



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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Dear Attendees,

Thanks to the many Twin Cities residents and Macalester students who came out for today's fundraiser. The images on the evening news are heartbreaking. The numbers are staggering – 5 million Syrian refugees outside the country and 7 million Syrians are displaced within the country. The war continues to force Syrians to flee for their lives.

While there have been many negative comments about refugees from political candidates during this election cycle, Minnesota has stayed true to our history as a welcoming state.

St Paul has a long history of welcoming refugees and immigrants from across the globe. These new residents have enriched our city. We continue to welcome them and other people fleeing violence and oppression.

The Syrian American Medical Society has provided medical services to more than 1 million Syrians in both the refugee camps and inside Syria. Several Minnesota doctors have volunteered with SAMS. We are proud of them and of all those who continue to reaffirm that in Minnesota we are a caring and welcoming people.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Coleman
Mayor