

Statement on Immigration and Refugees
October 2017

To whom it may concern:

We are members of the Sister Cities Collaboration Committee, representing the nine sister cities that have been established and supported by the City of Madison.

Our organizations were established to bring the citizens of Madison closer to citizens around the world. Mutual visits with our sister cities in Cuba, East Timor, El Salvador, The Gambia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, and Mexico have occurred since our first sister city was created in 1986. As a result, we know the value these exchanges represent and the significance of celebrating our differences as well as our shared humanity.

We support and reaffirm the resolution by Mayor Soglin and the Common Council earlier this year in which there was a unanimous decision to continue Madison's historic position of standing with the oppressed and welcoming immigrants and refugees to this city. We stand with the City of Madison in its continued support of our connections abroad, which acknowledges and reaffirms the essential truth that our belief in the value and dignity of all people will bring the world closer to the universal goal of peace and justice.

Respectively submitted,
Madison Sister Cities Collaboration Committee