation for a new resettlement site. Everyone we had a conversation with was supportive and the work that your community has already done around welcoming refugees and immigrants has been impressive. It would be an honor to open an office in Eau Claire.

We are preparing the proposal which is due the end of the month and later this week I plan to send emails requesting support letters from stake holders. We expect to receive final approval late summer/early fall but will continue to move forward with plans around hiring and securing office space.

Will be in touch but let me know if you have additional questions. So appreciative of your assistance and support. The fun is just beginning J

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 12:40 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Tami,

We enjoyed our stay in Appleton, James was a perfect host, and now we're looking forward to hear from you.

Have you submitted the proposal? When do you expect to hear back from them?

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2023 8:56 AM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Thanks Anoosheh! Will do.

Hope you enjoy the conference in Appleton. Will look forward to an update from James regarding your World Relief visit]

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 22, 2023 3:00 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Tami,

Aaron would know a lot more than I do, and you're welcome to contact him directly]

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 5:50:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Anoosheh,

Wrapping this week up while planning next week and would like to schedule calls with 3 – 4 employers in Eau Claire who might be interested in employing refugees. Would Aaron White be the best contact for that information? If so, I can reach out to him directly or would you prefer to?

Hope you know how much I appreciate you!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 10 May 2023 14:27:59 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

We have been working to evaluate the feasibility of increasing the City's capacity to host immigrants and refugees with the aim of fostering a more diverse and multi-cultural community and addressing employee shortages. As part of our collaboration with the World Relief Organization in Appleton, we have been facilitating their communication with all relevant stakeholders in Eau Claire.

We are delighted to announce that Eau Claire has been recommended to World Relief Headquarters as a potential new resettlement site.

While final approval is expected in late summer or early fall, World Relief may begin hiring and securing office space during the summer.

Tami McLaughlin, Director of World Relief in Appleton, stated, "We have decided to propose Eau Claire as our recommendation for a new resettlement site. Everyone we had a conversation with was supportive, and the work that Eau Claire has already done to welcome refugees and immigrants has been impressive. It would be an honor to open an office in Eau Claire."

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 12:32 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Employers

WOW!!! That is so exciting! Thanks for all you did to make this possible. Let me know what I can do. Also, can you write up information that I can share with the Council?

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 9:57:52 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Employers

FYI,

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 5:43 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Anoosheh,

Glad you enjoyed your stay and hope the conference was productive!

We have decided to propose Eau Claire as our recommendation for a new resettlement site. Everyone we had a conversation with was supportive and the work that your community has already done around welcoming refugees and immigrants has been impressive. It would be an honor to open an office in Eau Claire.

We are preparing the proposal which is due the end of the month and later this week I plan to send emails requesting support letters from stake holders. We expect to receive final approval late summer/early fall but will continue to move forward with plans around hiring and securing office space.

Will be in touch but let me know if you have additional questions. So appreciative of your assistance and support. The fun is just beginning J

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 12:40 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Tami,

We enjoyed our stay in Appleton, James was a perfect host, and now we're looking forward to hear from you.

Have you submitted the proposal? When do you expect to hear back from them?

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2023 8:56 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Thanks Anoosheh! Will do.

Hope you enjoy the conference in Appleton. Will look forward to an update from James regarding your World Relief visitJ

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 22, 2023 3:00 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Tami,

Aaron would know a lot more than I do, and you're welcome to contact him directly

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 5:50:42 PM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Employers

Hi Anoosheh,

Wrapping this week up while planning next week and would like to schedule calls with 3 – 4 employers in Eau Claire who might be interested in employing refugees. Would Aaron White be the best contact for that information? If so, I can reach out to him directly or would you prefer to?

Hope you know how much I appreciate you!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 16:37:52 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov."  
<Stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Local Governance Letter of Support Template.docx

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 12:03:50 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Local Governance Letter of Support Template.docx

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:12:38 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you!

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

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We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Matt Rokus" <matt.rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 14:22:52 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Dear Ms. McLaughlin,

I am unable to compose a Letter of Support for a proposed refugee resettlement office in Eau Claire. Please do not interpret my inability to write this letter as a lack of support for refugee resettlement efforts. I am not well-versed in refugee resettlement and should not be considered a subject matter expert. Additionally on these matters I can only speak to the Police Department operations, not representing the City of Eau Claire as a whole.

Please know that that members of the Eau Claire Police Department will continue to do our very best to ensure Eau Claire is a safe and welcoming community for all ethnic and national backgrounds. This is especially true for our immigrant population. As your plans move forward please continue to consider us as a partner.

Sincerely,

## **Matt Rokus**

Chief of Police

Eau Claire Police Department

Office: 715.839.4975

Cell: 715.828.4266

[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)



---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:18 PM  
**To:** Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Chief Rokus,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you and your force have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 21:43:08 +0000  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Chief Rokus,

Thank you for your response. I do respect and understand your position and appreciate the care and value you place on all populations.

It will be an honor to partner with the Eau Claire Police Department as we, together, welcoming a new community.

Best regards,

Tami

---

**From:** Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 2:23 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Dear Ms. McLaughlin,

I am unable to compose a Letter of Support for a proposed refugee resettlement office in Eau Claire. Please do not interpret my inability to write this letter as a lack of support for refugee resettlement efforts. I am not well-versed in refugee resettlement and should not be considered a subject matter expert. Additionally on these matters I can only speak to the Police Department operations, not representing the City of Eau Claire as a whole.

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Sincerely,

**Matt Rokus**

Chief of Police

Eau Claire Police Department

Office: 715.839.4975

Cell: 715.828.4266

[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)



---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:18 PM  
**To:** Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 May 2023 17:05:07 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 5/12  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 05 12 2023.pdf

Hello all –

Topics in this week's Update include:

**In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** Q&A on Triaging Tree Removal, Housing Survey, More Thank Yous to Street Crews, Hmong Chamber of Commerce Open House, World Relief, PERM Program, Some Prevention Updates, Managing Risk Article, Chippewa River Trail Tree Removal
- **Council Calendar**
- **Employee Spotlight:** Rebecca Scharlau
- **A Few More Pictures**

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



CITY OF  
**EAU  
CLAIRE**

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 08:03:57 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

FYI, email below from Lieske

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 8:26 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you Anoosheh.  
We will review and be in touch with Tami.  
Do note that this is the type of additional tax levy supported effort from our agency that is so critical that we will have to sort out how to navigate.  
Lieske

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:18 PM  
**To:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you have received this email

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** [marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov). <[marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Marisa,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you personally have done with refugee health screenings as well as the whole Eau Claire public health team to pave the way for future newcomer communities. We look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 08:38:09 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** Letter of support.docx

Good morning,  
Draft letter is attached.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Not sure why it would've bounced... Do you want to draft the letter for me to sign?

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 16 May 2023 13:29:25 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Kitzie Winters" <Kitzie.Winters@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Looks like it is a regional effort...I didn't see anything that it is unique to the City of Eau Claire...so yes, it is a levy supported service but it is a COUNTY levy effort representing residents of Altoona, T of Wash, T of Pleasant Valley, Fall Creek, etc. We should make sure it is noted when this is discussed publicly that it isn't just the City of Eau Claire.

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager  
Engineering Director & City Engineer  
City of Eau Claire  
203 S Farwell Street  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701  
Office: 715.839.4934  
e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023 9:03 AM  
**To:** Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; Kitzie Winters <Kitzie.Winters@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

FYI, only...

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023 8:04 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

FYI, email below from Lieske

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 8:26 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you Anoosheh.

We will review and be in touch with Tami.

Do note that this is the type of additional tax levy supported effort from our agency that is so critical that we will have to sort out how to navigate.

Lieske

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:18 PM  
**To:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you have received this email

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** [marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov). <[marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:marisa.stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Marisa,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you personally have done with refugee health screenings as well as the whole Eau Claire public health team to pave the way for future newcomer communities. We look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

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**From:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 19 May 2023 19:28:20 +0000  
**To:** "TMcLaughlin@wr.org" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch"  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "Marisa Stanley"  
<Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter of support - Health Department  
**Attachments:** World Relief LOS 2023.pdf

Greetings.

As requested, the letter of support for World Relief to open an affiliate in Eau Claire is attached. Please let me know if you have questions.  
Lieske

*Lieske (Elizabeth) Giese, RN, MSPH | Health Officer - Director*  
[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)  
P: (715) 839-4718 F: (715) 839-1674 Cell: (715) 514-7881  
720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703  
[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

***For more immediate response, please contact us at [ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov).  
If there is a public health emergency outside of normal business hours, please contact  
NON-emergency dispatch at (715) 839-4972 and they will connect you with a public health  
official.***



This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 22 May 2023 14:30:42 +0000  
**To:** "Elizabeth Giese" <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch"  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "Marisa Stanley"  
<Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Letter of support - Health Department

Dear Lieske,

Thank you! We look forward to partnering with you.

Tami

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 19, 2023 2:28 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Letter of support - Health Department

Greetings.

As requested, the letter of support for World Relief to open an affiliate in Eau Claire is attached.  
Please let me know if you have questions.  
Lieske

*Lieske (Elizabeth) Giese, RN, MSPH | Health Officer - Director*  
[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)  
P: (715) 839-4718 F: (715) 839-1674 Cell: (715) 514-7881  
720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703  
[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

***For more immediate response, please contact us at [ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov).  
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NON-emergency dispatch at (715) 839-4972 and they will connect you with a public health  
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or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 22 May 2023 10:02:04 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"TMcLaughlin@wr.org" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hi Tami – Attached please find a letter of support. So happy to be able to send it!

Let us know if there's anything else we can do on our end.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

Hope you are well and enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful spring season.

After several visits and conversations with numerous stakeholders, World Relief Fox Valley is proposing opening a sub office in Eau Claire in the fall of 2023. Letters of support from officials and key partners are required to accompany the proposal so I am hoping you would write a letter and return to me by Wednesday, May 24. A template is attached for consideration.

We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 22 May 2023 16:19:32 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you, Stephanie.

Anoosheh's assistance and your support are appreciated. We very much look forward to this partnership!

Tami

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2023 10:02 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – Attached please find a letter of support. So happy to be able to send it!

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Stephanie

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

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Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

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Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 21 Jun 2023 14:45:01 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Appraisal  
**Attachments:** Performance Appraisal,Anoosheh.pdf

Please see the attached.

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 29 Jun 2023 10:29:09 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Data for EDI Packet  
**Attachments:** 2023-06-29\_EDIEauStatAgenda.docx

Ok here's what I have. Feel free to add your data and pdf it. I don't think we need to include the agenda since we've sent it out already.

Ka

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 29, 2023 10:04 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Data for EDI Packet

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat, 8 Jul 2023 13:15:26 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 5:33:45 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Anoosheh,

Good to hear from you! We don't expect to receive final approve for the resettlement site until late August but are going to begin recruiting for the site director (position should be posted by the following week). I will also begin looking for office space. Do you have any recommendations regarding location? A top priority is accessibility to public transportation.

Will stay in touch as starting to move forward!

Thanks!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 3:03 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami,

Hope you are doing fine. How is World Relief Eau Claire project going?  
Have you heard back from the HQ yet? Have you started looking for a place/hiring?

Anoosheh

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:13 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Thank you!

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hi Tami – We are so excited!! We will work on the letter, and please let us know what else we can do to help.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Just to make sure you've received this email.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for Refugee Resettlement

Hello Stephanie,

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We will be in touch as we continue forward with our plans as know your support and expertise will be instrumental in the success of welcoming refugees to Eau Claire. We appreciate all of the work you, Anoosheh and others on your team have done to pave the way for future newcomer communities and we look forward to partnering and collaborating to continue Eau Claire's legacy of welcome.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support and leadership.

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 12 Jul 2023 11:09:45 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: potential office space

FYI,

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 6:42 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: potential office space

Hi Anoosheh,

Thanks for the recommendations. I will follow up; most likely next week.

The site manager position should be posted by the end of the week on the following link. We expect to post several more positions in the next 6 weeks with the hopes of officially opening the office on October 1<sup>st</sup>. All of these dates and plans are tentative dependent on staffing, securing a lease and of course approval which we do expect by the end of summer.

[World Relief Jobs | Explore Opportunities | World Relief](#)

Are you familiar with the Chippewa Valley Multi Cultural Festival? Ginny Close recommended we attend. Wonder if there are other events we should attend or plan?

Keep in touch and will hope to see you before the end of the summer!

Tami

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 9:18 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** FW: potential office space

Good morning Tami,

According to Aaron these are 3 likely landlords for this group with space in the Downtown, which has the best access to public transportation.  
Where would you post your vacancy/ I would personally be interested to check ☐

Have a great week!  
Anoosheh

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 13 Jul 2023 09:41:27 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief, Eau Claire Site Manager

[World Relief - Site Manager \(lever.co\)](#)

I would like to highlight :

### Requirements

- Mature and personal Christian faith
- Committed to the mission, vision, and values of World Relief
- Desire to serve and empower the Church to impact vulnerable communities
- Able to affirm and/or acknowledge World Reliefs Core Beliefs, Statement of Faith, Christian Identity and National Evangelicals For the Health of The Nation document

### Anoosheh Hamzehee

#### Associate Analyst

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 18 Jul 2023 16:13:58 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 7/17  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 07 17 2023.pdf

Hi all –

Two quick things...

- First, note that our first Council meetings next month are on Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. (It's sort of a confusing month given the Monday is the first Monday and the Tuesday is the second....)
- Next, please be sure to include me in all email correspondence with Directors or Managers. If you would like to have a phone call or meeting with staff, please start by reaching out to the City Manager's Office and the related Director. This allows me and other City leadership to stay on top of issues and trouble shoot where needed. Thank you in advance for helping us with this flow!

And here's the newsletter...

-

#### **In This Update:**

- **From the City Manager:** American Phoenix Update, Information about the Premiere Resort Tax, Some Q&As, Notes from 2023 WI Act 14 Housing, Trash RFP Language, Refugee Resettlement Agency Progress, Bus Operators go Above and Beyond, Demmler

Park Story, Thank you to Payroll Staff, Parks and Recreation Professionals' Day Shout Out, Retirement for Al Bertrang, Writing the Disability Experience

- **Council Calendar**
- **Special Employee Spotlight:** Melissa Turnquist

Stephanie

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh29@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 7 Aug 2023 10:37:29 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Work Phone Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Thanks for your interest in World Relief, Anoosheh

The response I received after our little "faith" chat [with WR.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <anoosheh29@gmail.com>  
**Date:** August 7, 2023 at 10:23:15 AM CDT  
**To:** Reza Mousavi <rezajay@hotmail.com>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Thanks for your interest in World Relief, Anoosheh

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** World Relief <no-reply@hire.lever.co>  
**Date:** August 7, 2023 at 9:24:09 AM CDT  
**To:** anoosheh29@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Thanks for your interest in World Relief, Anoosheh

Hi Anoosheh,

Thank you for taking the time to chat. After much consideration, we've made the decision to not move forward at this time. That being said, we'd like to keep your resume on file as our team continues to grow.

We really appreciate you taking the time to get to know our team. Best of luck with your current search!

Thanks again,  
Melissa Young

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 15 Sep 2023 11:42:32 -0500  
**To:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
"Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Marisa Stanley" <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
"Cortney Sperber" <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Hi Lieske,

World Relief is in the process of renting an office and hiring staff. They predict the first arrivals to occur at the end of November. I have asked Tami, the Director, for more info. I will share as soon as I receive a response. Meanwhile please let me know if there are any specific details that you would want to know.

Have a great day,  
Anoosheh

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 11:23 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cortney Sperber <Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Greetings.

I wanted to quickly connect to see if you have any updates for us related to the proposed resettlement efforts. I know that depending on what moves forward, there may be considerable involvement of staff and resources across our agencies. I want to be sure we are thinking about that so we have planned strategically.

Let me know what you can share.

Thanks much.

Lieske

*Lieske (Elizabeth) Giese, RN, MSPH | Health Officer - Director*

[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)

P: (715) 839-4718 F: (715) 839-1674 Cell: (715) 514-7881

720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703



[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

***For more immediate response, please contact us at [ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov).  
If there is a public health emergency outside of normal business hours, please contact  
NON-emergency dispatch at (715) 839-4972 and they will connect you with a public health  
official.***

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 19 Sep 2023 07:11:26 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Billie Hufford" <Billie.Hufford@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

FYI,

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**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 6:27 PM  
**To:** Elizabeth Geise <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Hello Lieske,

Annoosheh forwarded your email and I appreciate your interest in preparing for the arrival of refugees to the Chippewa Valley in the near future. Our team in the Fox Valley is wrapping up fiscal year 2023 in the midst of welcoming a few more individuals and families while also preparing to open our Chippewa Valley office in the next few weeks.

We are on the cusp of finalizing office space and in the process of making offers for several staff positions. We hope most of these details are in place by the middle of October. In addition, we have tentatively scheduled a "partner meeting" for later October and plan to send invites next week which you will receive. With all of these details in place, our best estimate for first arrivals would be late November and could consist of individuals or families. The total number of refugees we have been approved to welcome to the Chippewa Valley for FY2024 is 75 people.

Brittany Fry reached out earlier this summer asking for information regarding Public Health's responsibility in refugee resettlement and following was the response provided by our State Refugee Health Coordinator, Savitri Tsering:

*Hello,*

*I work as the State Refugee Health Coordinator (SRHC) and can address concerns related to refugees coming into your community. I know World Relief Fox Valley (WRFV) will be opening a satellite office in Eau Claire this fall. For refugee services we recommend that the local health department (LHD) be part of the network that works with the resettlement agency (RA) and provides information and updates as needed. In general, it is not expected that LHDs do any more for refugees than they would for others living in their community. You will be viewed as an agency in the know about area health/medical providers.*

*As you are aware there are sponsored humanitarian parolees that are coming into the US that need TB attestation. If they are not eligible for Medicaid (depending on where they are from, they may or may not be eligible), the TB dispensary can cover their TB related screening services.*

*Ways that health departments have helped make connection with the refugee community is in providing education and updates for programs they have such as home visiting, WIC, communicable disease follow-up, child car safety, Well Women programs, etc. – your LHD may or may not have some of those services but the point is, what you offer the general public, in turn offer to the refugee community and make sure you have a seat at the table for understanding and connecting with those doing refugee resettlement in your community.*

*Taking the view broader to all immigrant populations the same will be true – what do you provide to your general population, make sure [your local connection to Covering WI](#) is strong so that full knowledge of healthcare eligibility is there, know the parameters of what services you can provide regardless of documentation status.*

Lieske, I hope this information is helpful. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. We hope to meet you in the near future and look forward to developing a strong partnership and welcoming network for the Chippewa Valley newcomers!

Thank you,

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

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**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 8:32 AM

**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>

**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Thanks for the update Anoosheh.

Someone from our team will be happy to be part of the conversation.

I know that housing also will be an important issue. Not sure if anyone is actively addressing that if a large group of people are coming.

Do you know if this is likely individuals or families? That would help us in thinking who best on our end to engage.

Thanks.

Lieske

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**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 8:26 AM  
**To:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Good morning Lieske,

Tami will provide you more details this week. They're going to have a partnership meeting the middle of October and in the process of finalizing those plans.

Anoosheh

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**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 11:23 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Marisa Stanley <[Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Marisa.Stanley@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Cortney Sperber <[Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Cortney.Sperber@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] resettlement update

Greetings.

I wanted to quickly connect to see if you have any updates for us related to the proposed resettlement efforts. I know that depending on what moves forward, there may be considerable involvement of staff and resources across our agencies. I want to be sure we are thinking about that so we have planned strategically.

Let me know what you can share.

Thanks much.

Lieske

*Lieske (Elizabeth) Giese, RN, MSPH* | Health Officer - Director

[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)

P: (715) 839-4718 F: (715) 839-1674 Cell: (715) 514-7881

720 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703



[www.ehealthdepartment.org](http://www.ehealthdepartment.org)

**For more immediate response, please contact us at [ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov).**

***If there is a public health emergency outside of normal business hours, please contact NON-emergency dispatch at (715) 839-4972 and they will connect you with a public health official.***

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**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 25 Sep 2023 15:48:49 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** City Manager Update to the City Council - Week of 9/25  
**Attachments:** City Manager Update to the City Council 09 25 2023.pdf

Hello Council Members –

Sorry for the delay on this. We, internally, are trying to figure out a way to have just one newsletter that goes out weekly to the Council, the staff, and the public. We're trying to determine the best email marketing/newsletter platform to use. In the meantime, here's this week's. (And you'll get it again in the new format...)

Feel free to share any feedback or suggestions!

Stephanie

-  
-

**Subject:** Update from the Manager's Office - Week of 9/25/2023

Hello City Staff – We in the City Manager’s Office, with help from the IT Department, are working on reformatting the weekly newsletter... The goal is to send one newsletter that works for the City Council, City staff, and members of the public who are interested. (Additional notices outside of the weekly newsletter will also get sent for employee-specific news.) Also, we hope to make it possible for you to sign up to receive the updates on your personal email account, which may help those people who are part of teams that don’t regularly access City email. Below is how we are picturing it’ll look on a weekly basis. Stay tuned, and please feel free to share feedback on this new, proposed format! (You may get a duplicate of this email once we set up the new system, FYI...)

- **CITY UPDATES:** Here’s some news from around the city.

- **Cannery District Construction:** Our Parks Manager, Steve Plaza, shared this update on what’s happening with the construction of Cannery Park, which is in the “Cannery” neighborhood, close to the Children’s Theater, High Bridge, and the Brewing Project: “Cannery Park has been seeing a transformation this past month. Contractors have been grading the sledding hill, playground area, open spaces, and skatepark. The restroom has been framed and its inside painted, and it’s now visible if you take a tour in that area. The ADA walkway next to the Madison Street Bridge has been staked, as has the walkway and canoe slide to a scenic viewpoint. Footing is being prepared to be poured for concrete for the stairs and the sign. The completion of the park is scheduled for early summer 2024. Market & Johnson is the General Contractor for the project, and Cory Tietz is the City’s Project Manager for the park construction.”



- **One Book, One Community 2023:** The L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library is launching its community read for 2023. They write: “This highly-anticipated, annual program encourages residents to unite around a single book that delves into critical

social and environmental issues affecting the region. The chosen title for this year is New York Times bestseller Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard, by Douglas Tallamy. The book is a compelling exploration of biodiversity loss and the role each of us can play in preserving our natural world. The main event will be an Author Talk with Douglas Tallamy at the Chippewa Valley Book Festival on Saturday, October 14th at 9:30AM in the Riverview Room. Registration and additional events can be found here:

[www.ecpubliclibrary.info/onebook](http://www.ecpubliclibrary.info/onebook)

- **Resettlement Agency Coming to Eau Claire:** The City of Eau Claire has recently worked with partners, including resident volunteer groups, the CVTC, the Department of Human Services, and the Health Department, to explore opening an Eau Claire branch of an agency called World Relief. The organization is currently securing office space and hiring staff. They expect to be all situated by this fall, and they will begin to welcome refugees for settlement in Eau Claire in 2024. They write that: "The total number of refugees we have been approved to welcome to the Chippewa Valley for FY2024 is 75 people." New residents of Eau Claire will help fill gaps in our very tight labor market and will bring a richness of perspectives and contributions to our community.

- **QUESTION AND ANSWERS:** Here are some questions that have come through the City Manager's Office this week. *Have a question you'd like answered?* [Submit it here.](#)

### **TDS Installation Impact**

Question: "How is TDS repairing areas of grass or landscaping that have been damaged due to the installation of fiber?"

Answer from City Staff: City Engineer Dave Solberg shared: "We have worked with TDS to ensure that they complete restoration within the existing permitted areas and provide us with a timeline for restoration. We have been tracking locations based on e-mails and calls and relaying those restoration locations to TDS/Tilson daily. Last week, we started inspection of the restoration complaint locations, and that will continue through this process. TDS/Tilson is on track to have their restoration brought into compliance by the beginning of October. We've seen great improvement with the new restoration sub-contractor and their work towards meeting the restoration requirements over the past two weeks."

### **EV Charging on Forest Street**

Question: "I was wondering what the timeline is for the EV charging at Forest Street. I have seen it used by vehicles, but I have noticed that the site is not completed. and the canopy structure by Solar Forma is not yet installed."

Answer from City Staff: Planning Manger Ned Noel said: "EV charging has been going on over a year there, but the Solar Forma Design has had some business issues and delays. They have proposed to complete the project by end of October."

## Trail from Mayo

Question: “Any updates on the Half Moon Lake Trail construction from Folsom Street south to West Madison Street?”

Answer from City Staff: City Engineer Dave Solberg said: “We ran into a problem in the right of way that the City purchased 30+ years ago...but we have worked through it. Unfortunately, WisDOT’s budget is tight, and if we don’t get the contract awarded by late October, construction may not start until 2026... so we’re really pushing to get it bid ASAP!”

## Jeffers Road Trail

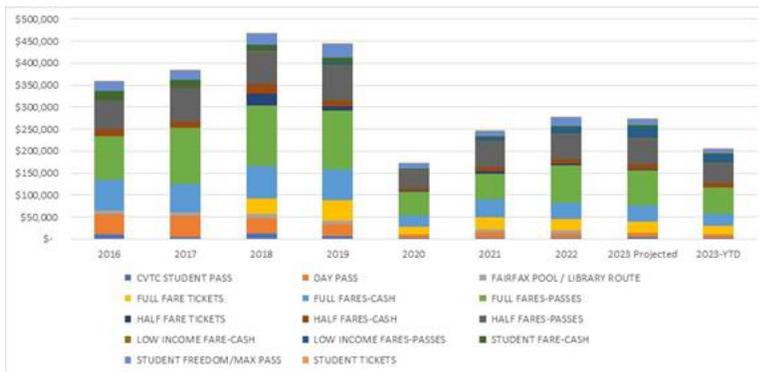
Question: “I noticed utility poles in the middle of the trail on the southern end of the Jeffers Road reconstruction, looking south toward the North Crossing. Will these be moved?”

Answer from City Staff: City Engineer Dave Solberg said: “Xcel Energy wasn’t able to move the poles this year, so we made sure we had four-foot clearance around them and paved the trail. Next year, Xcel Energy will saw a square of the trail out, move the poles, and repave the concrete square they removed.”

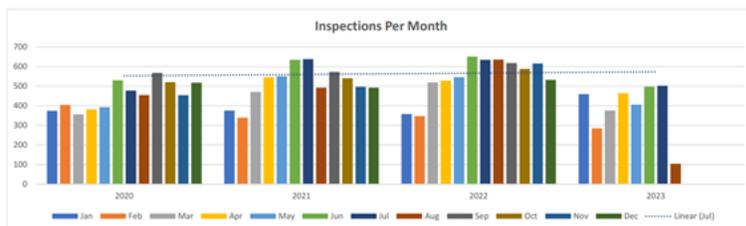


**EC STATS**: The City holds weekly meetings with departments to talk about their data, their goals, and any challenges they may be facing. Read on below for some data from the meetings we held this week.

**Transit:** Transit EauStat met last week, and here's what we discussed. In our Transit Division, so far for 2023, we are seeing an increase in ridership as compared to 2022. At this same time last year, there had been 256,688 riders. In 2023, there have been 392,336 riders, which is an increase by 52.8 percent. While numbers have been trending upward since the pandemic, ridership has been significantly lower than pre-pandemic ridership. Fare revenue for 2023 appears to be on track to be similar to fare revenue collected in 2022. The Transit team has been hard at work on several projects, including the Community Pass Pilot, which is a project aimed at exploring creative transit projects to increase access and make transit more equitable. Other projects include working on bus tracking, arranging for demand response services, and exploring marketing opportunities.



**Inspections:** Inspections EauStat also met last week. We have seen record construction years in recent years, and this year is on pace with only a slight decrease. The same hot market that has driven up our inspections numbers has also impacted our ability to staff our Inspections Division positions. In particular, the City has faced a significant challenge in hiring a Plumbing Inspector, due to the competition from the private sector, where master plumbers can earn in excess of \$100K per year. We continue to seek solutions to this gap. (If you know a plumber, please share this link with them and encourage them to apply: [Job Openings | Sorted by Posting Date descending | JOB OPENINGS \(governmentjobs.com\)](#)) Our Inspections staff are working extremely hard to keep up with the incredible pace of permits pulled, and we appreciate how they have weathered these unbelievably busy years!



**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:** We have the best employees! Get to know one of them this week. (And [submit your suggestion for an employee to spotlight here...](#))

Today we highlight **Tess Morgan**. A co-worker said this about Tess: “Tess is a huge part of communication successes for the community. She is dedicated to helping make sure news from the City is communicated through multiple channels. More importantly, she recognizes the need to help some of our community partners get out the message of needs, often resulting in the news further carrying the stories. Tess is also a joy to work with, and she has a great sense of humor and an amazing knowledge of the City's past endeavors. She also makes a mighty fine pizza!”

Here's some more information about Tess:

- Your Position: “For a bit over five years, I've been the Media & Communications Specialist for the City. I send out meeting notices and news releases, handle our social media accounts and the website, monitor news/social media, etc., develop messaging for us, and design the images seen on the big monitors in City Hall, plus a few other things.”
- Something People May Not Know: “In the last 10 years or so, I've learned to downhill ski, snorkeled, become certified to captain a sailboat, won first place in a dance competition, left my life-long career to start working with the City, and got married last year. It's NEVER too late to try new things and begin new chapters of your life – ‘comparison is the thief of joy’, so don't limit yourself just because others have done things sooner in life.” (Theodore Roosevelt quote)
- Favorite Activity: “Bicycling Wisconsin's amazing rails-to-trails system (especially in spring and fall) and cooking for people.”
- Best Thing about Working for City: “We have a really great quality of life in Eau Claire, and it's an honor to work with the amazing people who make that happen – it's truly mind blowing HOW MUCH gets done with the number of employees we have. I also appreciate the opportunities for growth and career development.”
- Life Philosophy: “There isn't a single phrase that really sums it all up, but I think it's important to act with integrity and honesty, follow the Golden Rule, and always just do the best you can -- some days that ends up being more than other days, and that's okay ;)”
- Anything else? “To borrow a quote – ‘There is more that unites us than divides us.’ We are not as divided as the extreme headlines on some news outlets and Facebook memes may lead you to believe, so please don't give them too much attention.”



**SHOUT OUTS:** Here's some reports of employees who went above and beyond.

**911 Caller:** On August 22nd, a community member made a frantic 911 call believing she had an intruder in her home. She advised that when she attempted to use her attic access door, someone pushed back down on the door from above which then struck her in the head. She fled the house immediately. Based on the call nature, several officers rushed to the scene to assist. What unfolded during the incident is best described in the homeowner's letter which was showcased in the Leader Telegram's Voice of the People on September 15th.

"On Aug. 22, I experienced the biggest fear of my life. I was home alone and believed I had an intruder who was trying to hurt me.

I vacated my house and called 911.

Everyone from the 911 operator to the officers who came to clear my home treated me in an exemplary manner. The kindness, compassion and thoroughness with which I was listened to, and then when my home was searched, matched and indeed surpassed all my expectations.

I was never made to feel as though I was a woman home alone with her husband out of town who was imagining things. In fact, when I was feeling silly about calling the police, I was reassured that they would rather check out something that ended up being nothing than have me *not* call and it be something that was indeed a threat. The officers discovered that my attic trap door counterweight system had failed and crashed down on me, not that anyone was up there trying to hurt me.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the way I was treated. I felt protected, valued and safe. I am proud to live in a city that has such an excellent police department watching over and protecting me.”

The Eau Claire Police Department takes pride in serving the community with care and compassion. We thank the personnel involved for demonstrating our values, including Telecommunicators Melissa Stone and Brittany Bowe, Officers Derek Jack, Austin Summers, Rogelio Gonzales, and Brian Leach, and Sergeant Olivia Erl.

**Spirit Award:** Attached is a picture of Human Resources Director Colleen Schian and retired Deputy Fire Chief Al Bertrang receiving awards last week at the Peer Support Conference. In the photo, Colleen’s award says “Spirit Award 2023” and Al’s says “Meritorious Service Award 2023.” Both awards were given in recognition of Colleen and Al’s contributions to the Peer Support team and related endeavors. The Peer Support team is a program in which Police and Fire staff work with co-workers to ensure they are able to process and bear the trauma and stress that come with being a first responder.



## **CITY COUNCIL CALENDAR**

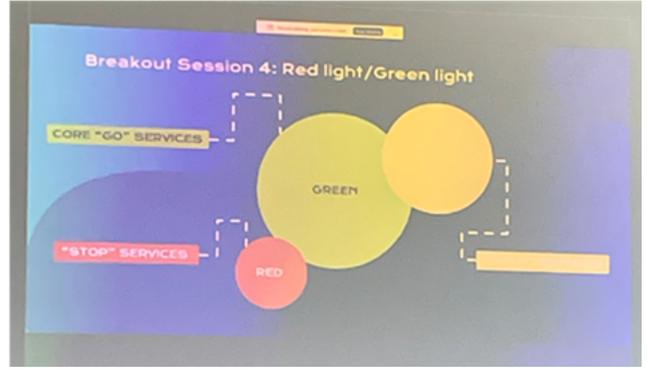
- Monday, September 25th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
- Tuesday, September 26th: Council Meeting
  - Work Session: Boards Committees, Commissions and outreach strategies
- *September 29th – City Council receives 2024 Proposed Operating Budget*
- Monday, October 9th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
  - Public Hearing #1 on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget and State of the City
- Tuesday, October 10th: Council Meeting
  - City Council Operating Budget Work Session #3 (Department Directors)
- Monday, October 23rd: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
- Tuesday, October 24th: Council Meeting
  - Housing Study Presentation (tentative)
  - City Council Operating Budget Work Session #4 – Amendment Discussion
- *November 3rd – City Council Budget Amendments Due*
- Monday, November 6th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion
- Monday, November 13th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
  - Public Hearing #2 on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget
- Tuesday, November 14th: Council Meeting
  - City Council action on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget and levy
- Monday, December 18th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion

## **Additional Dates:**

- Thursday, September 28th: First BIPOC Committee Meeting
- Friday, September 29th: Eggs and Issues Legislative Breakfast
- Tuesday, October 3rd: Voices of the Valley
- Wednesday – Friday, October 18th -20th: League Conference

## **PHOTOS FROM AROUND TOWN**

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**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Karen Larsen" <karen.larsen@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 27 Sep 2023 12:07:22 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Update from the Manager's Office - Week of 9/25/2023

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 27, 2023 11:44 AM  
**To:** City Employees <CityEmployees@eauclairewi.gov>; 'Tegan Ruland' <Tegan.Ruland@eauclairecounty.gov>; 'Kimberly Hennings' <kimberlyh@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
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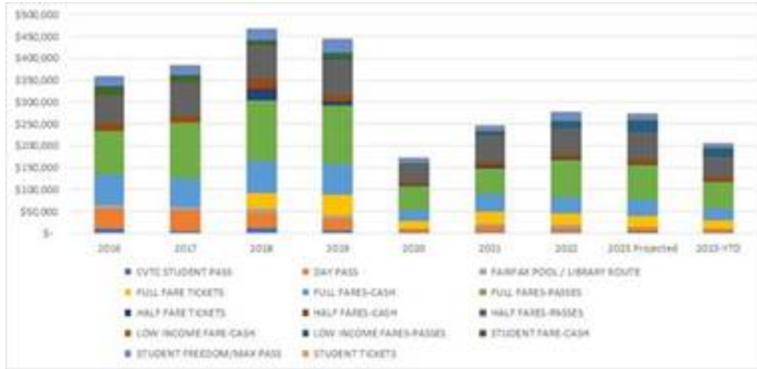
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**From:** "Karen Larsen" <karen.larsen@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 28 Sep 2023 07:44:54 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Update from the Manager's Office - Week of 9/25/2023

Perfect! Thanks, Stephanie.

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 27, 2023 3:04 PM  
**To:** Karen Larsen <Karen.Larsen@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Update from the Manager's Office - Week of 9/25/2023

Thank you for giving it a try! Can you try again?

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**Sent:** Wednesday, September 27, 2023 12:07:22 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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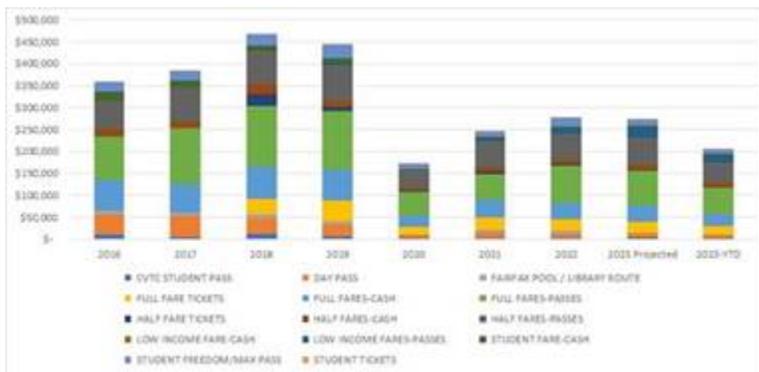
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**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 08:06:45 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

Is it ok to share it with Council members, CM staff, Lieske and Holly from CVTC?

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2023 6:27 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Upcoming World Relief events

Hello Anoosheh,

We are making progress with regard to establishing the World Relief Wisconsin Chippewa Valley office and continue to project our first refugees will arrive by the end of November.

We are planning on hosting two meetings; a community partner meeting on Wednesday, October 18 which you and several others from the city will receive invitations too, as well as a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23. Following is a link to that event and I am hoping you might be willing to send it to your networks and/or make any recommendations regarding other groups we should send it to?

We are so encouraged by the willingness of the Chippewa Valley community to embrace refugee newcomers and look forward to continuing to build friendships and partnerships around welcoming our new neighbors.

Thanks for your help and will hope to see you the 18<sup>th</sup> and perhaps the 23<sup>rd</sup>!

Tami

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](https://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 18:53:56 +0000  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Bcc:** "matt.rokus@eauclairewi.gov" <matt.rokus@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov" <billie.hufford@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov" <aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 14:42:19 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

This is the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, it's not for the public, but we can share with Council members.

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 1:54 PM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
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**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Sep 2023 17:28:11 -0500  
**To:** "Brad Candell" <brad.candell@shawtown.org>; "tcleonard@charter.net" <tcleonard@charter.net>; "deltaalphabet@gmail.com" <deltaalphabet@gmail.com>  
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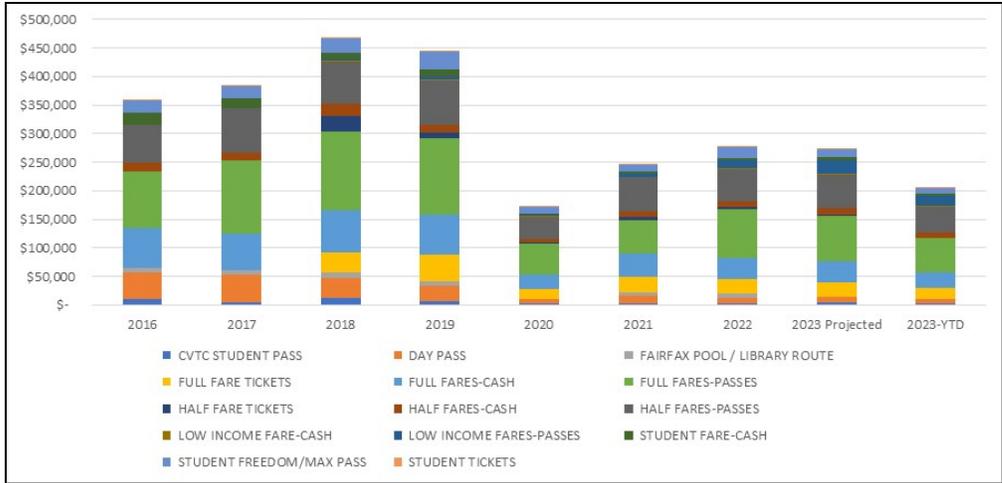
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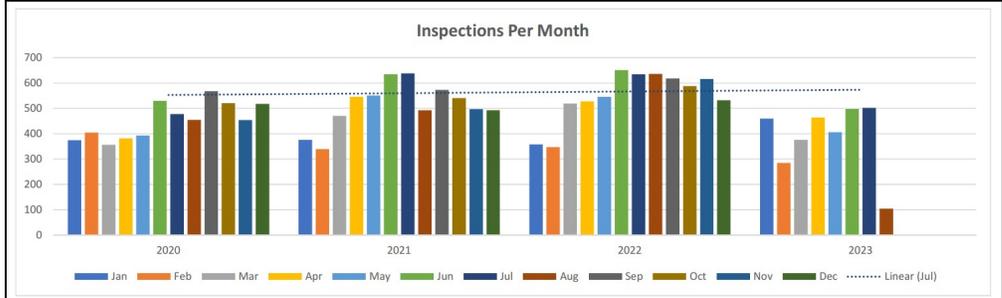


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**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:** We have the best employees! Get to know one of them this week. (And [submit your suggestion for an employee to spotlight here...](#))

Today we highlight **Tess Morgan**. A co-worker said this about Tess: “Tess is a huge part of communication successes for the community. She is dedicated to helping make sure news from the City is communicated through multiple channels. More importantly, she recognizes the need to help some of our community partners get out the message of needs, often resulting in the news further carrying the stories. Tess is also a joy to work with, and she has a great sense of humor and an amazing knowledge of the City's past endeavors. She also makes a mighty fine pizza!”

Here's some more information about Tess:

- Your Position: “For a bit over five years, I’ve been the Media & Communications Specialist for the City. I send out meeting notices and news releases, handle our social media accounts and the website, monitor news/social media, etc., develop messaging for us, and design the images seen on the big monitors in City Hall, plus a few other things.”
- Something People May Not Know: “In the last 10 years or so, I’ve learned to downhill ski, snorkeled, become certified to captain a sailboat, won first place in a dance competition, left my life-long career to start working with the City, and got married last year. It’s NEVER too late to try new things and begin new chapters of your life – ‘comparison is the thief of joy’, so don’t limit yourself just because others have done things sooner in life.” (Theodore Roosevelt quote)
- Favorite Activity: “Bicycling Wisconsin’s amazing rails-to-trails system (especially in spring and fall) and cooking for people.”
- Best Thing about Working for City: “We have a really great quality of life in Eau Claire, and it’s an honor to work with the amazing people who make that happen – it’s truly mind blowing HOW MUCH gets done with the number of employees we have. I also appreciate the opportunities for growth and career development.”
- Life Philosophy: “There isn’t a single phrase that really sums it all up, but I think it’s important to act with integrity and honesty, follow the Golden Rule, and always just do the best you can - some days that ends up being more than other days, and that’s okay ;)”
- Anything else? “To borrow a quote – ‘There is more that unites us than divides us.’ We are not as divided as the extreme headlines on some news outlets and Facebook memes may lead you to believe, so please don’t give them too much attention.”



**SHOUT OUTS:** Here's some reports of employees who went above and beyond.

**Spirit Award:** Attached is a picture of Human Resources Director Colleen Schian and retired Deputy Fire Chief Al Bertrang receiving awards last week at the Peer Support Conference. In the photo, Colleen's award says "Spirit Award 2023" and Al's says "Meritorious Service Award 2023." Both awards were given in recognition of Colleen and Al's contributions to the Peer Support team and related endeavors. The Peer Support team is a program in which Police and Fire staff work with co-workers to ensure they are able to handle the trauma and stress that come with being a first responder.



**911 Caller:** On August 22nd, a community member made a frantic 911 call believing she had an intruder in her home. She advised that when she attempted to use her attic access door, someone pushed back down on the door from above which then struck her in the head. She fled the house immediately. Based on the call nature, several officers rushed to the scene to assist. What unfolded during the incident is best described in the homeowner's letter which was showcased in the Leader Telegram's Voice of the People on September 15th.

*"On Aug. 22, I experienced the biggest fear of my life. I was home alone and believed I had an intruder who was trying to hurt me. I vacated my house and called 911.*

*Everyone from the 911 operator to the officers who came to clear my home treated me in an exemplary manner. The kindness, compassion and thoroughness with which I was listened to, and then when my home was searched, matched and indeed surpassed all my expectations.*

*I was never made to feel as though I was a woman home alone with her husband out of town who was imagining things. In fact, when I was feeling silly about calling the police, I was reassured that they would rather check out something that ended up being nothing than have me not call and it be something that was indeed a threat. The officers discovered that my attic trap door counterweight system had failed and crashed down on me, not that anyone was up there trying to hurt me.*

*Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the way I was treated. I felt protected, valued and safe. I am proud to live in a city that has such an excellent police department watching over and protecting me."*

The Eau Claire Police Department takes pride in serving the community with care and compassion. We thank the personnel involved for demonstrating our

values, including Telecommunicators Melissa Stone and Brittany Bowe, Officers Derek Jack, Austin Summers, Rogelio Gonzales, and Brian Leach, and Sergeant Olivia Erl.

### **PHOTOS FROM AROUND TOWN**

**Library Strategic Planning:** Pictured here are some images from the Library's Strategic Planning process. Staff were reviewing constituent feedback and working to prioritize the different services and programming the Library provides. The City as a whole is hoping to replicate this process for all its divisions and departments.



### **COUNCIL CALENDAR**

- *September 29th – City Council receives 2024 Proposed Operating Budget*
- Monday, October 9th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night (Public Hearing #1 on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget and State of the City)
- Tuesday, October 10th: Council Meeting (City Council Operating Budget Work Session #3)
- Monday, October 23rd: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
- Tuesday, October 24th: Council Meeting (City Council Operating Budget Work Session #4 – Amendment Discussion)
- *November 3rd – City Council Budget Amendments Due*
- Monday, November 6th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion
- Monday, November 13th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night (Public Hearing #2 on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget)
- Tuesday, November 14th: Council Meeting (City Council action on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget and levy)
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**From:** "tcleonard@charter.net" on behalf of "tcleonard@charter.net" <tcleonard@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Sat, 30 Sep 2023 15:37:41 +0000  
**To:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Brad Candell" <brad.candell@shawtown.org>; "" <deltaalphabet@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Fw: City Manager's Weekly Update 9/29/23: Cannery Park, TDS, Trails, and Transit

Thanks Jill,

I've signed up for it. It will be very informative ☐

CherylLeonard

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To: "Brad Candell" <brad.candell@shawtown.org>, <tcleonard@charter.net>, <deltaalphabet@gmail.com>  
Cc: "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
Sent: Fri, Sep 29 2023 05:28 PM  
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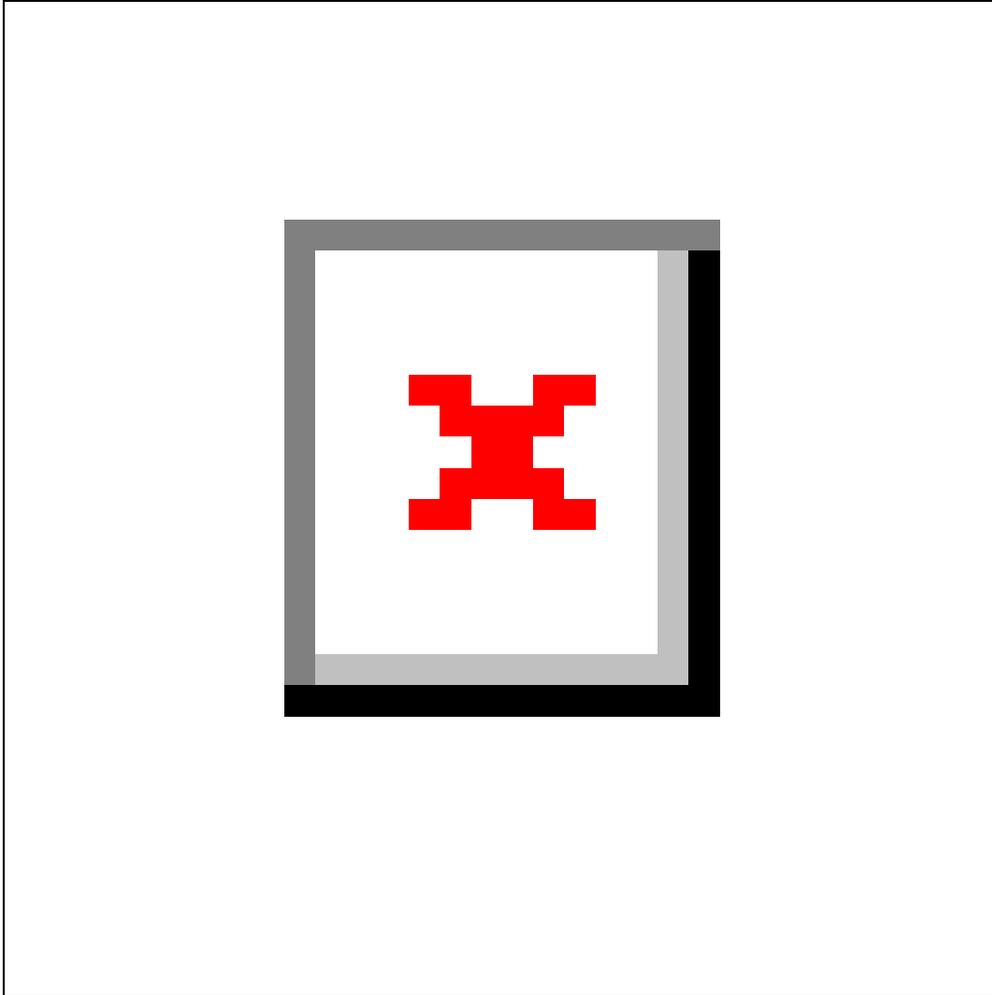
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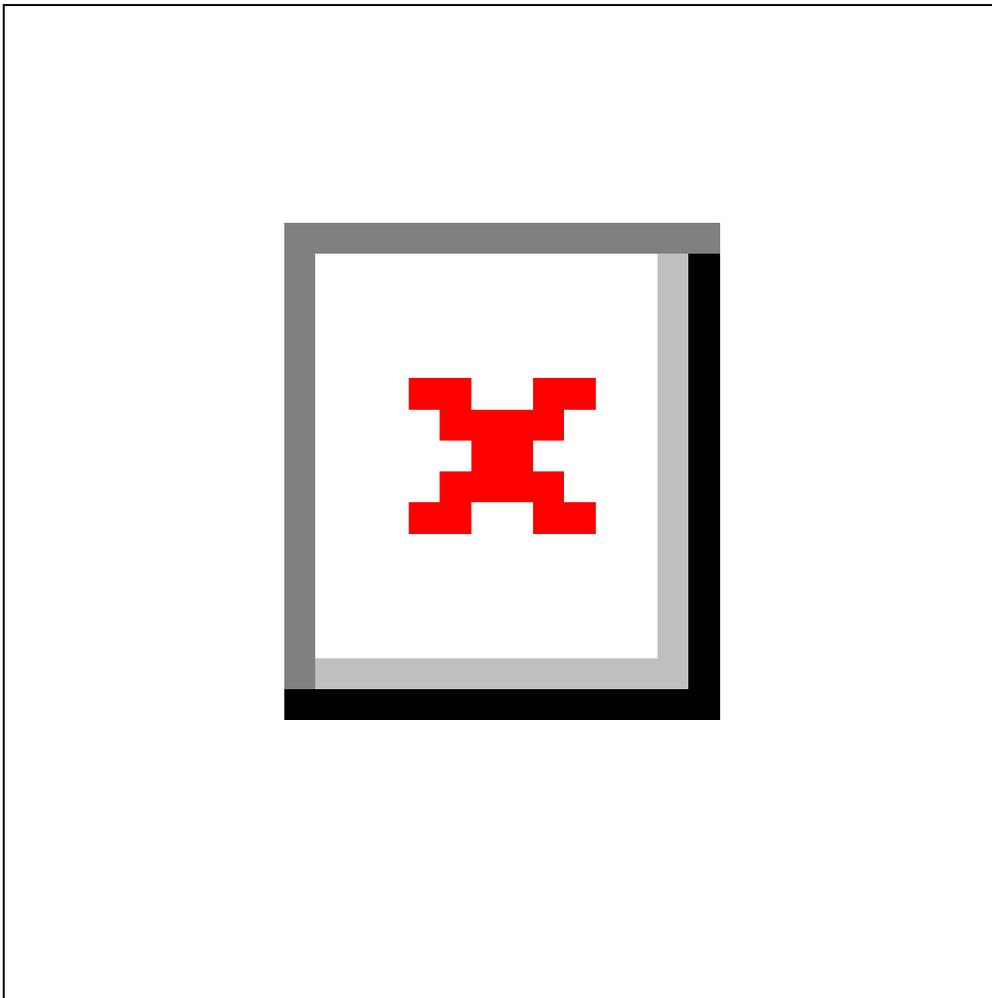
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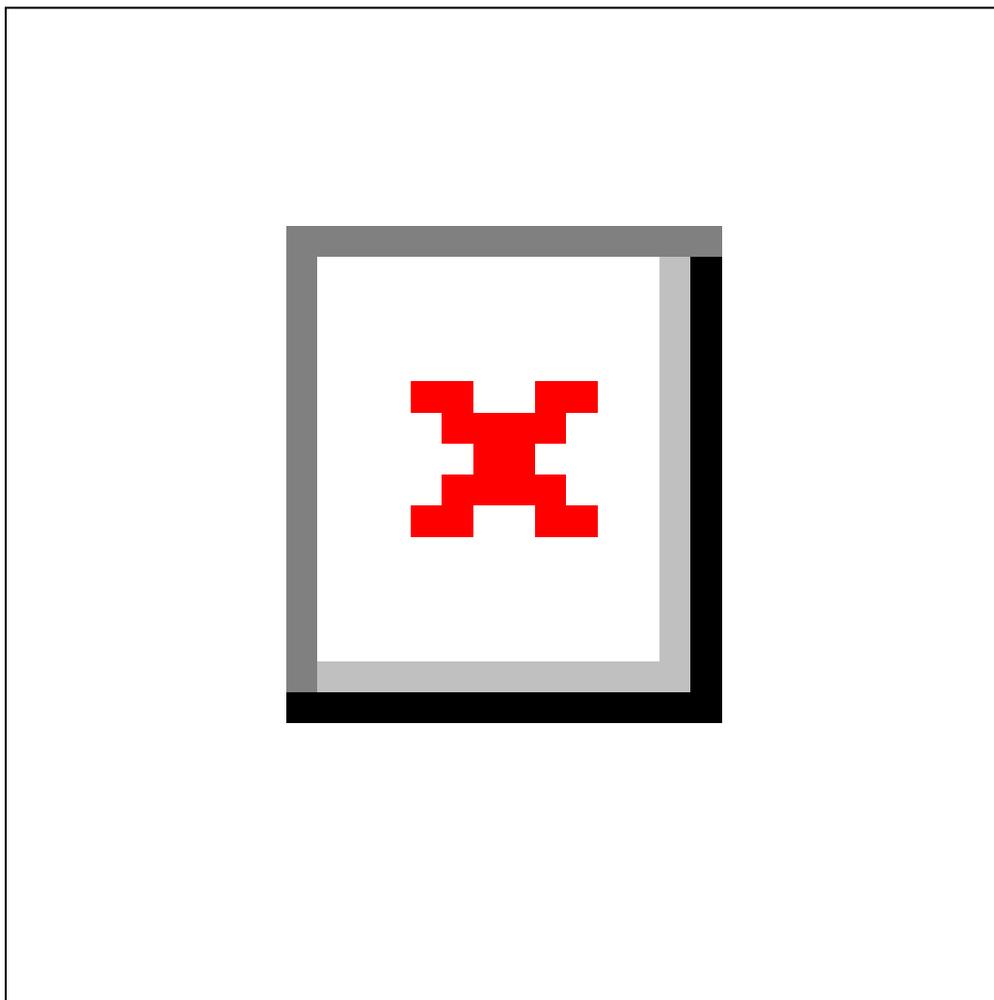
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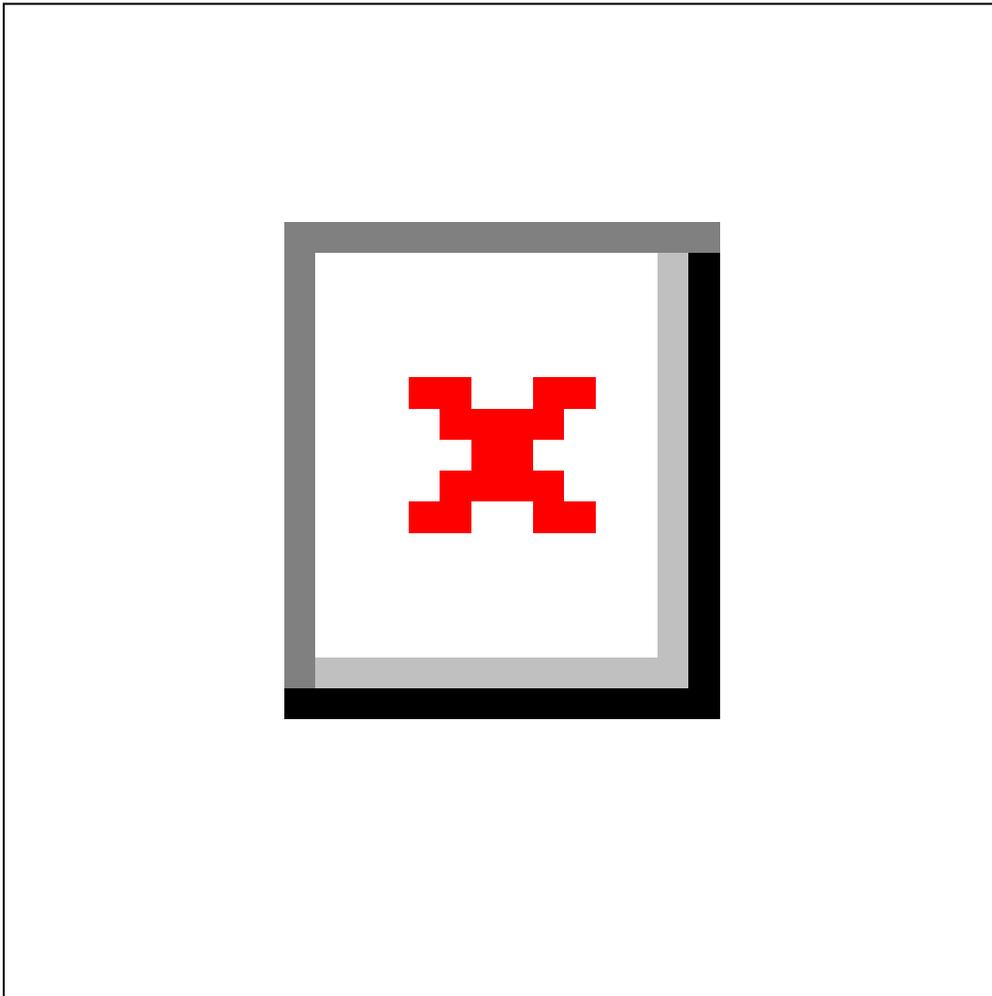
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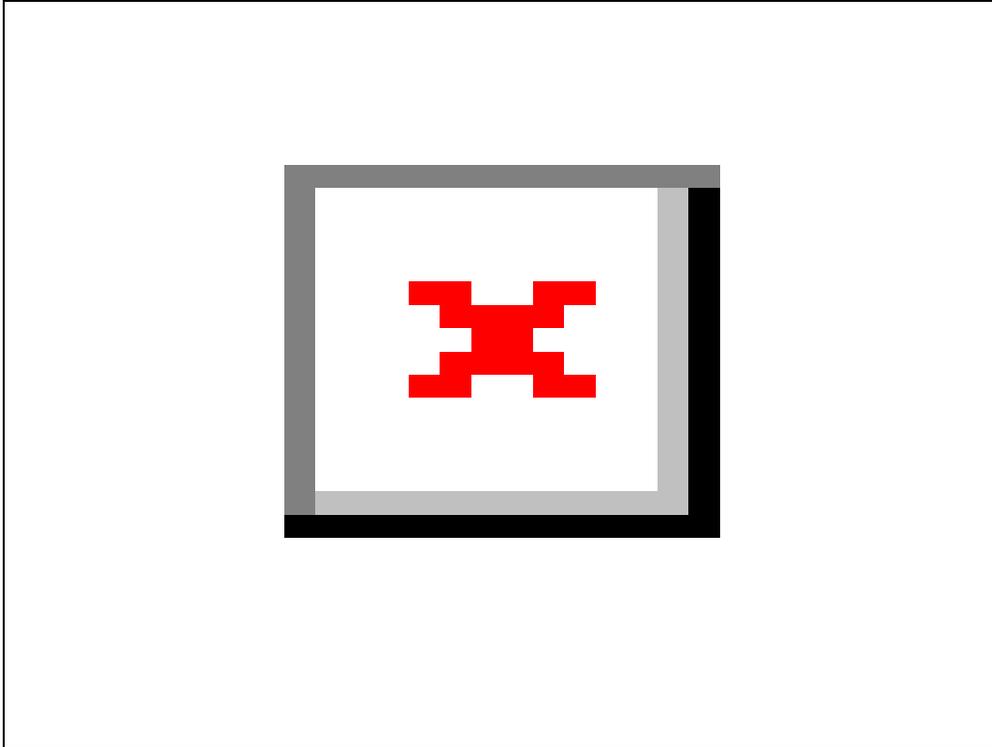
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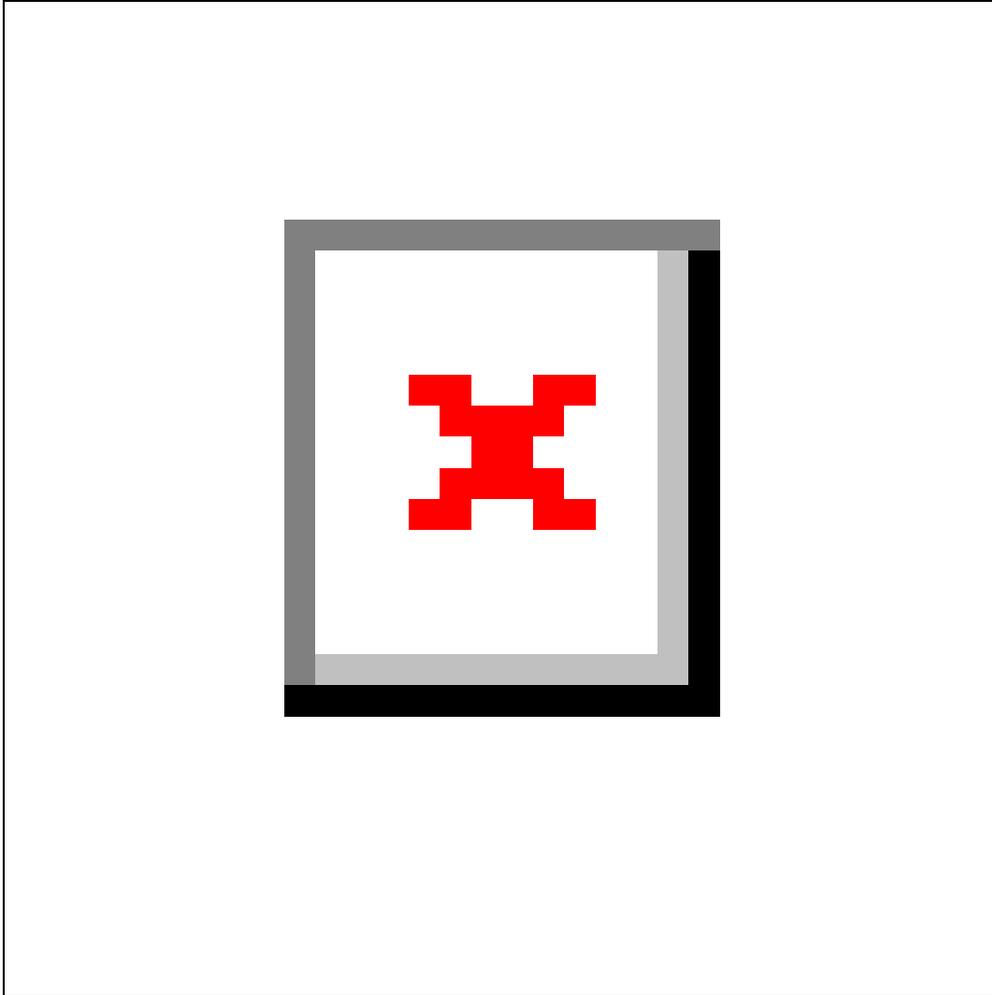
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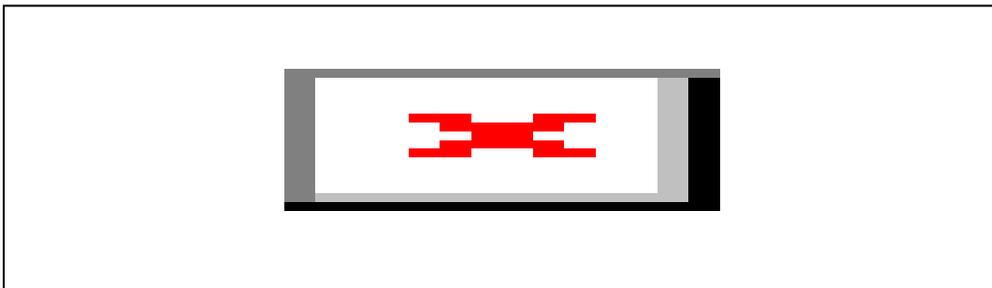
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**From:** "tcleonard@charter.net" on behalf of "tcleonard@charter.net" <tcleonard@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Sat, 30 Sep 2023 15:37:41 +0000  
**To:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Brad Candell" <brad.candell@shawtown.org>; "" <deltaalphabet@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Fw: City Manager's Weekly Update 9/29/23: Cannery Park, TDS, Trails, and Transit

Thanks Jill,

I've signed up for it. It will be very informative ☐

CherylLeonard

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From: "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
To: "Brad Candell" <brad.candell@shawtown.org>, <tcleonard@charter.net>, <deltaalphabet@gmail.com>  
Cc: "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
Sent: Fri, Sep 29 2023 05:28 PM  
Subject: Fw: City Manager's Weekly Update 9/29/23: Cannery Park, TDS, Trails, and Transit

Dear Friends, This weekly update on community items is new from the City Manager's office. Maybe you would like to encourage persons in the neighborhood to subscribe (How-to info is in the update) or have your media persons post to your facebook. You probably have an even better idea!

If you like it or not, let the city manager's office know your thoughts. Thanks for your work in building our community,

Jill Christopherson

District 4, Eau Claire Westside

715-271-2489

**From:** Eau Claire Administrator <webmaster@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 3:18 PM  
**To:** Jill Christopherson  
**Subject:** City Manager's Weekly Update 9/29/23: Cannery Park, TDS, Trails, and Transit

**Content Updated:** This News has been previously sent out.

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## **City Manager's Weekly Update 9/29/23: Cannery Park, TDS, Trails, and Transit**

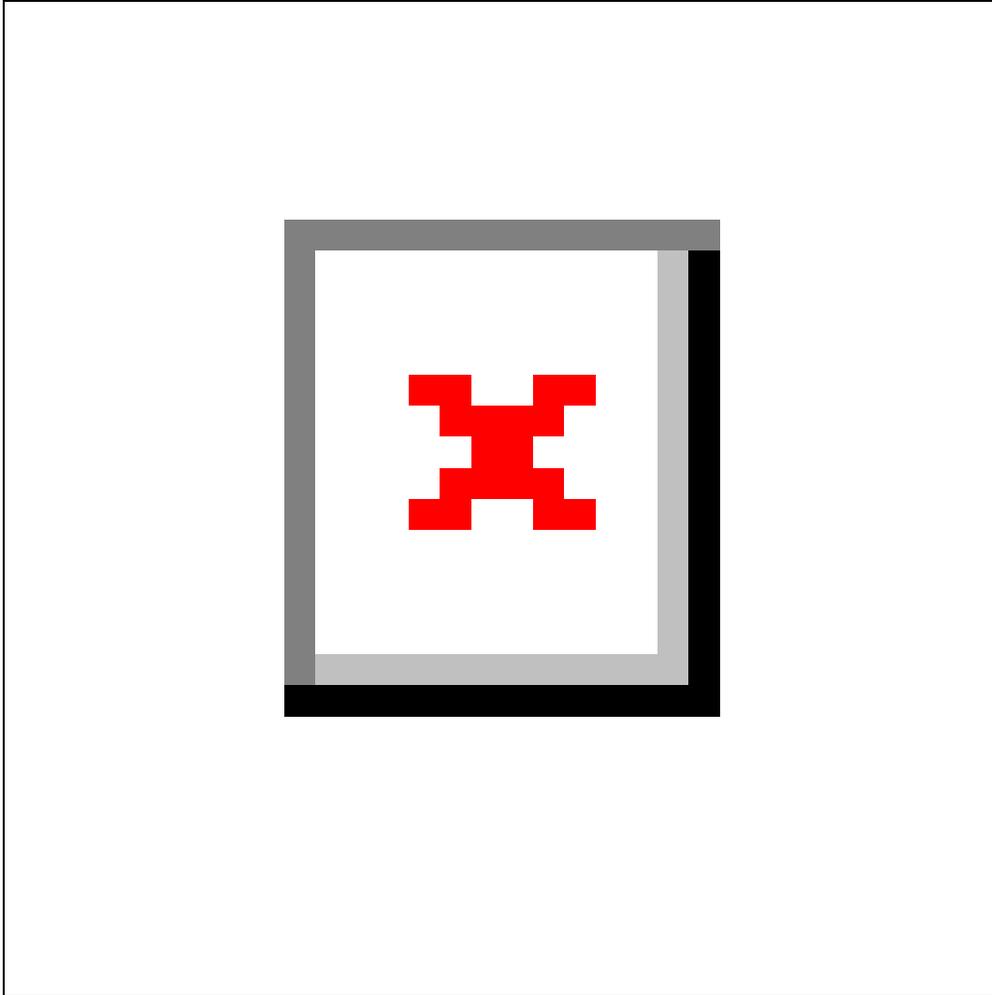
**Post Date:** 09/29/2023 1:18 PM

Hello City of Eau Claire residents, staff, and Council Members,

I'm writing to share news from the City of Eau Claire. We are using a new format to send news out. [Prior updates can be found here](#). Take a look at our weekly newsletter to stay on top of what we are working on. Pass it along to friends who can [sign up for different City updates here](#). We welcome you at Council Meetings, Neighborhood Association Meetings, Library Events, and anywhere else that City work takes place. Bear with us as we work out any kinks of this new approach! Also, feel free to [send me feedback](#).

**CITY UPDATES:** Here's some news from around the city.

**Cannery District Construction:** Our Parks Manager, Steve Plaza, shared this update on what's happening with the construction of Cannery Park, which is in the "Cannery" neighborhood, close to the Children's Theater, High Bridge, and the Brewing Projekt: "Cannery Park has been seeing a transformation this past month. Contractors have been grading the sledding hill, playground area, open spaces, and skatepark. The restroom has been framed and its inside painted, and it is now visible if you take a tour in that area. The ADA walkway next to the Madison Street Bridge has been staked, as has the walkway and canoe slide to a scenic viewpoint. Footing is being prepared so that concrete can be poured for the stairs and the sign. The completion of the park is scheduled for early summer 2024. Market and Johnson is the General Contractor for the project, and Cory Tietz is the City's Project Manager for the park construction."



**One Book, One Community 2023:** The L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library is launching its community reads for 2023. They write: “This highly-anticipated, annual program encourages residents to unite around a single book that delves into critical social and environmental issues affecting the region. The chosen title for this year is New York Times bestseller 'Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard', by Douglas Tallamy. The book is a compelling exploration of biodiversity loss and the role each of us can play in preserving our natural world. The main event will be an Author Talk with Douglas Tallamy at the Chippewa Valley Book Festival on Saturday, October 14th at 9:30AM in the Riverview Room. Registration and additional events can be found here: [www.ecpubliclibrary.info/onebook](http://www.ecpubliclibrary.info/onebook)

**Resettlement Agency Coming to Eau Claire:** The City of Eau Claire has recently worked with partners, including resident volunteer groups, the CVTC, the Department of Human Services, and the Health Department, to assist an organization called World Relief as they explore opening a branch of their agency in Eau Claire. The organization, which draws on its own funding sources, is currently securing office space and hiring staff. They expect to be

all situated by this fall, and they will begin to welcome refugees for settlement in Eau Claire in 2024. They write that: “The total number of refugees we have been approved to welcome to the Chippewa Valley for FY2024 is 75 people.” New residents of Eau Claire will help fill gaps in our very tight labor market and will bring a richness of perspectives and contributions to our community.

**QUESTION AND ANSWERS:** Here are some questions that have come through the City Manager’s Office this week. *Have a question you’d like answered? [Submit it here.](#)*

### **TDS Installation Impact**

Question: “How is TDS repairing areas of grass or landscaping that have been damaged due to the installation of fiber?”

Answer from City Staff: City Engineer Dave Solberg shared: “Our discussions with TDS have resulted in them carrying out restoration within the existing permitted areas according to set timelines. We have been tracking locations based on e-mails and calls and relaying those restoration locations to TDS/Tilson daily. Last week, we started inspection of the restoration complaint locations, and that will continue through this process. TDS/Tilson is on track to have their restoration brought into compliance by the beginning of October. We’ve seen great improvement with the new restoration sub-contractor and their work towards meeting the restoration requirements over the past two weeks.”

### **EV Charging on Forest Street**

Question: “I was wondering what the timeline is for the EV charging at Forest Street. I have seen it used by vehicles, but I have noticed that the site is not completed, and the canopy structure by Solar Forma is not yet installed.”

Answer from City Staff: Planning Manager Ned Noel said: “EV charging has been going on over a year there but the Solar Forma Design has had some business issues and delays. They have proposed to complete the project by end of October.”

### **Trail from Mayo**

Question: “Any updates on the Half Moon Lake Trail construction from Folsom Street south to West Madison Street?”

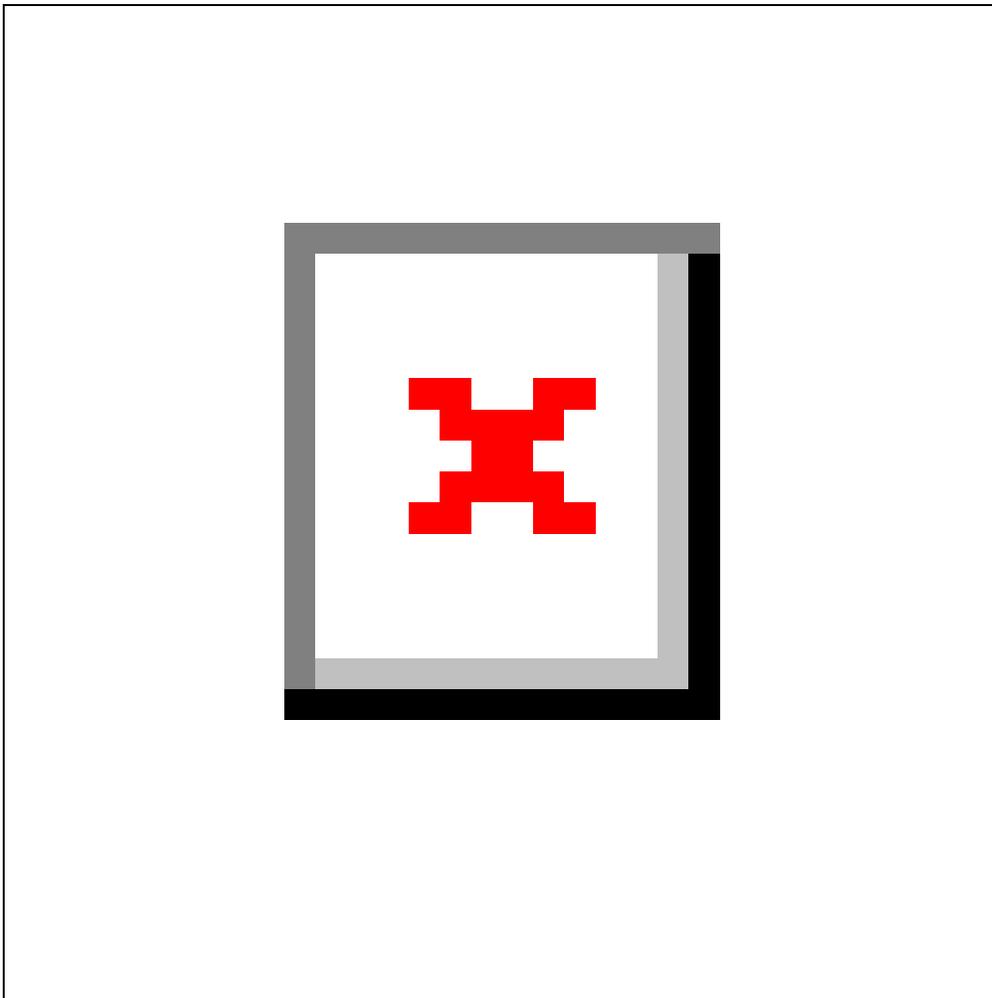
Answer from City Staff: City Engineer Dave Solberg said: “We ran into a problem in the right-of-way that the City purchased 30+ years ago...but we have worked through it. Unfortunately, WisDOT’s budget is tight, and if we

don't get the contract awarded by late October, construction may not start until 2026... so we're really pushing to get it bid ASAP!"

### **Jeffers Road Trail**

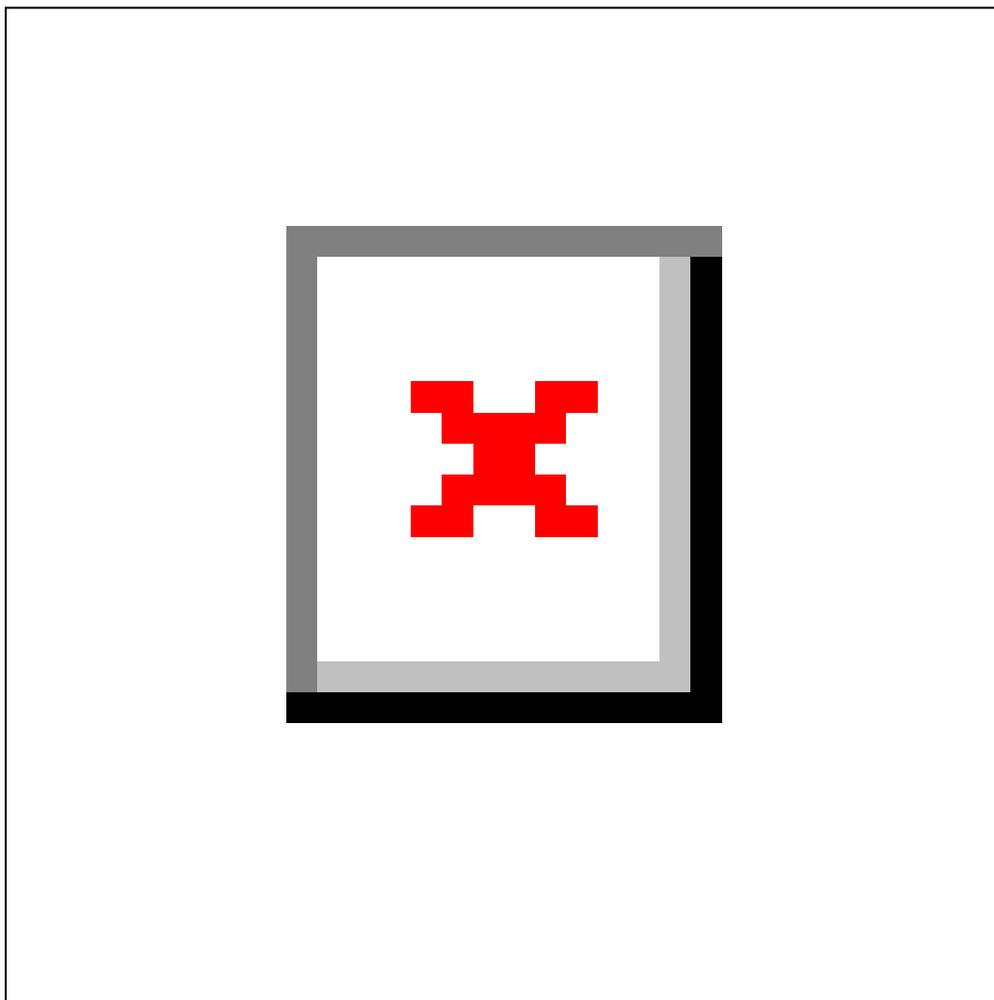
Question: "I noticed utility poles in the middle of the trail on the southern end of the Jeffers Road reconstruction, looking south toward the North Crossing. Will these be moved?"

Answer from City Staff: City Engineer Dave Solberg said: "Xcel Energy wasn't able to move the poles this year, so we made sure we had four-foot clearance around them and paved the trail. Next year, Xcel Energy will saw a square of the trail out, move the poles, and repave the areas that have been removed."



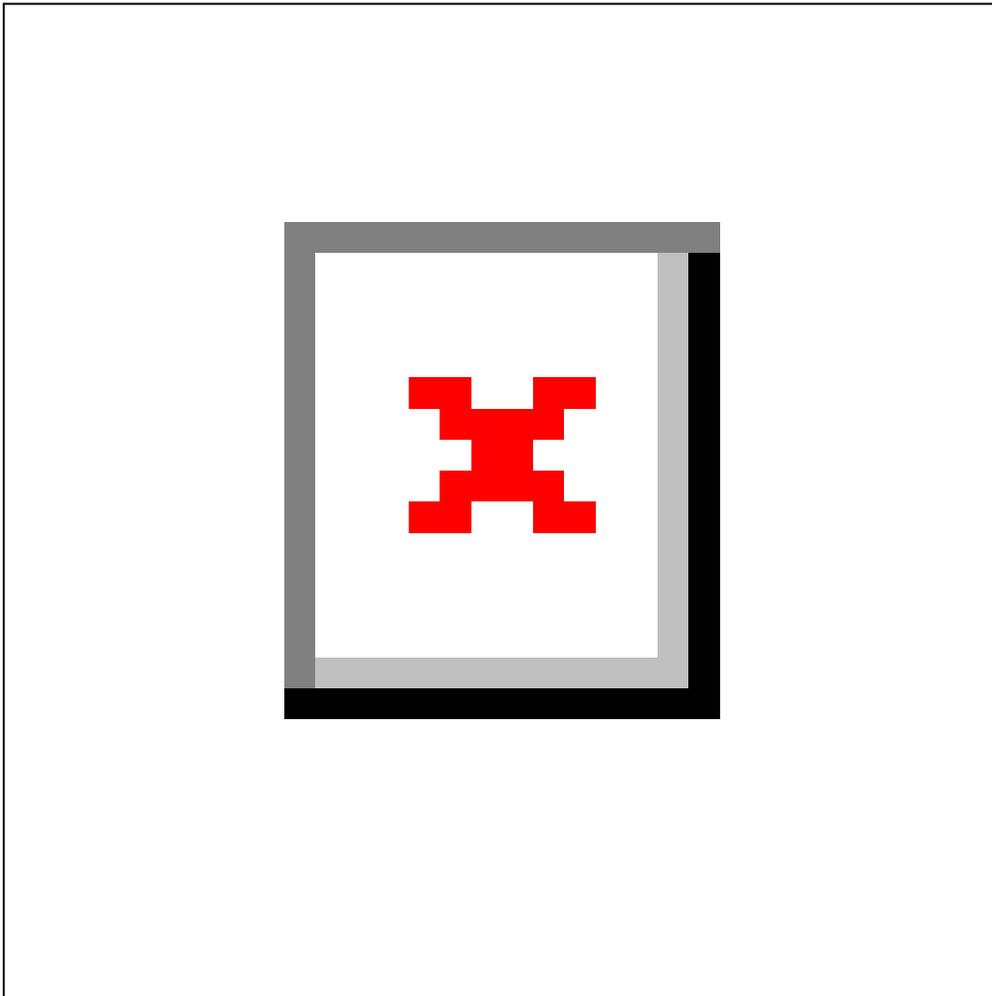
**EAUSTAT NEWS**: The City holds weekly meetings with departments to talk about their data, their goals, and any challenges they may be facing. This program is called "EauStat". Read on below for some data from the meetings we held this week.

**Transit:** Transit EauStat met last week, and here's what we discussed. In our Transit Division, so far for 2023, we are seeing an increase in ridership as compared to 2022. At this same time last year, there had been 256,688 riders. In 2023, there have been 392,336 riders, which is an increase by 52.8 percent. While numbers have been trending upward since the pandemic, ridership has been significantly lower than pre-pandemic ridership. Fare revenue in 2023 is on track to match 2022's fare revenue. The Transit team has been hard at work on several projects, including the Community Pass Pilot, which is a project aimed at exploring creative transit projects to increase access and make transit more equitable. Other projects include working on bus tracking, arranging for demand response services, and exploring marketing opportunities.



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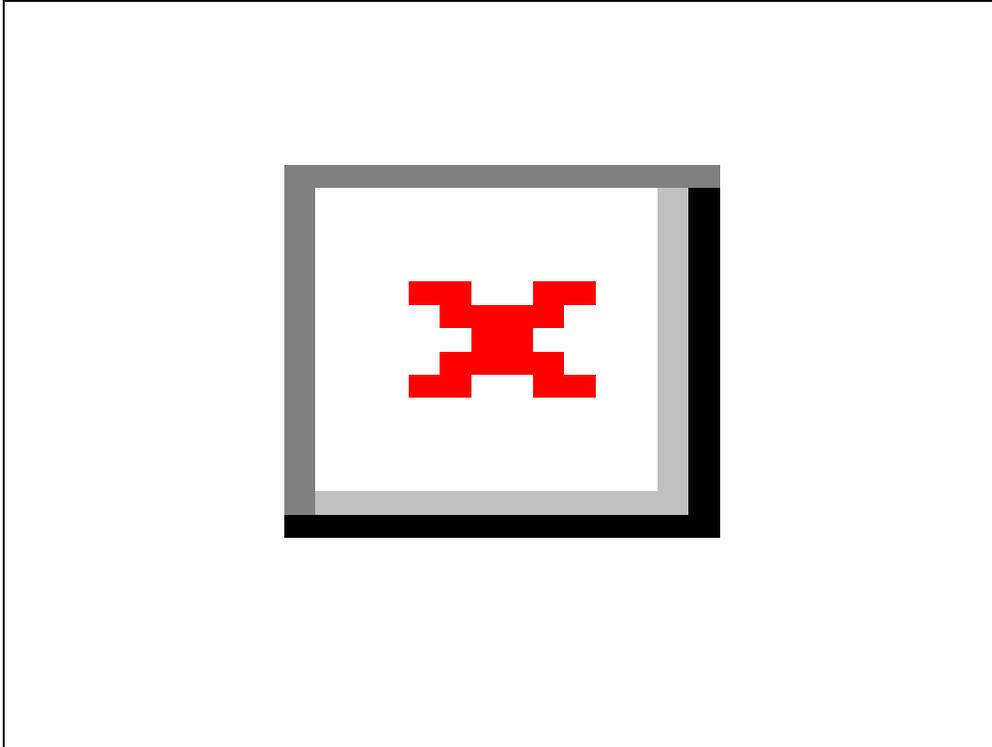
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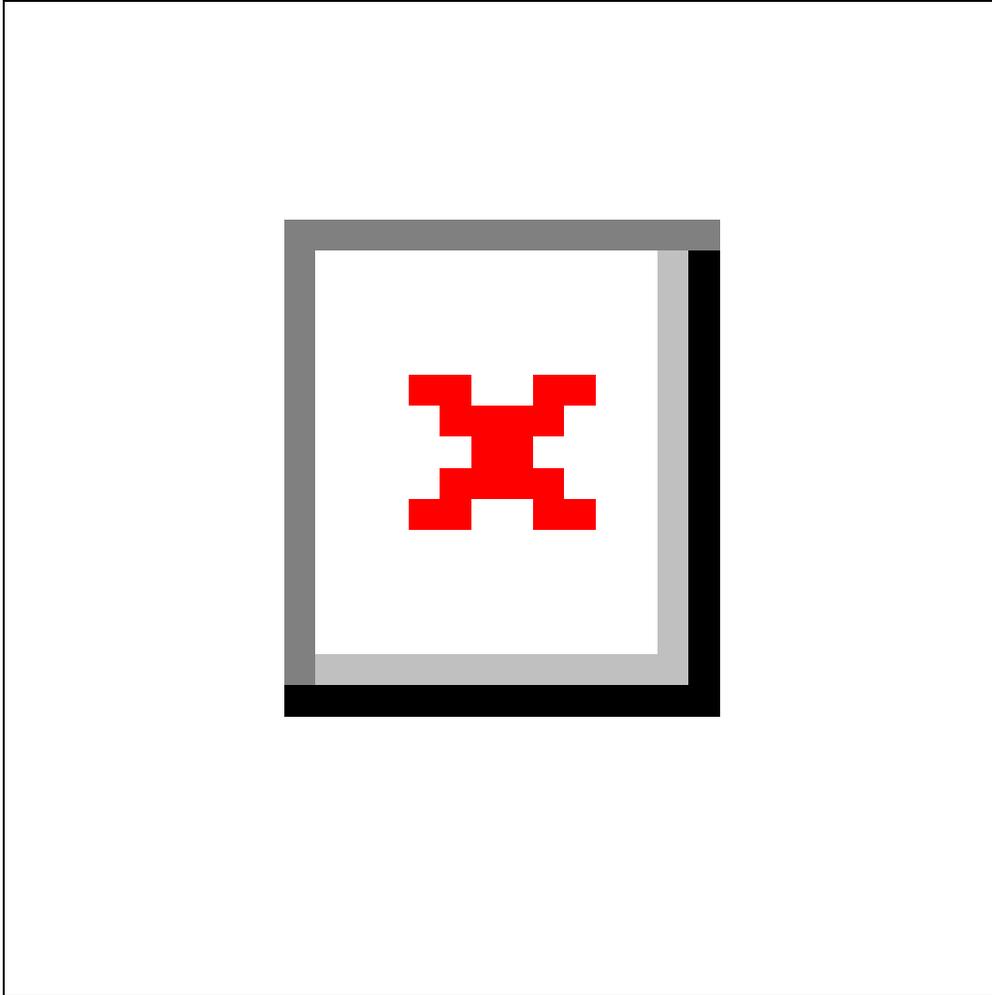
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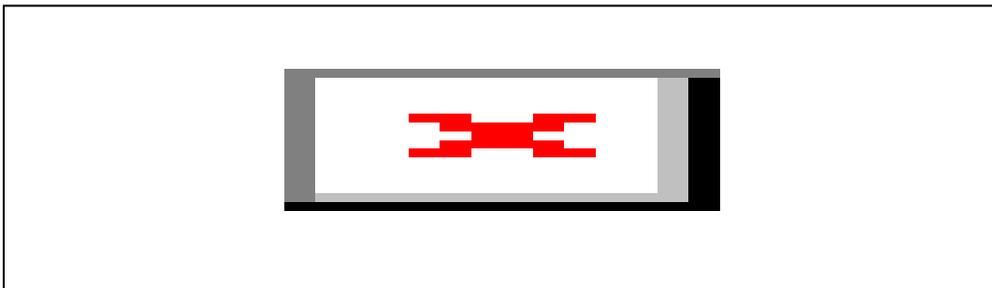
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**From:** "Danya Morman" <danya.morman@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 2 Oct 2023 09:35:33 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Interview

Got a call from WEAU looking to talk to someone about World Relief. Do you know who the best person would be for that? Person calling was Ellie Pomerleau, email is [Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com) and number is 612-562-5883

Sincerely,

**Danya Morman** *(They, Them, Theirs)*

**Management Analyst Fellow**

(715) 839-4902

[Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI 54701



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 2 Oct 2023 10:08:34 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Danya Morman" <Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan"  
<Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Dave Solberg"  
<dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Interview

I think either you or Tami ?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Danya Morman <Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan  
<Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Interview

I can call them... unless Anoosheh or someone else would like to.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

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**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 9:35:33 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan  
<[Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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Management Analyst Fellow

(715) 839-4902

[Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI 54701



**From:** "Microsoft Outlook"  
<microsoftexchange329e71ec88ae4615bbc36ab6ce41109e@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 2 Oct 2023 10:12:00 -0500  
**To:** "" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Undeliverable: World Relief  
**Attachments:** details.txt, World Relief

**Delivery has failed to these recipients or groups:**

['mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com'](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com)

The format of the email address isn't correct. A correct address looks like this: someone@example.com. Please check the recipient's email address and try to resend the message.

**Diagnostic information for administrators:**

Generating server: EX19A.ec.city

mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com

Remote Server returned '550 5.1.3 STOREDRV.Submit; invalid recipient address'

**Original message headers:**

Received: from EX19A.ec.city ([fe80::f699:6b44:6181:7c9f]) by EX19A.ec.city ([fe80::f699:6b44:6181:7c9f%9]) with mapi id 15.02.1258.025; Mon, 2 Oct 2023 10:12:00 -0500  
Content-Type: application/ms-tnef; name="winmail.dat"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: binary  
From: Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
To: "'mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com'" <Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com>, 'Tami McLaughlin' <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
Subject: World Relief  
Thread-Topic: World Relief  
Thread-Index: Adn1QqsMFNbLXDihSzuiMbLH6CkTww==  
Date: Mon, 2 Oct 2023 10:12:00 -0500  
Message-ID: <ce48ca625e2642bc88dec239de2abc42@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
Accept-Language: en-US  
Content-Language: en-US  
X-MS-Has-Attach: yes  
X-MS-TNEF-Correlator: <ce48ca625e2642bc88dec239de2abc42@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
X-Originating-IP: [172.20.1.191]

**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 2 Oct 2023 10:51:36 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Stephanie Hirsch"  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Danya Morman"  
<Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan"  
<Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Interview

I'm sorry but I'm not familiar with World Relief...probably wouldn't be a good interviewee

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:09 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Danya Morman  
<Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Dave  
Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief Interview

I think either you or Tami ?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Danya Morman <[Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan  
<[Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee

<[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov)>; Dave Solberg <[dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Interview

I can call them... unless Anoosheh or someone else would like to.

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---

**From:** Danya Morman <[Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 9:35:33 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWI.Gov)>; Tess Morgan <[Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWI.Gov)>  
**Subject:** World Relief Interview

Got a call from WEAU looking to talk to someone about World Relief. Do you know who the best person would be for that? Person calling was Ellie Pomerleau, email is [Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@WEAU.com) and number is 612-562-5883

Sincerely,

**Danya Morman** (*They, Them, Theirs*)

**Management Analyst Fellow**

(715) 839-4902

[Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Danya.Morman@EauClaireWI.gov)

[www.EauClaireWI.gov](http://www.EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI 54701



**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 2 Oct 2023 23:47:53 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"ellie.pomerleau@weau.com" <ellie.pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: World Relief

Hi Ellie,

Please let me know how I can help!

Thanks!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Fox Valley

[worldrelief.org/fox-valley](http://worldrelief.org/fox-valley)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; 'ellie.pomerleau@weau.com' <ellie.pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Subject:** World Relief

Hi Ellie –

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Let us know if we can help with anything else!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701  
Office: 715-839-6045



**From:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <ellie.pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Tue, 3 Oct 2023 03:54:44 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

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My apologies for the response at 11 p.m. I am working overnights tonight. ☐ My plan would be to film and edit this story the week of Oct. 16 and then air it that following Monday.

Let me know your thoughts!

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Tue, 3 Oct 2023 15:23:34 +0000  
**To:** "ellie.pomerleau@weau.com" <ellie.pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
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Are you flexible with regard to when the story is released? We are hosting a Community Gathering the evening of Monday, October 23 at the Library and would love media exposure to assist in promoting the event. However, do know we appreciate the visibility whenever the story is released!

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Let me know if you are able to access/use the following footage. We are rebranding to World Relief Wisconsin but could still be useful?

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Do let me know how I can be of additional assistance and thanks again!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Fox Valley Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
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Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
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**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <ellie.pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Wed, 4 Oct 2023 07:28:58 +0000  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Tami,

Thank you for getting back to me. We can set up the interview for Wednesday, October 18 at 9:30 a.m. instead, if that works better for you! What is the address of where the resettlement agency location will be located?

I am planning to air the story on the morning of Monday, Oct. 23, so it would work well to mention the community event when I air it.

Looks like I cannot access the footage. However, if you have raw files, you can send them to this link and upload them to the "Hello Wisconsin" section which should allow me to access and air the footage. Here is that link: <https://www.weau.com/community/user-content/>

Let me know if you have any questions and if Wednesday works for you for an interview!

### Submit Photos and Videos

 <http://webdefence.global.blackspider.com/urlwrap/?q=AXicE2RkuGTGwJDtz8BQIFNpaJihV1xUppebmJmTnJ9XUpSfo5ecn8tgbGliHmLplmJobGhsbsoQXJJakJGY15mq55FZVJyc4eCaWJqck5hZlBqequeeX8aQUVJSYKWvX15erleemlgKNoOBocOUgQEAIHci3A&Z>

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <ellie.pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
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**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Fox Valley Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Subject:** Re: World Relief

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Let me know your thoughts!

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

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Station: 715-835-1313

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
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City of Eau Claire  
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Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701  
Office: 715-839-6045



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**From:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <ellie.pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Wed, 4 Oct 2023 07:33:02 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise"  
<elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Aaron White"  
<Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-  
citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you for these details! Do you have a specific contact from the school district who you worked with to set up educational programs?

Anoosheh- If you could get me more details about which volunteer groups are helping with the project that would be great.

Let me know if you need anything for me.

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

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News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 9:34 AM  
**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Elizabeth Geise <[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Ellie and all –

In case they'd like to comment, I'm looping in:

- Anoosheh Hamzehee, who worked with World Relief to help them learn more about Eau Claire.
- Dr. Ka Vang (our EDI Coordinator);
- Aaron White (our Community Development Director);
- Emily Berge (our Council President); and
- Lieske Geise (our Health Director).

Anoosheh, can you connect Ellie with the key volunteer groups?

The City doesn't have a formal role, however, we support initiatives like this that boost our local workforce capacity and that support the City's strategic vision of "promoting a welcoming, inclusive, and diverse community" from our Strategic Plan and Vision. [637110562312000000 \(eauclairewi.gov\)](https://www.eauclairewi.gov)

A number of community partners do play a bit more formal roles, including the Human Services Department and the City/County Health Department. CVTC and the School District have also been involved as they have different educational programs for English Language Learners.

---

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**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
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<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang"  
<Ka.Vang@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise"  
<elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Aaron White"  
<Aaron.White@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-  
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**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 9:34 AM  
**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Elizabeth Geise <[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Ellie and all –

In case they'd like to comment, I'm looping in:

- Anoosheh Hamzehee, who worked with World Relief to help them learn more about Eau Claire.
- Dr. Ka Vang (our EDI Coordinator);
- Aaron White (our Community Development Director);
- Emily Berge (our Council President); and
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Anoosheh, can you connect Ellie with the key volunteer groups?

The City doesn't have a formal role, however, we support initiatives like this that boost our local workforce capacity and that support the City's strategic vision of "promoting a welcoming, inclusive, and diverse community" from our Strategic Plan and Vision. [637110562312000000 \(eauclairewi.gov\)](https://www.eauclairewi.gov)

A number of community partners do play a bit more formal roles, including the Human Services Department and the City/County Health Department. CVTC and the School District have also been involved as they have different educational programs for English Language Learners.

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**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

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Let me know your thoughts!

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:16 AM

**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Subject:** World Relief

Hi Ellie –

I have a message from my staff that you're interested in learning more about the World Relief office opening? I'm CCing Tami, who is from World Relief and can give you more details...

Let us know if we can help with anything else!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Wed, 4 Oct 2023 21:00:05 +0000  
**To:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: World Relief

Hi Ellie,

Thanks for being flexible! October 18 at 9:30 works well. Our office is 223 W Madison St. Suite 107 in Eau Claire.

Our home office is working on reformatting the video and I will upload when completed.

See you soon!

Tami

---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 2:29 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief

Hi Tami,

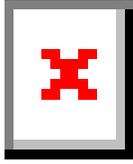
Thank you for getting back to me. We can set up the interview for Wednesday, October 18 at 9:30 a.m. instead, if that works better for you! What is the address of where the resettlement agency location will be located?

I am planning to air the story on the morning of Monday, Oct. 23, so it would work well to mention the community event when I air it.

Looks like I cannot access the footage. However, if you have raw files, you can send them to this link and upload them to the "Hello Wisconsin" section which should allow me to access and air the footage. Here is that link: <https://www.weau.com/community/user-content/>

Let me know if you have any questions and if Wednesday works for you for an interview!

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[www.weau.com](http://www.weau.com)

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

[Facebook](#)

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News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: World Relief

Hi Ellie,

Thanks for your interest in doing a story around refugee resettlement in Eau Claire. We believe this is newsworthy!

If you are flexible, I am in Eau Claire on Wednesday, October 18 and could meet with you. If you prefer Tuesday, Karen Crisler, another staff member, will be in Eau Claire and I'll connect the two of you for an interview.

Are you flexible with regard to when the story is released? We are hosting a Community Gathering the evening of Monday, October 23 at the Library and would love media exposure to assist in promoting the event. However, do know we appreciate the visibility whenever the story is released!

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Let me know if you are able to access/use the following footage. We are rebranding to World Relief Wisconsin but could still be useful?

[worldrelief.sharepoint.com/sites/MarketingandComms/Affiliate/Ready For Welcome FINAL\\_Fox Valley.mp4](worldrelief.sharepoint.com/sites/MarketingandComms/Affiliate/Ready%20For%20Welcome%20FINAL_Fox%20Valley.mp4)

Do let me know how I can be of additional assistance and thanks again!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Fox Valley Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:55 PM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tami McLaughlin

<[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>

**Subject:** Re: World Relief

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Let me know your thoughts!

Best,

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News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Subject:** World Relief

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I have a message from my staff that you're interested in learning more about the World Relief office opening? I'm CCing Tami, who is from World Relief and can give you more details...

Let us know if we can help with anything else!

Stephanie

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**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 5 Oct 2023 12:58:59 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

FYI ☐

---

**From:** Hassemer, Holly <hhassemer1@cvtc.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 12:54 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Ellie Pomerleau <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hello Anoosheh and Ellie,

Absolutely. I would be thrilled to talk about World Relief and how CVTC is planning to play a role.

Ellie—would you like a statement via email or something else?

Holly

Holly Hassemer  
Pronouns: she/her/hers  
Dean of Academic Development and Services  
Chippewa Valley Technical College  
715-831-7331

Like Adult Ed & College Prep 

Join the Academic Service FB Group 

---

**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 8:23 AM  
**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>; Hassemer, Holly <[hhassemer1@cvtc.edu](mailto:hhassemer1@cvtc.edu)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good morning Holly,

Ellie from WEAU is working on a story about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. As a representative of one of the community partners could you kindly share your perspective on how you envision the story unfolding and shed some light on CVTC's potential role in this endeavor, as you collaborate with Ellie?

Thank you,  
Anoosheh

## Anoosheh Hamzehee

### Associate Analyst

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



---

**From:** Ellie Pomerleau <[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 2:33 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWI.Gov)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWI.Gov)>; Elizabeth Geise <[elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Aaron White <[Aaron.White@EauClaireWI.Gov](mailto:Aaron.White@EauClaireWI.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>

**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you for these details! Do you have a specific contact from the school district who you worked with to set up educational programs?

Anoosheh- If you could get me more details about which volunteer groups are helping with the project that would be great.

Let me know if you need anything for me.

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



[Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com)

Office: 715-852-1597

Cell: 612-562-5883

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News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
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Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
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**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thu, 5 Oct 2023 20:15:26 +0000  
**To:** "Ellie Pomerleau" <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: World Relief

Hi Ellie,  
I uploaded the video per your instructions. Titled: World Relief Wisconsin.  
Let me know if there is anything more I can assist with!  
Thanks,  
Tami

---

**From:** Tami McLaughlin  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 4:00 PM  
**To:** Ellie Pomerleau <Ellie.Pomerleau@weau.com>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: World Relief

Hi Ellie,

Thanks for being flexible! October 18 at 9:30 works well. Our office is 223 W Madison St. Suite 107 in Eau Claire.

Our home office is working on reformatting the video and I will upload when completed.

See you soon!

Tami

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**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 2:29 AM  
**To:** Tami McLaughlin <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief

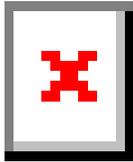
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[www.weau.com](http://www.weau.com)

Best,

**Ellie Pomerleau**



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Hi Ellie,

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If you are flexible, I am in Eau Claire on Wednesday, October 18 and could meet with you. If you prefer Tuesday, Karen Crisler, another staff member, will be in Eau Claire and I'll connect the two of you for an interview.

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Do let me know how I can be of additional assistance and thanks again!

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**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Fox Valley Office Director  
World Relief Wisconsin

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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Station: 715-835-1313

[LinkedIn](#)

News Tip: 839-WEAU | [news@weau.com](mailto:news@weau.com)

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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** 'Tami McLaughlin' <[TMcLaughlin@wr.org](mailto:TMcLaughlin@wr.org)>; Ellie Pomerleau <[ellie.pomerleau@weau.com](mailto:ellie.pomerleau@weau.com)>  
**Subject:** World Relief

Hi Ellie –

I have a message from my staff that you're interested in learning more about the World Relief office opening? I'm CCing Tami, who is from World Relief and can give you more details...

Let us know if we can help with anything else!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL** This message originated from outside Gray Television and may contain malicious content. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.



**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thu, 5 Oct 2023 20:50:43 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Katrina Lim" <klim@wqow.com>  
**Cc:** "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Interview Request

Hi Katrina,

I'm just reading your email and would be available to talk today between 5:30 – 6:30 or tomorrow between 9 – 3. Hoping we can make this work!

Tami

**TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Fox Valley Office Director  
World Relief Wisconsin  
worldrelief.org/wisconsin  
o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 11:15 AM  
**To:** 'Katrina Lim' <klim@wqow.com>; Tami McLaughlin <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Interview Request

Hi Katrina –

The City doesn't have a formal role, however, we support initiatives like this that boost our local workforce capacity and that support the City's strategic vision of "promoting a welcoming, inclusive, and diverse community" from our Strategic Plan and Vision. [637110562312000000 \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

A number of community partners do play a bit more formal roles, including the Human Services Department and the City/County Health Department. CVTC and the School District have also been involved as they have different educational programs for English Language Learners.

The main person to talk to would be Tami McLaughlin who works for World Relief. I've CCed her here!

**From:** Katrina Lim <[klim@wqow.com](mailto:klim@wqow.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 10:35 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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City Manager Weekly Update from  
09/29/2023: <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/Home/Components/News/News/11081/90>

If you're available any time between 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. today that would be great. Thank you very much and hope we can work something out,

--

**Katrina Lim**

Assignment Editor

WQOW News 18 "Eau Claire's Own"

Cell: 541-805-0991

Office: 715-831-1824

Email: [klim@wqow.com](mailto:klim@wqow.com)



@KatrinaLimTV



**From:** "Katrina Lim" <klim@wqow.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 5 Oct 2023 15:57:19 -0500  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Interview Request

Hi Tami,

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Fox Valley Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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World Relief Wisconsin

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

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**Sent:** Thu, 5 Oct 2023 21:48:00 +0000  
**To:** "Katrina Lim" <klim@wqow.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Tess.Morgan@eauclairewi.gov" <Tess.Morgan@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Interview Request

Hi Katrina,

Tomorrow at 11am is good! Please send a link as I'll be in Appleton.  
Thanks for your interest!

Tami

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**From:** "Tami McLaughlin" <tmclaughlin@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Mon, 9 Oct 2023 15:28:27 +0000  
**To:** "Tami McLaughlin" <TMcLaughlin@wr.org>  
**Bcc:** "matt.rokus@eauclairewi.gov" <matt.rokus@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>;  
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"aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov" <aaron.white@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>;  
"ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting -  
please register!

Dear Chippewa Valley Partners,

Thanks to those who have registered for the Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting next Wednesday. Our World Relief Wisconsin team is excited to share more information around refugee resettlement for the Chippewa Valley and look forward to facilitating conversations around how community partners can best work together to welcome our newcomers well.

Please register if you haven't already and feel free to share this invite with additional partners.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

World Relief Wisconsin

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) Please RSVP by Friday, October 13, 2023  
Feel free to share this invitation with other service providers in the Chippewa Valley network



Please attend our

## Inaugural Refugee Community Partner Meeting

Hosted by World Relief Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:30-11am

9:30AM – 10AM Overview of refugee resettlement in the Chippewa Valley  
10AM – 10:30AM Breakout Session by service provision to discuss referrals and processes  
10:30 – 11AM Networking (optional)

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library  
400 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Riverview Room (Room 306)

### **TAMI MCLAUGHLIN**

Office Director

World Relief Wisconsin – Fox Valley Office

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

o: 920.231.3600 | c: 770.377.1850

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, 10 Oct 2023 16:08:37 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Blurb

Here's the edit version. Looks good. Thanks.

We are saying farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. Ka has done so much for us in the time she has been here, and we are very sad to see her go. That said, we are excited about the position she is shifting into. She will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship. While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, CVTC, other community organizations, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited an EDI Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 2:55 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Draft Blurb

Please edit/add/subtract however!

\*\*\*

We are saying farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. Ka has done so much for us in the time she has been here, and we are very sad to see her go. That said, we are excited about the position she is shifting into. She will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. Ka has said that she feels it's her life mission to work with refugees. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship. While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited a BIPOC Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken

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**From:** "Tj" <atkins77@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Fri, 13 Oct 2023 09:15:48 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg, image001.jpg

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you again for the compliment and opportunity!!! However, I am quite content with where I am at, but thank you for thinking of me.

TJ

On Thu, Oct 12, 2023, 3:28 PM Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Hi TJ –

I know that many people have asked you this, including me the last time around! ☐ But I thought I'd add another ask to the list... They say that women need to be asked like 10 times to run for office, and I'm using that same theory here.

Our amazing Ka is going on to run the new World Relief program. We need someone brave, brilliant, strong, savvy, determined to spearhead these EDI projects. We have the \$800K set aside to spend on transforming the Chippewa Valley and it's pretty much the number one thing on my priority list. I hope you'll consider applying for the position! ☐

Stephanie

\*\*

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** This past week, we held an EDI EauStat meeting at which we discussed the many big projects underway in this department. We are sad to say farewell to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley.

Starting Monday, Ka will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

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Please spread the word about our search for our next EDI Coordinator! [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) This person will have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive.

**Stephanie Hirsch**

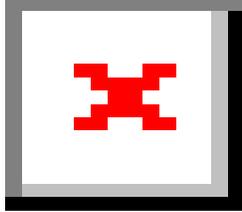
**City Manager**

**City of Eau Claire**

**203 S Farwell Street**

**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**

Office: 715-839-6045



<emily.bee@eauclairewi.gov>; "erin.klaus2@eauclairewi.gov"  
<erin.klaus2@eauclairewi.gov>; "mariah.hallen@eauclairewi.gov"  
<mariah.hallen@eauclairewi.gov>

**Subject:** City Manager's Weekly Update 10/13/2023: Regional Growth, Creative Problem Solving, Covid Updates

**Attachments:** image003.jpg, image007.jpg, image011.png, image015.jpg, image018.jpg, image020.jpg, image022.png, image024.jpg, image002.jpg

Hi all – We're working on getting you directly registered to receive this, however, in the meantime, here's this week's newsletter! This new version will go out to staff, the Council, and the public each Friday.

\*\*

Hello City of Eau Claire residents, staff, and Council Members,

I'm writing to share news from the City of Eau Claire. We are using a new format to send news out. [Prior updates can be found here](#). Take a look at our weekly newsletter to stay on top of what we are working on. Pass it along to friends who can [sign up for different City updates here](#). We welcome you at Council Meetings, Neighborhood Association Meetings, Library Events, and anywhere else that City work takes place. Bear with us as we work out any kinks of this new approach! Also, feel free to [send me feedback](#).

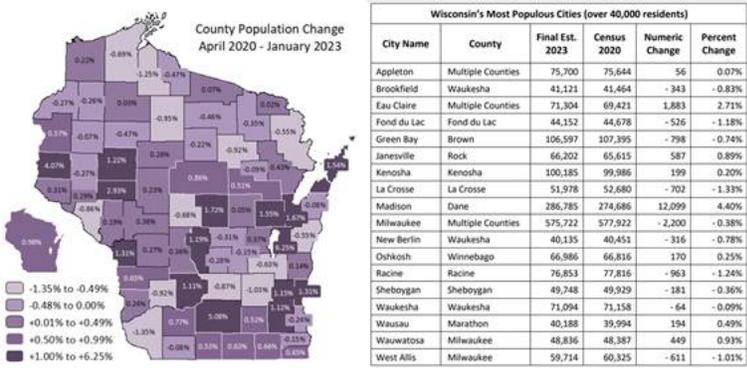
**CITY UPDATES:** Here's some news from around the city.

**2024 Budget Development Continues:** This past week, we held a public hearing and a work session on the 2024 budget. This included an overview of the finances, along with a list of changes we are proposing in the 2024 budget. We also shared accomplishments from 2023 and goals for 2024. Please find the material here: [Budget | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#) We welcome you to join the conversation at a second public hearing on the budget, which is scheduled for Monday, November 13th

**Seventh Biggest City:** This week, the Wisconsin Department of Administration released final population estimates for counties and municipalities as of January 1st, 2023. The City of Eau Claire and Eau Claire County continue to show strong growth: This document provides the most basic summary: [https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/Final\\_Ests\\_Summary\\_2023.pdf](https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/Final_Ests_Summary_2023.pdf)

The City of Eau Claire, according to this estimate, has now passed the City of Waukesha, to become the seventh largest city in the State of Wisconsin. Compared to the 2020 Census, the City of Eau Claire has gained 1,883 residents, a 2.71 percent increase, second only to Madison in both numerical gain and percentage increase for cities above 40,000 people in the state. Perhaps even more interesting, there isn't a single other city above 40,000 people that grew by even 1 percent during this period, and most cities (10 of the 18) above 40,000 people actually lost population during this period. Note that the City of Altoona has had incredible growth between

the 2020 Census and January 1st, 2023: An increase of 1,027 people, or 12.38 percent! (Thank you to Council Member Gragert for creating this summary).



**COVID-19 Continues to be High:** As of this week, COVID-19 activity in Eau Claire remained higher than in previous months, according to wastewater data. Right now, the amount of COVID being found in Eau Claire's wastewater remains at a "very high" level (on a scale of very low to very high). The updated fall COVID vaccine is in the process of being made available to the public. As it's being distributed to vaccinators, vaccine supply is temporarily limited, and appointment availability will vary from provider to provider. We expect availability to increase soon and vaccine appointments to become widely available in Eau Claire County in the coming weeks.

People who have health insurance should plan to get the vaccine at their doctor's office or local pharmacy. Most health insurance plans will fully cover the cost of getting the fall COVID vaccine at an in-network provider. The Health Department is not offering mass COVID vaccination clinics this fall, but people who don't have health insurance or people whose insurance doesn't cover vaccinations can get a fall COVID vaccine at the Health Department at no cost through the federal Bridge to Access Program. For those who are uninsured or those whose health insurance doesn't cover vaccinations, please call us at 715-839-4718 to schedule a vaccination appointment. Not sure if you're up to date on your COVID vaccines? [Find out here.](#)

Another round of free mail-order COVID tests is now available! Every household can place an order to get four rapid home tests delivered for free to their home. To order, visit [www.covid.gov/tests](http://www.covid.gov/tests) or call 1-800-232-0233. You can sign up to get these emails directly if you are interested. Please do not hesitate to contact our department if you are interested in more information: [ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:ehealth@eauclairecounty.gov) or through our general phone number: 715-839-4718.

**Voices of the Valley:** Students from a CVTC class recently presented stories of immigration, including stories of their homelands, their moves to the United States, and their lives in Eau Claire. They had worked with an English Language Instructor from CVTC, Alyssa Hedenstrom,

to refine the stories and compile them to share. You can read all of their stories here: [CVTC Blog | Chippewa Valley Technical College](#)

### CVTC BLOG ARTICLES



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
EMINE AKIN TUNALI



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
OUMOU TANGARA



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
KEUM HEE (ROSA) CHOI

The event, called "CVTC Voices of the Valley," was held at the Library. Deputy City Manager Dave Solberg and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator Dr. Ka Vang also shared comments on immigration. Here's the text of Ka and Dave's comments:

#### **From Dr. Ka Vang (EDI Coordinator)**

“As a refugee myself, I am so excited to support the Voices of the Valley event tonight. The promise of new opportunities and brighter future was enough to entice my parents to make the decision to bring our whole family to America in 1979, after the Secret War in Laos. As we continue to embrace our new home and carve our path, I will never forget the sacrifices my parents made so that I can be here.

There is a common theme from Voices of the Valley: Immigrant Stories from Students of Chippewa Valley Technical College -- leaving everything you know behind and learning to adjust to:

- new home,
- new country,
- new people,
- new customs,
- new, new, ect.,

all for various reasons... like leaving due to war and violence or leaving because of a love connection.

Just know that what you have written in this collection is not finished. Your journey just started. There will be more to your story. I encourage you to continue to document and write your story. Leave your footprint here in the Chippewa Valley for generations to come. Your stories and your voices add to the richness of The City of Eau Claire. Thank you for choosing to make the Chippewa Valley your home.”

#### **From Dave Solberg (Deputy City Manager)**

“As a father of two immigrants and a staff member of the City of Eau Claire, I wanted to express how important the immigrant community is to western Wisconsin, the City of Eau Claire, and myself personally. A diverse community is a strong community. The fabric of who we are as a society is made up of so many different colors, shapes, sizes, and fabrics...it’s the diversity of everyone that makes us a colorful, strong, vibrant community. Reading the stories in the collection, it is also striking how similar the stories are to everyday life in our area. We’re all humans with stories to tell.

It is common for students going on to secondary education and young adults entering the workforce to struggle with the transition...now consider attempting this while learning the English language at the same time. The achievements that they have made are remarkable given their challenges. Their achievements are testaments to their hard work, character, resilience, and desire to make themselves better and make us all better. In fact, these are the exact qualities we look for in employees at the City, and I hope a number of our new friends consider bringing their diversity and talents to our organization!”

**QUESTION AND ANSWERS:** Here are some questions that have come through the City Manager’s Office this week. *Have a question you’d like answered? [Submit it here.](#)*

### **Traffic Law Enforcement**

Question: “How does the Police Department handle traffic enforcement?”

Answer: Chief Matt Rokus shared the following information: “Resident concerns about speeding and traffic safety are frequently shared with us. Concerns related to speed and traffic safety are triaged and prioritized amongst other types of issues and complaints, such as burglaries, car prowlers, drug houses, quality of life issues associated with homelessness, loud parties, underage alcohol consumption, and others.

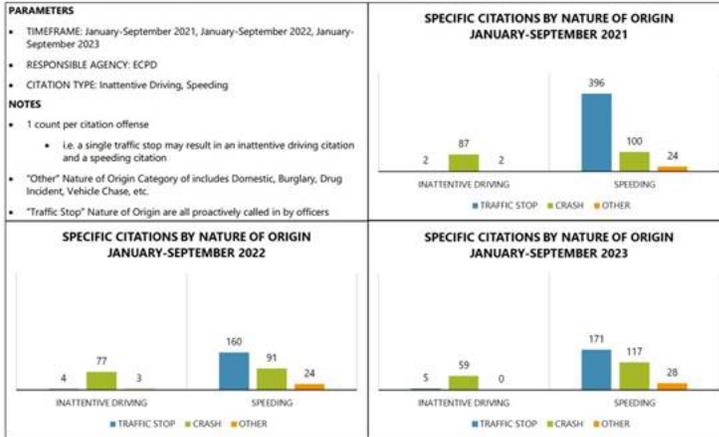
Our Patrol Officers and their supervisors do their best to prioritize proactive traffic safety efforts in geographic areas where we have more crashes, as determined by data analysis, resident complaints, and officer observations. To provide the proactive focus, we allocate officer time to enforcement in the target areas. However, their time available is limited given the percent of time they are obligated responding to calls for service.

The table below contains some basic information related to traffic citations. The two main categories of traffic enforcement come from two types of incidents -- proactive traffic stops or enforcement following traffic-related incidents, most likely crashes.”



**SPECIFIC CITATIONS BY NATURE OF ORIGIN**  
JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2021-2023

CITATION TYPE	JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2021			JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2022			JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2023		
	TRAFFIC STOP	CRASH	OTHER	TRAFFIC STOP	CRASH	OTHER	TRAFFIC STOP	CRASH	OTHER
INATTENTIVE DRIVING	2	87	2	4	77	3	5	59	0
SPEEDING	396	100	24	160	91	24	171	117	28



## Trick-or-Treating

Question: “Will the City share information about trick-or-treating protocols?”

Answer: Media and Communications Specialist Tess Morgan shared: “The City of Eau Claire does not designate official tick-or-treat hours for the community. Aside from some safety reminders for kids and motorists, and helping to publicize the DECI Downtown event, we don’t post about Halloween. In the past, individual neighborhoods have chosen to hold their own events when it’s convenient for their area, but otherwise it’s generally understood that trick-or-treating occurs on the holiday itself, October 31st, with the hours of 5-7:30PM still being relatively light out and therefor safer for kids to be visiting neighbors.”

## Park Planning

Question: “Could a park be changed significantly without a public planning process?”

Answer: Our Parks Manager, Steve Plaza, shared the following feedback: “Any proposed changes to parks go through a planning process that includes review by nearby neighborhoods, the Waterways and Parks Commission, and the City Council. In general, park developments try to follow the parks and open space master plan, which will be updated this year. The purpose of the plan is described on page 11:

‘Parks and recreation programs and services are important to the overall quality of life and Eau Claire Parks, Recreation, and Forestry plays an integral role in the quality of life of all of Eau Claire’s citizens and visitors. The purpose of the System Master Plan is to serve as a guide for all programming, services, and operations of the department. Further, the System Master Plan will provide insight into ongoing industry trends and changes within the community, serve to assess

levels of service provided to the community, evaluate available resources, and develop a prioritized action plan approved by the City Manager and City Council.”

**EAUSTAT NEWS:** The City holds weekly meetings with departments to talk about their data, their goals, and any challenges they may be facing. This program is called "EauStat". Read on below for some data from the meetings we held this week.

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** This past week, we held an EDI EauStat meeting at which we discussed the many big projects underway in this department. We are sad to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley.

Starting Monday, Ka will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, CVTC, other community organizations, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited an EDI Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy. Ka is pictured below (on the left) with a student tour.

Please spread the word about our search for our next EDI Coordinator! [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) This person will have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive.



**Human Resources:** This past week, we held an HR EauStat meeting. In our EauStat meetings, we talk about the work that the HR Department does. One of their main duties is to recruit, hire, and work to retain employees. With the current labor shortage and dramatic increase in wages due to inflation, municipalities have been struggling to recruit and retain employees. Our HR Department has done a great job trying to manage these challenges. We regularly monitor the number of recruitments underway (see image below for our numbers for 2023 YTD). The bulk of our recruitments are for the numerous seasonal employees we have, and this takes a lot of effort, however, it also provides a critical service to constituents, while also helping to mentor many

young people. We are working to develop and monitor a “retention rate” metric, as we work to identify metrics for all of our departments. Also, we are working with a consultant to create an “Employer of Choice” plan to try to increase retention and quality of life for our employees.

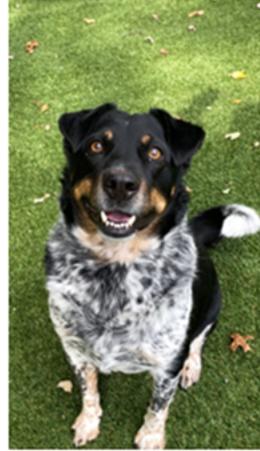
# Positions Filled	# Filled Internally	# Filled Externally
264	129	135

**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:** We have the best employees! Get to know one of them this week. (And [submit your suggestion for an employee to spotlight here...](#))

Today we highlight **Renae Casper**. A co-worker said this about Renae: “Renae answers lot of tough questions from residents, many of whom are animated, and answers them politely and with aplomb. Renae has also worked very hard with her predecessor, Rebecca Draeger, to put on employee appreciation events. The employee appreciation lunch was a big success and even brought in some retired employees. The cornhole tournament was also a hit. Renae has also helped fill in for her coworkers when they are absent and is very reliable.”

Here’s some more information about Renae (pictured below with her family and dog):

- Your Position: “I am one of two Administrative Associates for the Engineering Department. I’ve been with the city since January of this year.”
- Something People May Not Know: “I was born and lived in Cheyenne, WY until I was nine years old.
- Favorite Activity: “I enjoy traveling, going to Minnesota sporting events, attending music festivals and concerts. I enjoy playing volleyball and attending CrossFit classes.”
- Thing about Working for City: “I love that I am proud of where I work. Everyone here does what they can day in and day out to really make Eau Claire thrive. I also feel that I am supported in any decisions that I make and that my co-workers genuinely care about my well-being, both personally and professionally.”
- Life Philosophy: “Always be kind. You never know who you are talking to.”
- Anything else? “I am obsessed with dogs, so feel free to stop by with yours to say hello!”



## **SHOUT-OUTS**

**Creative Problem Solving:** Our Streets Division does not get as many shout-outs as they deserve, in part because the work they do is more specialized and behind-the-scenes than some other divisions. Here's an awesome shout-out to a team from the Streets Division that captures how creative they are in finding technical solutions in our budget-constrained environment. Read about both the original, unique, way to clean the street sweeper and then the much-improved method that our very skilled tradespeople built...

Community Services Director Lane Berg wrote:

“I want to share some work that was done by our Street Division recently that I am extremely proud of. I am continually amazed by the vast skill set of our employees and this is a shining example of that!

Some of our street sweepers have a ‘not so great’ system for washing them out at the end of a shift. It requires operating a fire hydrant and discharging water onto the pavement. The sweeper must drive over the wet pavement and vacuum up the water. The load of water and debris is then dumped and the process is repeated until the machine is deemed clean. As you can imagine, this is an inefficient system and is also disruptive to any neighboring properties.

Our employees reached out to supervisor Tim Anderson to see if they could work on coming up with a better system, and they were granted approval. The group was led by Jeff Wilczek, who sought input from many of his co-workers. The team developed a concept, designed the system, and built it with no help from outside contractors or designers, thus saving the City thousands of dollars. The new system (shown in pictures below) is a station that the sweeper backs into. A ball valve is opened which floods the basin, and the sweeper vacuums up the water. The water is then turned off, a drain valve is opened for the basin, and the sweeper dumps the water and debris, while remaining in the same location, and the contents drain to a holding pond. The

process can be repeated, if necessary, in just a couple minutes. This system is so efficient and will save time for years to come at no disruption to residents.

I am so incredibly proud of this for several reasons. We had a system that was not very functional, and our employees wanted to improve it. We have so many talented people, and they were allowed to use their skills and knowledge to make this happen. All involved were able to voice their opinions, and the final design reflected this input.

Special thanks to this group of talented people: Tim Anderson, Jeff Wilczek, Rich Bauer, Don Diesterhaft, Ryan Yule, Paul Rosolack, Brady Johnson, Jake Clauson, Joel Thompson, Cory Wright, Justin Meinen, Jericho Jurewicz, and John Rademacher.”



**Water Plant Kudos:** On September 20<sup>th</sup>, the Sustainability Advisory Committee held their monthly meeting at the Water Plant. City staff gave them an in-depth tour of the facility and showed them some of the sustainable features that have been added recently. Staff and the Committee had a great dialogue and used the opportunity to discuss ideas for improved sustainability in the future. Truly a great collaborative effort!

Pictured L to R: Ben Spanel, (Utilities Manager), Cole Cloutier, (Utilities Engineer), Cameron Bump, Brian Graff, James Schumacher, Janis Tyler, Gary Pesicka (Committee Members) and Joe Dahl, (Water Plant Supervisor).



## **COUNCIL CALENDAR**

- Monday, October 23rd: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night
- Tuesday, October 24th: Council Meeting (City Council Operating Budget Work Session #4 – Amendment Discussion)
- *November 3rd – City Council Budget Amendments Due*
- Monday, November 6th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion (with Housing Study presentation)
- Monday, November 13th: Council Public Hearing/Discussion Night (Public Hearing #2 on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget)
- Tuesday, November 14th: Council Meeting (City Council action on 2024 Proposed Operating Budget and levy)
- Monday, December 18th: Joint Plan Commission and City Council Meeting for Zoning Overhaul Discussion

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## CVTC BLOG ARTICLES



**VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
EMINE AKIN TUNALI**



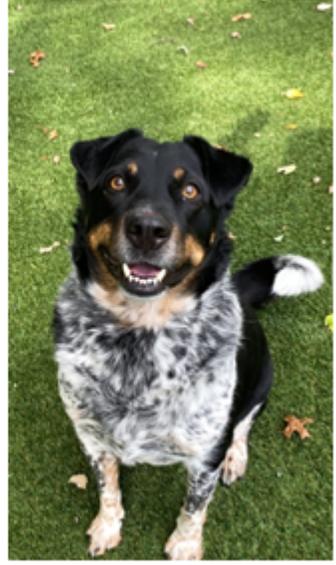
**VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
OUMOUM TANGARA**



**VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
KEUM HEE (ROSA) CHOI**

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**CVTC BLOG ARTICLES**



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
EMINE AKIN TUNALI



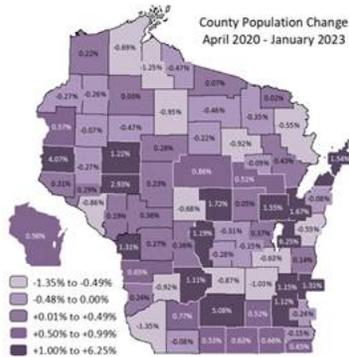
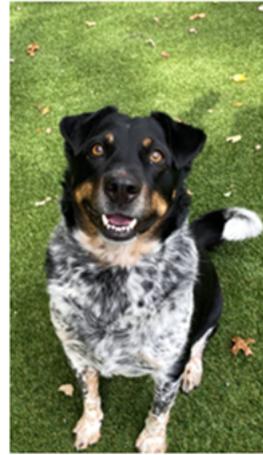
VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
OUMOUM TANGARA



VOICES OF THE VALLEY: MEET  
KEUM HEE (ROSA) CHOI

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Wisconsin's Most Populous Cities (over 40,000 residents)					
City Name	County	Final Est. 2023	Census 2020	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Appleton	Multiple Counties	75,700	75,644	56	0.07%
Brookfield	Waukesha	41,121	41,464	-343	-0.83%
Eau Claire	Multiple Counties	71,304	69,421	1,883	2.71%
Fond du Lac	Fond du Lac	44,152	44,678	-526	-1.18%
Green Bay	Brown	106,597	107,395	-798	-0.74%
Janesville	Rock	66,202	65,615	587	0.89%
Kenosha	Kenosha	100,185	99,986	199	0.20%
La Crosse	La Crosse	51,978	52,680	-702	-1.33%
Madison	Dane	286,785	274,686	12,099	4.40%
Milwaukee	Multiple Counties	575,722	577,922	-2,200	-0.38%
New Berlin	Waukesha	40,135	40,451	-316	-0.78%
Ozaukee	Winnebago	66,966	66,816	170	0.25%
Racine	Racine	76,853	77,816	-963	-1.24%
Sheboygan	Sheboygan	49,748	49,929	-181	-0.36%
Waukesha	Waukesha	71,094	71,158	-64	-0.09%
Wausau	Marathon	40,188	39,994	194	0.49%
Wauwatosa	Milwaukee	48,836	48,387	449	0.93%
West Allis	Milwaukee	59,714	60,325	-611	-1.01%



14:56:21 -0500  
Content-Type: application/ms-tnef; name="winmail.dat"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: binary  
From: Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
To: City Employees <CityEmployees@eauclairewi.gov>, 'Tegan Ruland'  
<Tegan.Ruland@eauclairecounty.gov>, 'Kimberly Hennings'  
<kimberlyh@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
Subject: City Manager's Weekly Update 10/13/2023: Regional Growth, Creative  
Problem Solving, Covid Updates  
Thread-Topic: City Manager's Weekly Update 10/13/2023: Regional Growth,  
Creative Problem Solving, Covid Updates  
Thread-Index: Adn+DWwBKv7Ur0nsQamhV5eYSX0n7A==  
Date: Fri, 13 Oct 2023 14:56:21 -0500  
Message-ID: <56ac0be8f7774338aad53a2a807c0ec4@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
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X-MS-TNEF-Correlator: <56ac0be8f7774338aad53a2a807c0ec4@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
X-Originating-IP: [172.20.1.191]  
Return-Path: Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov  
X-Auto-Response-Suppress: DR, OOF, AutoReply

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 14:17:55 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "atkins77@gmail.com" <atkins77@gmail.com>;  
"tamishabutler@gmail.com" <tamishabutler@gmail.com>;  
"3davism.d@gmail.com" <3davism.d@gmail.com>; "antoinehill@yahoo.com"  
<antoinehill@yahoo.com>; "jacksosm@uwec.edu" <jacksosm@uwec.edu>;  
"legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com"  
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"clindstrom6@cvtc.edu" <clindstrom6@cvtc.edu>; "khp\_95@hotmail.com"  
<khp\_95@hotmail.com>; "efren.martinez@icloud.com"  
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"stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org" <stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org>;  
"addison.vang@wisc.edu" <addison.vang@wisc.edu>; "vuenc123@hotmail.com"  
<vuenc123@hotmail.com>; "cpwoods jr@gmail.com" <cpwoods jr@gmail.com>;  
"larkong@hmongchamber.org" <larkong@hmongchamber.org>;  
"angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com" <angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com>; "Dang Yang"  
<dyang1@ecasd.us>; "Berlye Middleton" <middletonberlye@gmail.com>;  
"Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Kavang37@yahoo.com" <Kavang37@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** EDI Position and Interview Committee - Please consider  
applying or serving on interview panel

Hello BIPOC Committee –

I know Ka reached out, and here's a follow-up note. As Ka mentioned, she has moved over to manage the World Relief agency that just moved to Eau Claire. More about Ka's time at the City and about her new role is below.

I'm writing to ask two things...

**Spread the Word:** First, with Ka's transition, the EDI Coordinator position is now open and accepting applications through 10/22. Please consider applying yourself and/or spread the word about the opening. More information is here: [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) Our EDI Coordinator will continue to have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive. We have the \$810K set aside to spend on transforming the Chippewa Valley to work on these goals. As City Manager, I consider this work one of my highest priorities, and I'm committed to being part of the EDI team, along with other staff, at every step. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions!

**Serve on Selection Committee:** Next, if you are not interested in applying, would you consider serving on the interview committee? The interviews will be held on Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Depending on the number of candidates, they will last several hours. Please let me know if you're willing!

Thanks in advance for considering these requests!

Stephanie

\*\*

More about Dr. Ka Vang & Position...

**Farewell to Ka and Position Open:** We are sad to say farewell to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley. Starting Monday, Ka has started work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

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**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 14:25:34 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] please send out meeting invites to BIPOC Com for upcoming mtg for oct

---

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 2:24 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] please send out meeting invites to BIPOC Com for upcoming mtg for oct

Anoosheh,

Thanks for showing up for today's WR partners meeting.

Can you send out a meeting invite to all BIPOC Committee including facilitators about meeting for Oct. They all asking for that meeting invite. It also serves as a reminder for them.

Thanks,

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**  
Site Manager  
World Relief Wisconsin  
Chippewa Valley  
[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 14:43:04 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Ka's email to BIPOC

**From:** Dang Yang <dangyang3631@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 2:28 PM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: BIPOC Steering Committee updates

Anoosheh,

I finally got back to my office and here is the email that Ka sent to the BIPOC Steering Committee, announcing her departure. Let me know if you need anything else. Thank you!

--Dang Yang  
[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Ka Vang** <[Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 11, 2023 at 1:03 PM  
**Subject:** BIPOC Steering Committee updates  
**To:** [atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com) <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>, [tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com) <[tamishabutler@gmail.com](mailto:tamishabutler@gmail.com)>, [3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com) <[3davism.d@gmail.com](mailto:3davism.d@gmail.com)>, [antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com) <[antoinehill@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinehill@yahoo.com)>, [jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu) <[jacksosm@uwec.edu](mailto:jacksosm@uwec.edu)>, [legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com) <[legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com](mailto:legacyhairandbeautysupply@gmail.com)>, [jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu) <[jdjones@uwec.edu](mailto:jdjones@uwec.edu)>, [leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu) <[leemai@uwec.edu](mailto:leemai@uwec.edu)>, [clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu) <[clindstrom6@cvtc.edu](mailto:clindstrom6@cvtc.edu)>, [khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com) <[khp\\_95@hotmail.com](mailto:khp_95@hotmail.com)>, [efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com) <[efren.martinez@icloud.com](mailto:efren.martinez@icloud.com)>, [emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us) <[emitchell@ecasd.us](mailto:emitchell@ecasd.us)>, [stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org) <[stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:stephens.leslie@marshfieldclinic.org)>, [addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu) <[addison.vang@wisc.edu](mailto:addison.vang@wisc.edu)>, [vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com) <[vuenc123@hotmail.com](mailto:vuenc123@hotmail.com)>, [cpwoodsjr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoodsjr@gmail.com) <[cpwoodsjr@gmail.com](mailto:cpwoodsjr@gmail.com)>, [larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org) <[larkong@hmongchamber.org](mailto:larkong@hmongchamber.org)>, [angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com) <[angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com](mailto:angelaxiong2000@yahoo.com)>  
**Cc:** [dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com) <[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)>, Berlye Middleton <[middletonberlye@gmail.com](mailto:middletonberlye@gmail.com)>

All,

I wanted to let you know that the BIPOC Steering Committee now has a website:

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/government/our-departments/administrative-services/edi-equity-diversity-inclusion/bipoc-steering-committee>

This is where you can find all the meeting agendas, packets, minutes and more. Check it out when you get a chance!

I also wanted to let you know that I have decided to leave my position with The City of Eau Claire. Friday, Oct. 13 will be my last day. I will transition to work with World Relief to support new refugees/immigrants coming to Eau Claire. So the good news is I'm not going far, literally across the river ☺.

It's been a pleasure working with all of you. Thank you for doing this work.

The committee will continue as planned: large meeting 1x month, last Thursdays of the month and other subcommittees as organized by you all. Next large meeting is Oct. 26, 6:30pm in the North Conference Room at City Hall.

By the way, my position will be posted soon and I encourage you to apply if interested.

Ua tsaug (Thank you),

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

**Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Coordinator**

City of Eau Claire

203 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

715-839-4942

[Ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Ka.vang@eauclairewi.gov)

<https://www.eauclairewi.gov/>



--

**Dang Yang (he/him/his)**

[dangyang3631@gmail.com](mailto:dangyang3631@gmail.com)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Wed, 18 Oct 2023 20:35:21 +0000  
**To:** "stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov"  
<stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Stephanie,

Just wanted to run this idea by you, would it be a good idea for WR to say a few words at Monday's council meeting?

Let me know your thoughts.

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)



Population: 71,304

For more information on elections, see:  
[myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov)

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** Steve Nick <[Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov)>; Nicholas Koerner <[Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Dave Solberg <[dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan <[Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Adding an Agenda Item on World Relief

Hi all –

It's my understanding that some stakeholders have asked what the City's role is in bringing World Relief to Eau Claire, and there may be some efforts to protest the plan to have refugees move to Eau Claire. Would it be possible to add an agenda item for next Tuesday that allows the Council to affirm support for welcoming refugees (and any other residents, like students, remote workers, people moving from small Wisconsin towns, etc.) to Eau Claire? As far as I know, there's no formal way for a City to either cause people to move to town or to exclude people from moving to town, but I think it would be helpful to have the Council symbolically affirm support. I'm here in Green Bay with Emily B and she is supportive of doing what we can. You may have already sorted this out, but if not, let me know what you think!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 08:16:14 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann" <andwerth@gmail.com>; "Larry Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.  
Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701



**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 13:47:20 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Ok sounds good. We just wanted to make sure council and others get the facts. That plan will work for us.

FYI, I really liked what you wrote about me so I hope it's ok for me to borrow your words in a WR press release. It would like something like the following:

World Relief announced **Dr. Ka Vang** as the new **Chippewa Valley site manager**. A 25-year resident of Eau Claire, Vang has 20 + years of experience working in higher education where she advocated for and supported students who are low-income, first generation, and/or underrepresented. "My whole family and I came to the US in 1979 as refugees after the Secret War ended in Laos," said Vang. "My refugee experience greatly shaped my whole life, and I feel called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching this community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship."

--good chance this will go out today

New director?

Ka

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 7:29 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Hi Ka – Because the agenda for next week is already worked out, we're thinking that a Council member who attends next week's WR meeting can share updates on it. Then, later on, we can do a resolution or proclamation welcoming the refugees. How does that sound?

p.s. Would you like to be on the interview committee for the new director?

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:35 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Stephanie,

Just wanted to run this idea by you, would it be a good idea for WR to say a few words at Monday's council meeting?

Let me know your thoughts.

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**

Site Manager

World Relief Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 14:11:45 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Yes the public rhetoric is discouraging. Do you think we should notify the police about the community gathering meeting on Monday?

Please keep us in the loop if there are other safety concerns. We are aware of a group that's meeting later today. The organizer – Scott Bolstad was at the partner's meeting yesterday and he expressed some of the rhetoric. We tried our best to provide accurate information for him. Tami reached out to him if he thinks Tami and I should attend the meeting to answer any questions. His response was that we would be welcome, but we are reviewing the situation first before doing anything.

Ka

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:59 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Love it! I'm happy you are in this job, and also so discouraged by the public rhetoric and a bit worried about your safety.

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:47 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Ok sounds good. We just wanted to make sure council and others get the facts. That plan will work for us.

FYI, I really liked what you wrote about me so I hope it's ok for me to borrow your words in a WR press release. It would like something like the following:

World Relief announced **Dr. Ka Vang** as the new **Chippewa Valley site manager**. A 25-year resident of Eau Claire, Vang has 20 + years of experience working in higher education where she advocated for and supported students who are low-income, first generation, and/or underrepresented. "My whole family and I came to the US in 1979 as refugees after the Secret War ended in Laos," said Vang. "My refugee experience greatly shaped my whole life, and I feel called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching this community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship."

--good chance this will go out today

New director?

Ka

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 7:29 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Hi Ka – Because the agenda for next week is already worked out, we're thinking that a Council member who attends next week's WR meeting can share updates on it. Then, later on, we can do a resolution or proclamation welcoming the refugees. How does that sound?

p.s. Would you like to be on the interview committee for the new director?

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:35 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Stephanie,

Just wanted to run this idea by you, would it be a good idea for WR to say a few words at Monday's council meeting?

Let me know your thoughts.

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**  
Site Manager  
World Relief Wisconsin  
Chippewa Valley  
[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Joshua Miller" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 10:20:28 -0500  
**To:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Community Gathering  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-1669577877655b988a69f-eda6-4b6a-850b-bdf0ccbcb17d.png, OutlookEmoji-16695778776554c6f8599-a515-4030-a5c0-ae8f8b6b91f.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765511ee105e-32ca-4a3e-b791-52384c65906d.png

Anoosheh,

I plan on attending the meeting. In case you hadn't seen it, here is the registration page:

<https://worldrelief.org/wisconsin/who-is-my-neighbor-community-gathering/>

Thanks,

**Joshua Miller**  
**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** Anoosheh Hamzehee  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:16:14 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Emily Anderson; Charles Johnson; Andrew Werthmann; Andrew Werthmann; Larry Mboga; Roderick Jones; Joshua Miller; Jill Christopherson; Jessica Schoen; Kate Felton; Jeremy Gragert; Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** World Relief Community Gathering

Good morning,

World Relief is having a Community Gathering for the Chippewa Valley Community at large the evening of October 23 at the library.

Would you please let me know if you're planning to attend? This is for the purpose of Public Notices.

Thank you,

**Anoosheh Hamzehee**

**Associate Analyst**

P: 715-839-4902

E: [Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWI.gov)

203 S. Farwell St., Eau Claire, WI. 54701

**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 11:55:10 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?

Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm 1 <meyersdm 1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>; Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>; Larry Hoekstra <Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook <dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson <steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk <Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren <Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto <nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy <Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell <connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar <nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch <David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue <Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning

<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin Leary  
<robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather DeLuka  
<heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi Lepsch  
<Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle Johnson  
<Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>

**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents.

I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

I was told that it could be as short as two weeks before refugees start arriving. Please be warned: NO "VETTING" can possibly take place as you cannot vet anyone from a country that doesn't have a functioning government nor from known terrorist areas. When I inquired about UST

(United States Ties) forms from the refugees, I was told that the refugees would not have those forms nor ties.

What you do in Eau Claire affects so much more than your area. Please do all you can to demand the required forms through [8 U.S. Code § 1522 - Authorization for programs for domestic resettlement of and assistance to refugees](#) and read [The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 \(The McCarran-Walter Act\)](#)

Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting,  
October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Tj" <atkins77@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:01:10 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

I'd love to be on the panel, but that date I believe is the 31st and I am booked that day.

Thanks,  
TJ

On Thu, Oct 19, 2023 at 8:32 AM Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

I understand! Any interest in being on the panel again? Could be an annual gig for you! ☐

**From:** Tj <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 9:16 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you again for the compliment and opportunity!!! However, I am quite content with where I am at, but thank you for thinking of me.

TJ

On Thu, Oct 12, 2023, 3:28 PM Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Hi TJ –

I know that many people have asked you this, including me the last time around! ☐ But I thought I'd add another ask to the list... They say that women need to be asked like 10 times to run for office, and I'm using that same theory here.

Our amazing Ka is going on to run the new World Relief program. We need someone brave, brilliant, strong, savvy, determined to spearhead these EDI projects. We have the \$800K set aside to spend on transforming the Chippewa Valley and it's pretty much the number one thing on my priority list. I hope you'll consider applying for the position! ☐

Stephanie

\*\*

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** This past week, we held an EDI EauStat meeting at which we discussed the many big projects underway in this department. We are sad to say farewell to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley.

Starting Monday, Ka will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, CVTC, other community organizations, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited an EDI Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has

taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy.

Please spread the word about our search for our next EDI Coordinator! [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator | Job Details tab | Career Pages \(governmentjobs.com\)](#) This person will have a very significant impact on our efforts to ensure that Eau Claire is inclusive and a place where everyone can thrive.

**Stephanie Hirsch**

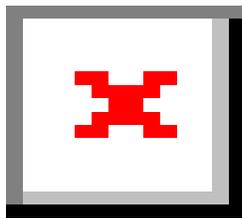
**City Manager**

**City of Eau Claire**

**203 S Farwell Street**

**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**

**Office: 715-839-6045**



--  
T.J. Atkins

CHH Inc Board of Directors- Secretary  
Dairyland Housing Coalition- Interim Secretary  
Downtown Eau Claire Inc. -Treasurer  
United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley Board Member  
Agnes Table and Community Center Board Member  
Eau Claire Health Alliance Mental Health Action Team- Co-Chair  
Rotary of Eau Claire member  
ClearWater Kiwanis member  
Suicide Prevention workgroup Co-Chair  
Eau Claire Chamber Leadership Eau Claire Volunteerism and Human Services-Co-  
Chair

Not Fragile like a flower, but like a bomb.-RBG

**From:** "Jill Christopherson" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:06:03 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Fyi

Jill Christopherson  
District 4, Eau Claire Westside  
[715-271-2489](tel:715-271-2489)

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Please stop the establishment of the World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire. I personally called several offices at the county government center, and none claimed to have knowledge of the legally required meetings World Relief is required to conduct, including local residents. I also called the City of Eau Claire, and the clerk had no knowledge of meetings that might have taken place.

When I spoke with Karen Krisler of World Relief, she stated that the required meetings took place this spring. When I asked With whom? She didn't know. She provided Tami McLaughlin's e-mail and phone for me to inquire, so I left a voicemail and e-mail with McLaughlin, and she has not returned either. The Fox Valley World Relief representatives were supposed to have been at the Eau Claire office Wednesday through Friday to set up their offices in Eau Claire.

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Attend the meeting tonight with Ron Branstner and Susan Tully.

Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)  
1600 Star Avenue

Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

I have spoken to the local elected officials and no one seems to know where this is coming from. We believe this may have come from the Governor's office. Once they open the office, they will resettle refugees up to 100 miles from Eau Claire, which is why you are getting this. On Thursday, 19 October at 7:00 pm we are holding an information meeting at the VFW Post 305, 1600 Star Ave in Eau Claire, WI. Ron Branstner who has been in this fight for over 20 years and Susan Tully of the Federation of American Immigration Reform will be speaking.

Several years ago, an initiative to resettle 150 Syrians was proposed, when the residents voiced their opposition, they decided not to settle them. The proposal calls for the resettlement of 75 refugees during 2024, but we do not know what that number looks like in the following years when they are up and fully operational. Then each refugee can bring in family members through the family reunification program otherwise known as chain migration.

Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
[715-497-4359](tel:715-497-4359)

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Tj" <atkins77@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 12:17:07 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

Ugh I am booked that day too :-(

On Thu, Oct 19, 2023 at 12:10 PM Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

It's the 30<sup>th</sup> if that helps! ☐

**From:** Tj <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 12:01 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

I'd love to be on the panel, but that date I believe is the 31st and I am booked that day.

Thanks,

TJ

On Thu, Oct 19, 2023 at 8:32 AM Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

I understand! Any interest in being on the panel again? Could be an annual gig for you! ☐

**From:** Tj <[atkins77@gmail.com](mailto:atkins77@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 9:16 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: EDI Coordinator

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you again for the compliment and opportunity!!! However, I am quite content with where I am at, but thank you for thinking of me.

TJ

On Thu, Oct 12, 2023, 3:28 PM Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov)> wrote:

Hi TJ –

I know that many people have asked you this, including me the last time around! ☐ But I thought I'd add another ask to the list... They say that women need to be asked like 10 times to run for office, and I'm using that same theory here.

Our amazing Ka is going on to run the new World Relief program. We need someone brave, brilliant, strong, savvy, determined to spearhead these EDI projects. We have the \$800K set aside to spend on transforming the Chippewa Valley and it's pretty much the number one thing on my priority list. I hope you'll consider applying for the position! ☐

Stephanie

\*\*

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** This past week, we held an EDI EauStat meeting at which we discussed the many big projects underway in this department. We are sad to say farewell to say farewell to Dr. Ka Vang who has served as our Equity, Diversity, and

Inclusion Coordinator for nearly the past year. We are, though, proud and excited about the next role she is taking on as she continues EDI work in the Chippewa Valley.

Starting Monday, Ka will work on rolling out the new World Relief Wisconsin Refugee Resettlement agency. She'll be just across the river on Madison Street, so we expect to see and work with Ka and her team often. As a child, Ka's family moved to the United States and eventually to Eau Claire. Her refugee experience greatly shaped her whole life, and she feels called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching our community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship.

While at the City of Eau Claire, Ka has created an internal EDI team, facilitated training among staff, hosted monthly internal EDI meetings, hosted groups from the university, CVTC, other community organizations, formed a BIPOC Steering Committee, gathered insights from leaders throughout the community, solicited an EDI Strategic Planning consultant, and much more. She has been a wonderful friend and co-worker, and she has taken on some of our City and society's biggest and most fraught challenges with grace, kindness, strength, and lots of fun. We'll miss Ka, and we are happy she's staying put in our community, continuing her path of spreading inclusion and joy.

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**City Manager**

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ClearWater Kiwanis member

Suicide Prevention workgroup Co-Chair

Eau Claire Chamber Leadership Eau Claire Volunteerism and Human Services-Co-Chair

Not Fragile like a flower, but like a bomb.-RBG

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**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 13:57:05 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Thanks Stephanie:

I have two Events I am attending tonight, so I am not able to make it.

I think the biggest concern I keep hearing is that refugees coming to the community will not be vetted. That is certainly not true. I do think strongly, pushing back on that and making sure people know the truth will help.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 19, 2023, at 12:39 PM, Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Hi Andrew - Looping in some others... we have been discussing this as well. Are you planning to go to tonight's meeting, Andrew? I know that Tami and Ka have been deliberating about whether or not to go. (If you do go, you could share your support and/or explain WR's vetting policy.)

Chief Rokus, do you have thoughts on safety? Dave may have more insight on this situation as well...

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**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:55 AM

**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

I also want to loop you in about this Stephanie. The speaker last week from Fire Dept was incredibly concerning, making irrational claims about refugees and the border and Hamas, and I see that that same fear is spreading. I told Ka about this and said security might be a smart idea for the opening of this next week.

Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Werthmann <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>

**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 11:49:32 AM CDT

**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Date:** October 19, 2023 at 10:53:42 AM CDT  
**To:** Andrew Werthmann  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: World Relief Refugee  
Resettlement office in Eau Claire

Any candlelight vigil outside this meeting or other actions you know of to show public disagreement with this line of thought? Or is it better to just ignore it?  
Kathie

Katherine Schneider  
District 22  
[katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov)

---

**From:** meyersdm 1 <meyersdm 1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** Todd Meyer <Todd.Meyer@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Amanda Babb <Amanda.Babb@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Stella Pagonis <stella.pagonis@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Larry Hoekstra  
<Larry.Hoekstra@eauclairecounty.gov>; Dane Zook  
<dane.zook@eauclairecounty.gov>; Steve Chilson  
<steve.chilson@eauclairecounty.gov>; Cory Sisk  
<Cory.Sisk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Allen Myren  
<Allen.Myren@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey  
<nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nathan Otto  
<nathan.otto@eauclairecounty.gov>; Brett Geboy  
<Brett.Geboy@eauclairecounty.gov>; Connie Russell  
<connie.russell@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nick Smiar  
<nick.smiar@eauclairecounty.gov>; David Hirsch

<David.Hirsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Thomas Vue  
<Thomas.Vue@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jim Dunning  
<jim.dunning@eauclairecounty.gov>; Gerald Wilkie  
<gerald.wilkie@eauclairecounty.gov>; John Folstad  
<John.Folstad@eauclairecounty.gov>; Mark Beckfield  
<mark.beckfield@eauclairecounty.gov>; Katherine  
Schneider  
<katherine.schneider@eauclairecounty.gov>; Robin  
Leary <robin.leary@eauclairecounty.gov>; Heather  
DeLuka <heather.deluka@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jodi  
Lepsch <Jodi.Lepsch@eauclairecounty.gov>; Tami  
Schraufnagel  
<tami.schraufnagel@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kyle  
Johnson <Kyle.Johnson@eauclairecounty.gov>;  
Kimberly Cronk  
<kimberly.cronk@eauclairecounty.gov>; Missy  
Christopherson  
<missy.christopherson@eauclairecounty.gov>

**Subject:** World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in  
Eau Claire

**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau  
Claire County. Do not click any links or  
attachments unless you know the sender.**

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Cordially, Darla Meyers, Hudson, Wisconsin

attachments (3) Former U.S. Rep. Duffy's letters to Obama, Trump and Larson

Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

[VFW Post 305](#)

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7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Please get this out to your membership. I believe this is something all of us can agree on and unite around. if you plan on attending please send me an email [bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Ka Vang" <kavang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 19:19:10 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Tami from the Fox Valley office will attend.  
Ka

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 2:16 PM  
**To:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Did you decide what to do about tonight?

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:11:45 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Yes the public rhetoric is discouraging. Do you think we should notify the police about the community gathering meeting on Monday?

Please keep us in the loop if there are other safety concerns. We are aware of a group that's meeting later today. The organizer – Scott Bolstad was at the partner's meeting yesterday and he expressed some of the rhetoric. We tried our best to provide accurate information for him. Tami reached out to him if he thinks Tami and I should attend the meeting to answer any questions. His response was that we would be welcome, but we are reviewing the situation first before doing anything.

Ka

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:59 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Love it! I'm happy you are in this job, and also so discouraged by the public rhetoric and a bit worried about your safety.

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:47 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Ok sounds good. We just wanted to make sure council and others get the facts. That plan will work for us.

FYI, I really liked what you wrote about me so I hope it's ok for me to borrow your words in a WR press release. It would like something like the following:

World Relief announced **Dr. Ka Vang** as the new **Chippewa Valley site manager**. A 25-year resident of Eau Claire, Vang has 20 + years of experience working in higher education where she advocated for and supported students who are low-income, first generation, and/or underrepresented. "My whole family and I came to the US in 1979 as refugees after the Secret War ended in Laos," said Vang. "My refugee experience greatly shaped my whole life, and I feel called to contribute to Eau Claire's continuing ability to welcome new generations of residents who will make Eau Claire their home, enriching this community with their talents, perspectives, and friendship."

--good chance this will go out today

New director?

Ka

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 7:29 AM  
**To:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Hi Ka – Because the agenda for next week is already worked out, we're thinking that a Council member who attends next week's WR meeting can share updates on it. Then, later on, we can do a resolution or proclamation welcoming the refugees. How does that sound?

p.s. Would you like to be on the interview committee for the new director?

---

**From:** Ka Vang <[KAVang@wr.org](mailto:KAVang@wr.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:35 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] WR at Monday's Council meeting

Stephanie,

Just wanted to run this idea by you, would it be a good idea for WR to say a few words at Monday's council meeting?

Let me know your thoughts.

**Ka Vang, Ed.D.**  
Site Manager  
World Relief Wisconsin  
Chippewa Valley

[worldrelief.org/wisconsin](http://worldrelief.org/wisconsin)

**From:** "Emily Anderson" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 15:40:03 -0500  
**To:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Ka Vang" <Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov>; "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief  
**Attachments:** 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to David Larson.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President Obama.pdf, 16.12.21 Syrian Refugee Letter to President-Elect Trump.pdf

Hi Matt,

Hello from Green Bay. I wanted to forward this meeting information about an event tonight. As you can see below, a group opposed to World Relief's resettlement of refugees in Eau Claire will be meeting VFW from 7-9 pm.

Given the emotionally charged tenor of some of the comments we've received on this topic, I'm a bit concerned.

Tonight, some advocates who support refugee settlement in Eau Claire, volunteers from the Welcoming New Neighbors Group, plan to attend the meeting at the VFW. Naturally there will be disagreement, but hopefully it is a productive, de-escalating conversation.

My questions are:

- 1 - Public safety. Would a police presence be advisable at the event tonight, and/or at the World Relief info event next week, or a future council public hearing? Is a public safety strategy something that needs to be considered on this topic?
2. Outreach. Would ECPD be a good, de-escalating "messenger" to the public in clarifying that people do not need to be afraid?

Thanks,  
Emily

**From:** meyersdm1 <meyersdm1@baldwin-telecom.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement office in Eau Claire

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Eau Claire, WI 54703 United States

7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ACTION-ITEM-TONIGHT--Informational-Meeting--World-Relief-Refugee-Office-opening-in-Eau-Claire--Wisconsin.html?soid=1129025763874&aid=57N3EOYLv9o>

**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:03:06 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

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## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



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**To:** Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

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**From:** Emily Anderson <[emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:40:03 PM  
**To:** Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang

<[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:55 AM

**To:** Emily Berge; Jessica Schoen; Emily Anderson; Jeremy Gragert; Jill Christopherson; Andrew Werthmann; Kate Felton; Roderick Jones; Larry Mboga; Joshua Miller; Charles Johnson

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Proposed Immigration Office Informational Meeting, October 19, 2023

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**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:07:20 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

I really think it will be ok. My hope is that the antiimmigration group is professional but determined in their belief but respectful. I've got 100% confidence in our PD.

**David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 4:04 PM  
**To:** Dave Solberg <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

Thank you!!

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:42 PM

**To:** Dave Solberg <[dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov)>

**Subject:** Fwd: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 3:40:03 PM

**To:** Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>

**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Ka Vang <[Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Ka.Vang@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Emily Berge <[emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com)>

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**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, 19 Oct 2023 16:21:57 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Fyi - time sensitive - Meeting tonight for opponents of refugees / World relief

Are any council members going to the meeting tonight?

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*Pronouns: he/him/his*

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Engineering Director & City Engineer

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Office: 715.839.4934

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Population: 71,304

For more information on elections, see:  
[myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov)

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** Steve Nick <[Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov)>; Nicholas Koerner <[Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Dave Solberg <[dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan <[Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
**Subject:** Adding an Agenda Item on World Relief

Hi all –

It's my understanding that some stakeholders have asked what the City's role is in bringing World Relief to Eau Claire, and there may be some efforts to protest the plan to have refugees move to Eau Claire. Would it be possible to add an agenda item for next Tuesday that allows the Council to affirm support for welcoming refugees (and any other residents, like students, remote workers, people moving from small Wisconsin towns, etc.) to Eau Claire? As far as I know, there's no formal way for a City to either cause people to move to town or to exclude people from moving to town, but I think it would be helpful to have the Council symbolically affirm support. I'm here in Green Bay with Emily B and she is supportive of doing what we can. You may have already sorted this out, but if not, let me know what you think!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri, 20 Oct 2023 14:27:56 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus"  
<Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Room\_CH\_Rivers" <Room\_CH\_Rivers@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Meet with Tami(WR)

Meet with Tami from World Relief before their Community meeting

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 13:44:58 -0500  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Jill Christopherson" <Jill.Christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Jessica Schoen" <Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Emily Anderson"  
<emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Kate Felton" <Kate.Felton@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Roderick Jones" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Larry  
Mboga" <Larry.Mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Joshua Miller" <Joshua.Miller@ec-  
citycouncil.com>; "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"Charles Johnson" <Charlie.Johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Andrew Werthmann"  
<andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



[Sign up for the City Manager's Weekly Update Here](#)

*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** "Jeremy Gragert" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sat, 21 Oct 2023 16:22:23 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Member Update

Hi Emily!

I think this is a great idea.

It is during these longer breaks between City Council meetings that I sometimes schedule vacations, and in this case, you should know that I will be in Mexico from January 24th to February 7th. If the 5th Tuesday is the regular day/time, the next one after would not be until April 30th. I think if it works for others you should go for it!

Jeremy Gragert  
Eau Claire City Council member - District 3

**From:** Emily Berge  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 1:44 PM  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**

*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** "Jessica Schoen" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 10:56:12 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** World Relief - Citizen Inquiries

Good morning Stephanie,

I attended an informational session with World Relief last week on Wednesday. I received a lot of helpful information. An attendee at the meeting raised questions regarding whom at the City had been working with World Relief. I have since received several emails with questions of a similar nature. As I understand, you have had communication with World Relief, and have informally briefed Council on the matters through your City Manager Updates. Can you share with me the most accurate way to answer the questions I have been receiving? I want to ensure I am providing factual details to the best of my ability. It seems the community is receiving partial details/inaccurate information.

Thank you,

**Jess Schoen**  
City Council Member, District 1  
Jessica.Schoen@ec-citycouncil.com  
(715) 255-0297

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:34:28 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Representation

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Becky Hoschouer <beckyhoschouer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 3:36 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Representation

Dear Ms. President,

Please find the email below sent to my Ward 3 city representative today.

Thank you,  
Becky Hoschouer, M.A.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Becky Hoschouer** <[beckyhoschouer@gmail.com](mailto:beckyhoschouer@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Sat, Oct 21, 2023, 3:23 PM  
**Subject:** Representation  
**To:** <[Jeremy.Gragert@ec-citycouncil.com](mailto:Jeremy.Gragert@ec-citycouncil.com)>

Hello,

I hope this finds you well.

I am writing as I have heard the issue of elected representation has been bypassed.

Is it true that a contract with World Relief Organization for settling refugees unvetted by our local sheriff and not voted on by my representative, yourself, has been signed by the city manager, who is not an elected entity?

So much of this bypasses state and local law.

I hope this isn't a financial boondoggle such as the county supervisors publicly endured recently regarding misspent tax dollars. It's my understanding that the non-profit covers 90 days and then we pay for interpreters and housing!

We already have a housing shortage and issues with homelessness.

I am also concerned about recent world events. Will the sheriff's office be able to vet these refugees? How much will that cost?

Because democracy dies in darkness, I am relying on you and not the at-large members to represent me. Please speak up on my behalf.

Also, I can't speak for myself because Monday's public meeting is cancelled, but you have been elected to represent me.

Very Respectfully and yet Very Concerned,  
Rebecca Hoschouer, M.A.  
1816 Lloyd Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54701

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:34:58 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 4:58 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: World Relief Refugee Resettlement

President Berge, I would like to clarify a couple of things that I just learned.

An official from World Relief admitted that she never spoke with any members of the city council, only the city manager. If the city manager did not bring it to the board's attention, that is another matter.

The official from World Relief also confirmed that the refugees will be coming from Somalia. I attended the stakeholder's meeting last week and the word Somalia was never mentioned. That is at least the third lie I have caught them in.

This is not about the refugees it is about the process. World Relief believes that speaking with the local government is speaking with bureaucrats, while many of us believe speaking with local governments is speaking with elected officials. I can also tell you that no one in the county I have spoken to knows anything about this.

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

On Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 03:45:07 PM CDT, Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com> wrote:

President Berge,

I am very concerned about the manner that World Relief Has come to Eau Claire. According 8 US Code paragraph (a) (2) (A) "The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with State and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of refugees among the States and localities before their placement in those States and localities."

I would like to point out the word "shall". According to the statute, quarterly meetings were supposed to take place. Did they happen? If so where are the minutes fore these meetings? I spoke to a member of the city-county health department who knew about World Relief for almost a year, but a city council member I asked had no idea this was in the works. Another city council member was aware that this was coming. I was told by World Relief that the county sheriff was involved in the meetings, and when I spoke with him, he denied that claim. I looked through the city council meeting minutes for the year and I see no mention of refugee resettlement.

I get the impression that the planning and opening of the office in Eau Claire has occurred under the cover of darkness, and the taxpaying public has been kept in the dark about the introduction of refugees in the community until the office was up and operational. When World Relief's 90 day commitment to a refugee is complete, that burden will fall on the local government. Since none of our elected officials were involved in the planning of this initiative, that is known as taxation without representation.

I am not 100% certain, but I have information from a very reliable source that the person who signed the abstract or agreement is the city manager, who no one voted for. Did you direct her to sign the document or has she gone rogue...again? If not do you have the authority to approve this action? Is the goal here to keep any blame for this off of the city council?

The reliable source shared that World Relief did not do a good job of coordinating this effort, which is obvious by the number of people who do not know. Do you know where the refugees will be coming from? Not what World Relief has told you, but what the actual country of origin is? I was told it was one of two countries.

We (and that includes you) need to find a way to stop this or press pause on this, because many people will never support the refugee mission or the refugees because of the underhanded manner World Relief has managed this.

I look forward to your response

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:34:39 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** Scott Bolstad <bolstad1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 3:45 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugee Resettlement

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I look forward to your response

Scott Bolstad  
715-497-4359

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:34:04 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** Sheila Wilkinson <skwilkin@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 7:46 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] World Relief Refugees

Dear Council President,

I understand that World Relief and the state of Wisconsin failed to abide by 8 US Code 1522 in that they failed to include the local governments in their decision to bring refugees to Eau Claire. They claim to have spoken to the city manager, but that individual is not an elected person.

Consequently, the people of Eau Claire are not being represented in this major decision. Other cities which have invited so many refugees have suffered from high tax increases that occur after the federal and state funds run out.

We have many people on fixed incomes that are not even keeping up with the inflation rate now and certainly cannot afford more increases.

I ask you to please halt this process. Disregarding 8 US Code 1522 is illegal, and the people need to have a voice.

Sincerely,  
Sheila Wilkinson

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:35:16 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Refugees

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** email <jjmmjr@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 7:25 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugees

Not happy at all to hear that your city manager authorized World Relief Wisconsin to bring illegals here without the taxpayers knowledge

Sent from my iPad

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:36:14 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** Melody Boberg <bobergmnew@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 2:47 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

October 20, 2023

Dear Council Member,

My name is Melody Boberg from the Cumberland – Rice Lake area. I am writing to you today about a World Relief refugee office that I heard is opening in Eau Claire. I found out that the gulag this office will create will be a 100-mile radius, which could easily include where I'm from. I am quite concerned as my community cannot afford refugees, and we've seen what these gulags have done to places in MN like Wilmer, Austin, and St. Cloud. These towns have been shredded fiscally, and property taxes continue to jump. I am, also, concerned about our safety. No one knows where these refugees are coming from. It was said the federal government vetted them, and seeing what a "great" job they're doing on our southern border, we all have reason to be greatly concerned. Has anyone from your city council looked at how crime has been affected in one of these gulag cities like St. Cloud since inception?

I am very upset this World Relief office was approved without talking to the taxpayers and all of the stakeholders about it. Is that even legal? What is a big influx of refugees going to do to our schools and health care system and police stations when all the refugees' family members come the second year? I am troubled and concerned for my community and me. Please prevent the opening of this refugee office before we all suffer the consequences.

Sincerely,

Melody Boberg

[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)

2112 13 ¼ Street

Cumberland, WI 54829

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:42:44 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO  
**Attachments:** image007.emz, image009.emz, image002.emz, image005.emz

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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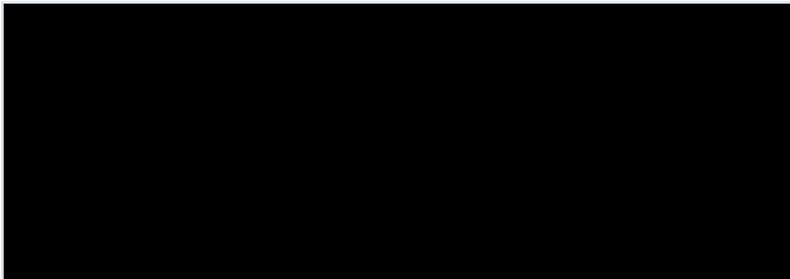
*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** greenmarty1943@gmail.com <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 1:54 PM  
**To:** greenmarty1943@gmail.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO

---

**From:** Scott Bolstad <[bolstad1@yahoo.com](mailto:bolstad1@yahoo.com)>

[Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfreesboro Refugees. Despite Tearful Plea - Tennessee Star](#)



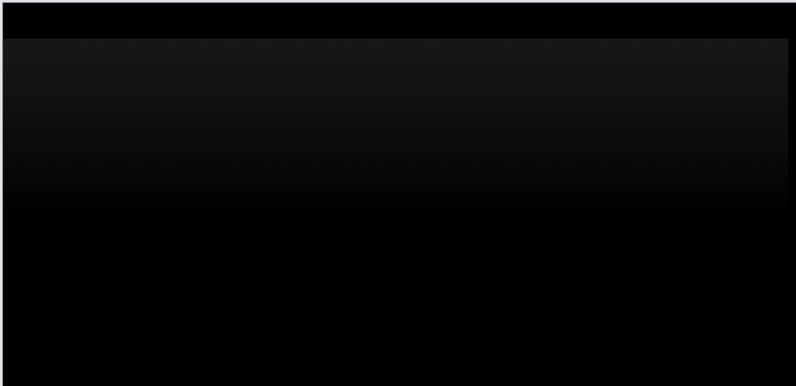


### **Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressin...**

Catholic Charities of Tennessee Says It Is Not Responsible for Addressing Complaints World Relief Failed Murfree...

[World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office - Tennessee Star](#)





**World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down  
Nashville Office - Tennessee Star**

World Relief Refugee Agency Closes Down Nashville Office

**Meeting 6 pm LE Phillips library**

**TO TELL US HOW THIS GLOBAL RELIEF WILL BRING 75+ IMMIGRATES {legal  
illegal vetted unvetted }???????**

**TO OUR FAIR CITY .....MANY Questions that must be answered and were not answered in  
Other Cities.**

**Marty**

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:42:57 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] more INFO IMMIGRATION MTG MONDAY 6 PM LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

**From:** greenmarty1943@gmail.com <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 12:03 PM  
**To:** greenmarty1943@gmail.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] more INFO IMMIGRATION MTG MONDAY 6 PM LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY

.com>

---

**From:** Cyndi Burton <[cyndimburton@gmail.com](mailto:cyndimburton@gmail.com)>

Register for the meeting at the Eau Claire library and let them know how many people care about this. Monday night, October 23, 2023 6:00-7:00pm. Information session on World Relief at LE Phillips Library. You can register for the meeting here: <https://worldrelief.org/.../who-is-my-neighbor-community.../>

**Is this NGO even operating legally?** Excerpt from 8 US Code 1522

The Director and the Federal agency administering subsection (b)(1) shall consult regularly (not less often than quarterly) with [State](#) and local governments and private nonprofit voluntary agencies concerning the sponsorship process and the intended distribution of [refugees](#) among the [States](#) and localities before their placement in those [States](#) and localities.

Notice the word "**SHALL**". It does not say **MAY**. This process must be adhered to and they did not.

Contact city council members with your concerns about the lack of inclusion of our elected representatives in this process and about the blatant lack of transparency about the use of our tax dollars in our community. <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/.../city.../city-council-members>

And/or rally at the library 5:30-7:00. Bring signs if you wish.

**Democracy Dies in Darkness**  
**No Taxation Without Representation**

**From:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:09:31 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Stephanie Hirsch" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>; "Steve Nick" <Stephen.Nick@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nicholas Koerner" <Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Doug Hoffer" <Douglas.Hoffer@EauclaireWi.Gov>; "Elizabeth Geise" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Angela Weideman" <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Kathryn Schauf" <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Nancy Coffey" <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Bcc:** "'Ka Vang'" <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

Because of our mission of inclusion, our need for employees, and our hope for continued health and vibrancy of our community, we take many steps to support new residents settling here from all different locations, whether that be smaller Wisconsin towns, big cities, or other countries. The support for World Relief is just one of those steps.

Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be

discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Angela Weideman" <angela.weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 23:11:46 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Information on World Relief

Thanks for sending this Stephanie!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:09:31 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg <Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephen Nick <stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov>; Nicholas Koerner <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Douglas Hoffer <Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov>; Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; Angela Weideman <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kathryn Schauf <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

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Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:57:35 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-1681925522775f6fb3c80-5869-42ec-979e-41240b781ffe.jpg

I was confused too. I didn't even really know what it was until I looked up the word on google.

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 5:37:59 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

Gulag... like a labor/prison camp?

---

**From:** Emily Berge <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 5:36 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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*Please note that all messages sent to council members, by statute, become a matter of public record, to be retained for seven years.*

---

**From:** Melody Boberg <[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2023 2:47 PM  
**To:** Emily Berge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Refugee Office

October 20, 2023

Dear Council Member,

My name is Melody Boberg from the Cumberland – Rice Lake area. I am writing to you today about a World Relief refugee office that I heard is opening in Eau Claire. I found out that the gulag this office will create will be a 100-mile radius, which could easily include where I'm from. I am quite concerned as my community cannot afford refugees, and we've seen what these gulags have done to places in MN like Wilmer, Austin, and St. Cloud. These towns have been shredded fiscally, and property taxes continue to jump. I am, also, concerned about our safety. No one knows where these refugees are coming from. It was said the federal government vetted them, and seeing what a "great" job they're doing on our southern border, we all have reason to be greatly concerned. Has anyone from your city council looked at how crime has been affected in one of these gulag cities like St. Cloud since inception?

I am very upset this World Relief office was approved without talking to the taxpayers and all of the stakeholders about it. Is that even legal? What is a big influx of refugees going to do to our schools and health care system and police stations when all the refugees' family members come the second year? I am troubled and concerned for my community and me. Please prevent the opening of this refugee office before we all suffer the consequences.

Sincerely,

Melody Boberg  
[bobergmnew@gmail.com](mailto:bobergmnew@gmail.com)  
2112 13 ¼ Street  
Cumberland, WI 54829



**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 19:16:40 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support Opening.pdf

That didn't take long.

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** greenmarty1943@gmail.com <greenmarty1943@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 7:10 PM  
**To:** David Minor; Steve Nick; Matt Rokus; BARRON JIM SWENSON; bwstrate@charter.net; CHIPPEWA AMANDA RADLE; Chippewa Valley Tea Party; CLARK CO Rosemarie Labarbara; DAVEFORWI@GMAIL.COM; DERRICK@vanordenforcongress.com; DUNN BILL ARNDT; JESSIE/VICKI @yahoo.com; JOHN JACOBSON; KEVIN NICHOLSON; REP PRONSCHINSKE; Republican DEAN GULLICKSON; Republican Party Eau Claire County; REPUBLICAN SCOTT BOLSTAD; REPUBLICAN TOM TIFFANY; ROB SUMMERFIELD; 'ROBIN VOSS'; RUSK TRAVIS EWER; TIFFANY FOR CONGRESS; TOMMY THOMPSON; 'WARREN PETRYK {State Rep}'; warrenpetryk@gmail.com; Andrew Werthmann; CHARLIE JOHNSON; Aaron White; Emily Anderson; Emily Berge; Jeremy Gragert; Jessica Schoen; JILL CHRISTOPEREN; Joshua Miller; Kate Felton; LARRY MbOGA; Roderick Jones; chris.fitzgerald@co.barron.wi.us; DUNN COUNTY SHERIFF; EC SHERIFF OFFICE; sheriff@co.chippewa.wi.us; ST CROIX SHERIFF  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] EC city manager letter on IMMIGRATION

This Letter was sent to”  
Holly Herrera  
Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
US DEPT OF STATE  
Washington DC  
5/15/2023

**From:** Fred Kappus <[jfkappus@charter.net](mailto:jfkappus@charter.net)>

Marty,

Attached is the letter written by the City Manager touting the opening of a World Relief office in Eau Claire.

The question is, did she do this on her own or is the City Council involved as well?

This is the last thing Eau Claire needs is to welcome middle east refugees. Look what happened to Dearborn, Michigan.

Fred

MONDAY AT 6 PM AT THE LE PHILLIPS LIBRARY THIS & Many other questions need to be addressed.

Whether the idea is bring Refugees....or IMMGRANTS from South America or GAZA etc.

Did they Follow US...CODE 8 ...1522 Section 2 and Did Our City Manager have the approval or backing of Our City Council to even send this letter.

Here are some Questions that Citizens have the Right To ask.

Are these Refugees here Legally and How are they Vetted? The ones arriving in Sanctuary cities like New York Chicago Milwaukee are NOT.

Who has responsibility for assisting these immigrants after World Relief or area Church's completes its term of support?

When the Operation is up and Fully operational how many immigrant's will be added each year.

How Long does WORLD RELIEF Assist each immigrant family.?

How much money does WORLD RELIEF receive for Each immigrant ? FROM us government OR THE UN ??????

Who is responsible for their assistance after World Relief completes its TERM OF SUPPORT?

The City of Eau Claire? How will affect our Schools They are UNDER S TAFFED as is our LAW ENFORCEMENT Departments.

Has our co ordinating personnel talked to other cities EXAMPLE..... ST CLOUD MINNESOTA. Or HUDSON WI who rejected this proposal.

Many citizen knew nothing about this proposal until TV18 Did a Story 1 day a few weeks ago. Otherwise No One would have learned of this until it

Was TOO LATE.

Marty Green

Former General Manager of WAXX Radio

Former Member of the Eau RDA

Citizen of Eau Claire and Wisconsin for over 50 years

My Grand Parents Migrated from Russia & Poland

So I am not against welcoming new people Legally here in our Country State or City

**From:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 01:38:44 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Fyi that the page indicates that registration is closed. Do you know if registration is required?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:10 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg <Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephen Nick <stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov>; Nicholas Koerner <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Douglas Hoffer <Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov>; Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; Angela Weideman <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kathryn Schauf <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

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Emily Berge and I will be meeting with the World Relief Director tomorrow so I can get you more information on the mechanics of how refugee resettlement works. Then, there will be a meeting tomorrow night to learn more about World Relief, where I imagine many of these FAQs will be discussed. We have noticed the meeting, so all Council are most welcome to attend to learn more. I'll be there along as well.

[Community Event: "Who Is My Neighbor? Exploring how you can welcome your refugee neighbors" by World Relief Wisconsin | City Calendar | City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin \(eauclairewi.gov\)](#)

We understand that there may be protests against the resettlement effort at the meeting tomorrow, and we are working closely with the Police Department to make sure the meeting is safe for all.

Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Andrew Werthmann" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, 22 Oct 2023 22:46:16 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Cc:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg, 2023-05-16\_WorldReliefLetterofSupport\_CM.pdf, image001.jpg

Thank you Stephanie for sending this context and background. We are getting some emails about it ... mostly it's people trying to figure out whether the city council had a role in this in terms of local "sign-off."

Best  
Andrew

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 22, 2023, at 6:09 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

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Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Joshua Miller" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 06:33:36 -0500  
**To:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Member Update  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-16695778776551cf8b170-07a4-43b0-b301-84e5f61cea44.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765522d1a832-210f-422b-88a2-65b1451c89c6.png, OutlookEmoji-16695778776557d56015d-d85c-4936-9797-031c82ded8d0.png, OutlookEmoji-1669577877655df673400-4be4-440b-9bae-d0fb05984e06.png, OutlookEmoji-166957787765547f6481f-0234-4e6a-8a72-17f347adeaf3.png

Emily, that sounds like a good idea. It'd be nice to have an official gathering where we aren't engaged in official business under Robert's Rules. I could attend a meeting on January 30.

Thanks for the suggestion!

**Joshua Miller**  
**Eau Claire City Council**



**From:** Emily Berge  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2023 1:44:58 PM  
**Cc:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Subject:** Member Update

Hello Council Members,

Happy Saturday. Many of you mentioned that you would like to have regular member meetings where we discuss council operations, strategic updates, self-care, leadership support, etc. I thought I could shoot for the 5th Tuesday of the month in 2024 since we won't have council or committee meetings.

Will you all be available on January 30th? Perhaps at 4:00? Please respond to let me know. And if you can't make it at 4pm, please let me know a time that day that would work for you.

I am totally taking this shot in the dark with scheduling but we'll see how it works out.

See you all in a few days. As I hope you saw, we don't have a Council public hearing on Monday but I will be attending the World Relief Community Meeting so maybe I will see you there.

Thanks for all that you do.

-Emily

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** "Kathryn Schauf" <kathryn.schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 12:08:21 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Thank you Stephanie – I will use what you share to keep our board apprised as well. Let me know if you have a desire for county participation in any discussions.

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:10 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg <Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Stephen Nick <stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov>; Nicholas Koerner <Nicholas.Koerner@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Tess Morgan <Tess.Morgan@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Douglas Hoffer <Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov>; Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>; Angela Weideman <Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov>; Kathryn Schauf <Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov>; Nancy Coffey <nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

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Feel free to share any questions, and we can track down answers!

Stephanie

**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



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**From:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:40:40 -0500  
**To:** "CityCouncil" <CityCouncil@ec-citycouncil.com>;  
"andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com" <andrew.werthmann@ec-citycouncil.com>; "kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com" <emily.anderson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com" <jill.christopherson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com" <jeremy.gragert@ec-citycouncil.com>; "roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com" <roderick.jones@ec-citycouncil.com>; "stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov" <stephanie.hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>; "joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com" <joshua.miller@ec-citycouncil.com>; "larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com" <larry.mboga@ec-citycouncil.com>; "charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com" <charlie.johnson@ec-citycouncil.com>; "jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com" <jessica.schoen@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Cc:** "Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Derek Thomas" <Derek.Thomas@eauclairewi.gov>; "Nancy Kerr" <nancyk@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

Good morning City Council Members,

I wanted to let everyone know that the ECPD will have a presence at the library during the time that the World Relief Mission meeting is being held. We discussed the meeting on Friday afternoon and felt with the meeting being held in a City building it was appropriate to have ECPD presence during the meeting. I just wanted to reassure everyone that the ECPD is monitoring the situation closely.

If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

## **David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)

**From:** "Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 08:48:02 -0500  
**To:** "Dave Solberg" <dave.solberg@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Cc:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>;  
"Matt Rokus" <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-168192552277540526989-0bda-4733-8ce7-f0417e692d1a.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775bbc4cc9b-b840-4b17-8a11-255f43412cc2.jpg, OutlookEmoji-16819255227753454cf9d-240f-46ba-8865-67184124903a.jpg, OutlookEmoji-1681925522775cc2ca29b-f07b-4efb-9de9-9e0102c43d7b.jpg

Thank you, Dave. The tenor of the communication is a bit alarming. This reminds me of the fear and anger of the Covid era. I appreciated the police presence during heightened times then and I appreciate it now.

**Emily Berge**  
*Eau Claire City Council President*



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**From:** Dave Solberg  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 8:40:40 AM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Matt Rokus; Derek Thomas; Nancy Kerr  
**Subject:** World Relief Mission Meeting Tonight

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If you have any questions just let me know.

Have a great Monday everyone!

-Dave

**David A. Solberg, PE**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Deputy City Manager

Engineering Director & City Engineer

City of Eau Claire

203 S Farwell Street

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Office: 715.839.4934

e-mail: [Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauClaireWI.gov)



**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee"  
<Anoosheh.Hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 09:24:13 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>;  
"Emily Berge" <emily.berge@ec-citycouncil.com>; "Matt Rokus"  
<Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; "Tess Morgan" <Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "Room\_CH\_Rivers" <Room\_CH\_Rivers@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Canceled: Meet with Tami(WR)  
**Importance:** High

Meet with Tami from World Relief before their Community meeting

**From:** "Anoosheh Hamzehee" <anoosheh.hamzehee@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:03:45 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] FAQ  
**Attachments:** FAQ on Refugee Resettlement Chippewa Valley.pdf

---

**From:** Ka Vang <KAVang@wr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 9:51 AM  
**To:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FAQ

Attached is the FAQ WR will have available as handout at the meeting tonight.

**From:** "Elizabeth Giese" <elizabeth.giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 18:32:24 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Do you have a minute to talk about tonight?

---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 8:45 PM  
**To:** Elizabeth Giese <Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information on World Relief

Oh wow – No I didn't realize there was limited participation. I'll ask Tami.

---

**From:** Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 8:39 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <[Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov)>  
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**Cc:** Dave Solberg <[Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Dave.Solberg@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Stephen Nick <[stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:stephen.nick@eauclairewi.gov)>; Nicholas Koerner <[Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Nicholas.Koerner@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Tess Morgan <[Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Tess.Morgan@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov)>; Douglas Hoffer <[Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Douglas.Hoffer@eauclairewi.gov)>; Elizabeth Giese <[Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Giese@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Angela Weideman <[Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Angela.Weideman@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Kathryn Schauf <[Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Schauf@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Nancy Coffey <[nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:nancy.coffey@eauclairecounty.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

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Stephanie

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**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

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or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

**From:** "Kate Felton" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 13:59:14 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief

Hey Stephanie,

Just wanted to leave you a word of appreciation for your work to welcome World Relief, thereby welcoming new neighbors to our city. We have been getting some emails about this, and though of course not everyone in our community will support these actions, the resounding message I've gotten over my 8 years in service is that our community wants to lead with compassion, kindness, and generosity. I fully support the work you're doing here and I have good reason to believe that the majority of our council and our community support this work too.

Thank you! Keep up this good work!

**KATE FELTON** (formerly Kate Beaton)  
Eau Claire City Council, Member At-Large  
Kate.Felton@EC-CityCouncil.com  
Phone: 715-252-2544

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:09:31 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Dave Solberg; Steve Nick; Nicholas Koerner; Tess Morgan; Anooosheh Hamzehee; Doug Hoffer; Elizabeth Geise; Angela Weideman; Kathryn Schauf; Nancy Coffey; Matt Rokus  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

Hello Council Members, and keeping some County people in the loop as well -

I understand that you've been receiving a lot of emails about World Relief coming to Eau Claire. Just for background, the steps the City took to support World Relief were to meet with their staff (in combination with the Human Services Department, the Health Department, CVTC, volunteer groups, and others) when the agency was vetting Eau Claire as potential place to open an office. We also sent a letter of support. That letter is attached and mentioned [in this update from last May](#).

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**City of Eau Claire**  
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**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**



**From:** "Kate Felton" <kate.felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 14:07:54 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg

Yes please do pass it on to whoever you'd like! ☐

On Oct 23, 2023, at 2:05 PM, Stephanie Hirsch  
<Stephanie.Hirsch@eauclairewi.gov> wrote:

Awe, thanks SO MUCH for sending this note!! ☐ If you don't mind, I'll pass it along to Anoosheh and Ka. It's especially discouraging to our current immigrants and BIPOC resident to hear how fearful and angry some residents are about the possibility of more immigrants, particularly immigrants of color.

---

**From:** Kate Felton <Kate.Felton@ec-citycouncil.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information on World Relief

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**Sent:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 6:09:31 PM  
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**Cc:** Dave Solberg; Steve Nick; Nicholas Koerner; Tess Morgan; Anoosheh Hamzehee; Doug Hoffer; Elizabeth Geise; Angela Weideman; Kathryn Schauf; Nancy Coffey; Matt Rokus  
**Subject:** Information on World Relief

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**City Manager**  
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**Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701**  
**Office: 715-839-6045**  
<image001.jpg>

**From:** "Robert Haller" <bob.haller@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 15:32:31 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Occupancy for Library

Hi Stephanie,

The fire department does not apply the occupancy rating. The occupancy rating is set by the architect and reviewed by Planning. They may have what the allowable number of people is. Inspector Knecht and I will walk over right now and check it out and get back to you with any additional information.

## Robert Haller

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216 S. Dewey St. Eau Claire Wi. 54701  
Office. 715-839-2911  
Admin. 715-839-5012  
Cell. 715-579-2330



---

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:11 PM  
**To:** Robert Haller <Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov>; Matthew Jaggar <Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer <shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Occupancy for Library

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**Stephanie Hirsch**  
**City Manager**  
**City of Eau Claire**  
**203 S Farwell Street**

**From:** "Mail Delivery Subsystem" <mailer-daemon@rly21h.srv.mailcontrol.com>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 21:41:10 +0100  
**To:** "" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Returned mail: see transcript for details  
**Attachments:** details.txt, FW: [EXTERNAL] MORE IMMIGRATION INFO

The original message was received at Mon, 23 Oct 2023 21:41:09 +0100  
from mailcontrol@localhost

----- The following addresses had permanent fatal errors -----  
msoerems@wr.org

(reason: 550 5.4.1 Recipient address rejected: Access denied. [CY4PEPF0000FCBF.namprd03.prod.outlook.com 2023-10-23T20:41:10.059Z 08DBD2544DCECF60])

----- Transcript of session follows -----  
... while talking to wr-org.mail.protection.outlook.com.:

>>> DATA

<<< 550 5.4.1 Recipient address rejected: Access denied. [CY4PEPF0000FCBF.namprd03.prod.outlook.com 2023-10-23T20:41:10.059Z 08DBD2544DCECF60]

550 5.1.1 msoerems@wr.org... User unknown

<<< 503 5.5.2 Need rcpt command [CY4PEPF0000FCBF.namprd03.prod.outlook.com 2023-10-23T20:41:10.059Z 08DBD2544DCECF60]

**From:** "Robert Haller" <bob.haller@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 15:50:58 -0500  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Occupancy for Library

Hi Stephanie, the total allowable occupancy is 284 persons. The only reason to have an inspector on site would be to count the number of people in the assembly. This can be done by the event organizers to ensure they do not exceed the occupancy. If it appears that too many people are in the room, it would take the support of the people to volunteer to leave or law enforcement would have to assist.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**From:** Stephanie Hirsch <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauClaireWi.Gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:33:48 PM  
**To:** Robert Haller <Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; Matthew Jaggar <Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov>; Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer <shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Subject:** RE: Occupancy for Library

Thank you, Bob! Does someone from Fire need to be at the meeting?

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**To:** Robert Haller <[Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matthew Jaggar <[Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov)>; Matt Rokus <[Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov](mailto:Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov)>; Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer <[shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us](mailto:shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us)>  
**Cc:** Anoosheh Hamzehee <[Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov](mailto:Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauClaireWi.Gov)>  
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**From:** "microsoftexchange329e71ec88ae4615bbc36ab6ce41109e@eauclaire.lib.wi.us" on behalf of "MicrosoftExchange329e71ec88ae4615bbc36ab6ce41109e@eauclaire.lib.wi.us" <MicrosoftExchange329e71ec88ae4615bbc36ab6ce41109e@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 20:50:23 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Bcc:** "razorsafe@eauclairewi.gov" <razorsafe@eauclairewi.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Occupancy for Library  
**Attachments:** RE: Occupancy for Library

Sender: shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us

Subject: RE: Occupancy for Library

Message-Id:

<DM5PR2201MB1738388AEDCD673552E367F0AED8A@DM5PR2201MB1738.namprd22.prod.outlook.com>

To: Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov

**From:** "Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer" <shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 20:50:20 +0000  
**To:** "Stephanie Hirsch" <Stephanie.Hirsch@EauclaireWi.Gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Occupancy for Library

Stephanie,

I'm coming in late to the conversation so maybe you have an answer. However, we consider it a 200 person room because that is how many seats we have but I believe the capacity is higher than that.

I will be at the library and the program this evening if there is any way I can help.

Shelly

---

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**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:34 PM  
**To:** Robert Haller <Bob.Haller@eauclairewi.gov>; Matt Rokus <Matt.Rokus@eauclairewi.gov>; Matthew Jaggar <Matt.Jaggar@eauclairewi.gov>; Anoosheh Hamzehee <Anoosheh.Hamzehee@EauclaireWi.Gov>; Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer <shellyc@eauclaire.lib.wi.us>  
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**Sent:** Mon, 23 Oct 2023 20:50:20 +0000  
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