

Dear Refugee Community Partnership Coordinator,

I am a teacher in the adolescent program at Willow Oak Montessori Charter School, a small charter school in Chapel Hill. My 7th and 8th grade students are studying immigration with a focus on refugees. As a part of their work, I would like to open the opportunity for small groups of students (or our entire community of 36 students) to learn more about what your organization does and to offer you their service. Would it be possible for a representative of Refugee Community Partnership to come to us or to set-up a field trip to your location to learn more about the work you do? Do you have opportunities for students to volunteer between now and December 14th?

Additionally, our students are conducting interviews with immigrants for an oral history project. If there is the chance to connect some of our students to any of the refugees you serve to interview, listen to, and record their stories, we would be very grateful for your support.

Thank you very much for considering my requests. I look forward to your response.

Peace,

Jen McMurray  
Adolescent Teacher  
Willow Oak Montessori Charter School

Cycle 2, Week 6  
Theme: Connections  
Outside Opportunity

November \_\_\_\_, 2018

Dear Adolescent Community,

We have been learning about refugees as a part of our larger immigration study. Our work has been centered around understanding who refugees are, why they leave their countries, and the challenges they face on their journey as well as in the countries where they arrive. We have been reading refugee's stories, researching the statistics around refugees in the world, mapping their journeys, and discussing journalistic articles, documentaries, and photographs.

The next stage of our studies will take us out to connect with the people who support refugees in our own community and with some of the displaced people who have come to this region. Groups of students will provide volunteer service to The Refugee Community Partnership in Carrboro, and some students may choose to conduct their interviews for the Oral History Project with people who are served by this organization. We will be communicating dates and times of the specific work the students will be doing with this organization through emails, so please check your inboxes periodically.

This is an important stage in our studies, as it gives us the opportunity to reach out to our community and become involved with people experiencing displacement. It brings us into contact with the reality of what we are studying and gives us a more intimate, human connection to the refugee experience.

We will prepare for our outing by reviewing expectations of conduct, particularly how we can show grace and courtesy by being sensitive to differences, open to new experiences, and listening to the stories of people we encounter.

We are excited about the depth of understanding and empathy this opportunity offers us. If you have questions about this outing, please contact Ms. Jen via email.

Regards,

Ms Jen