



Catholic
Social Services
Refugee Assistance &
Immigration Services

3710 East 20th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99508
907-222-7300, cssalaska.org

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release
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World Refugee Day

In Partnership with Anchorage Community Land Trust (ACLT)

WHAT: Catholic Social Services' Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS) is hosting a celebration for individuals who have fled persecution and war to establish their lives in America. Mayor Ethan Berkowitz will kick-off the celebration, which will feature culturally diverse foods, songs, and dances from places like Bhutan, Somalia, South Sudan, and the Former Soviet Union. There will also be awards and children's activities.

In addition, the celebration will mark the grand opening of the Grow North Farm. This place has been built in partnership with ACLT and allows newly-arrived refugees and program graduates the opportunity to grow produce to support themselves and their families.

WHEN: **Saturday, June 23, 2018 | 12:00am-3:00pm**

WHERE: **3543 Mountain View Dr, Anchorage, AK 99508**

WHO: **RAIS, ACLT, Office of the Mayor, and community members**

******CSS Executive Director Lisa Aquino and ACLT CEO Kirk Rose will be available on-site for interviews from 12:00-1:00 p.m.***

Media interested in covering this event, contact Sarah Mouracade at 907-952-0237.

Catholic Social Services, founded in 1966, provides help and creates hope for those in need. Each year, our programs work with over 23,000 children, families, and individuals, regardless of their faith. Our eight programs serve people in the Anchorage community who are facing homelessness, hunger, relocation, and medical issues. For more information, visit www.cssalaska.org.

CSS' Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS), established in 1987, helps refugees settle, transition, and develop the skills to thrive in their new lives in the U.S. For more information, visit www.cssalaska.org/our-programs/refugee-assistance-immigration-services/.

Anchorage Community Land Trust (ACLT), started in 2003, works to develop a healthy and prosperous Anchorage, focusing on the neighborhoods of Mountain View, Fairview, and Spenard. ACLT acquires land and develops and plans projects that bring about sustainable neighborhood revitalization and economic development. For more information, visit www.anchoragelandtrust.org.