

## *From the Executive Director*

6-22-18

Dear CPAH Community:

This past week has been hard and emotional. The images and voices of children being separated from their parents is filled with violence and trauma and a sense of powerlessness.

We care a lot about families and we know that children need a place to live to be safe and to feel loved. We know that many of our residents come as refugees and immigrants and we feel lucky that we are able to provide good housing for people to thrive. We are grateful for the gifts that those new to our community bring when they arrive.



Rachael Duke

This week we are celebrating World Refugee Day. It is a good time to consider how this country is filled with those of us who are descendants of immigrants or immigrants ourselves. It is a good time to remember how all of us have been a stranger and uneasy, maybe even vulnerable, at some time in our lives.

Here is a verse from “City of Immigrants” by Steve Earle:

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*“Livin’ in a city where the dreams of men  
Reach up to touch the sky and then  
Tumble back down to earth again  
Livin’ in a city that never quits  
Livin’ in a city where the streets are paved  
With good intentions and a people’s faith  
In the sacred promise a statue made  
Livin’ in a city of immigrants”*

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Friends – we are all traveling through this place and time together, no matter where we come from.

On Saturday, June 23, the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO) is honoring refugees at World Refugee Day. <https://www.facebook.com/PDXworldrefugeeday/>

Hope to see you there.

*Rachael Duke*

Executive Director, Community Partners for Affordable Housing