# **Abidah**

Ethnicity: Rohingya, stateless

Place of Birth: Arakan state, Myanmar

Eligible for citizenship in 2021



A place where I feel welcome

### Abidah

Ethnicity: Rohingya, stateless

Place of Birth: Arakan state, Myanmar

Eligible for citizenship in 2021



A place where I feel isolated, unwelcome

## **Abidah**

Ethnicity: Rohingya, stateless

Place of Birth: Arakan state, Myanmar

Eligible for citizenship in 2021



A place where people can come together

ewer si'eth ans ng 11

se sec son en en si d'an

secuse nher se en si d'an

secuse nher se our su'me

secuse nher se summe ng an

all a u beer college d'an

all a u

Portlander and immigrants are a nice match. I like to go to Portland Community College SE. Mt. Tabor Hall in my favorite building because there are students from many different countries, cultures and nationalities. There are many events and many different kinds of people to meet. I like it there.

When I went to the Rose Garden, I didn't really feel welcome because the day I went there, there were people who were not friendly to me and my family. They looked at me like I am a total stranger. The look that they give is not a happy look that anyone would want to get from other people. My children and I did not feel welcome.

Portland Community College is the place where I feel most welcome. People are very nice and friendly. We can get an education here, and people don't care what religion, culture, nationality or ethnicity we are. It's a good place for me to start to get education and a good job. At PCC, I get find help accessing all kind of other resources and services near me.

# **Eliyar**

Ethnicity: Karenni

Place of Birth: Kaya State, Myanmar

Eligible for citizenship July 2019



#### A place where I feel welcome

المان المان هان المان ا

# Eliyar

**Ethnicity**: Karenni

Place of Birth: Kaya State, Myanmar

Eligible for citizenship July 2019



A place where I feel isolated, unwelcome

My your wing @mage and a south of the south

# Eliyar

Ethnicity: Karenni

Place of Birth: Kaya State, Myanmar

Eligible for citizenship July 2019



#### A place where people can come together

I feel warmly welcome from this organization, they provide information and knowledge to getting our new place in the USA where everything life and living situation are totally different from refugee camp in Thailand.

Once again, I would like to thank you again for all social workers, donors and policy maker for your hard work to help refugee like my family. Without you, our life will end up in very misery place. We will always felt your good work every day in a very heartwarming way.

My family lives in a simple two bedroom standard apartment. But, the rent increases every year. In 2018/2019, our rent will increase from \$1300.00 to 1400.00 a month. All rents around SE Portland are also very high. My family and I are concerned about living here in the future because we worry we couldn't afford to pay the rent. This action and costs result us as in unwelcome situation.

The community office of the Division Midway Alliance is committed to helping refugees from around the world who now live in Portland. Oregon. The community office positively reaches out to new comers and long term refugee residents to help them pursue their dreams, keep their promises, and navigate the complexities of American life. The objectives of community office are: healthcare, improve social living standard, daily life, help to become naturalized citizen, and intercultural diversity. They support our hopes and the doors are welcoming to our communities.

## Mohamad

Ethnicity: Rohingya, stateless

Place of Birth: Arakan State, Myanmar

Eligible for citizenship 2019



A place where I feel welcome

#### Mohamad

Ethnicity: Rohingya, stateless

Place of Birth: Arakan State, Myanmar

Eligible for citizenship 2019



A place where I feel isolated, unwelcome

તું હભા નું મૃત્યુ ગ્રન્કર. ભા પાત્રી સ્ત્રા માત્ર ક્રાફ્ટ્સ મું: તે ક્રા. કૃતા કંડનું પ્રસ્કુક્ત રંદ્દી ક્રા. કૃત્યુ - ભોમ્માદ્દેક્ય: સું રોશ ગ્રન્ટર. અધુસ્કારફ સું રેલા સુધ્ય ક્રાફ્ટ્સ તું. જે ક્રાફ્ટર, ક્રાફ્ટ્સ તિમ શું રહ્યું ક્રાફ્ટર, સુધ્ય ક્રાફ્ટર, ભા શું રહ્યું ક્રાફ્ટર, સુધ્ય ક્રાફ્ટર, ભા શું રહ્યું ક્રાફ્ટર, સુધ્ય ક્રાફ્ટર, સુધ્ય ક્રાફ્ટર, ભા શું રહ્યું ક્રાફ્ટર, સુધ્ય ક્રાફ્ટર, સુધ્ય ક્રાફ્ટર,

#### **Mohamad**

Ethnicity: Rohingya, stateless

Place of Birth: Arakan State, Myanmar

Eligible for citizenship 2019



A place where people can come together

# The Midland Library is also a very welcoming place for me and my community. I take my kids there to check out books, and the library hosts English and citizenship workshops for my community. The staff are very friendly and we can also meet many other people who live in Portland.

I went to Legal Aid to hire a lawyer for my divorce case. I was hoping to have a low cost attorney to help me. They were not welcoming and they would not represent me. Our religious school and prayer room is a very important place for our community. We feel welcome here.

Our children learn about our religion and our culture, and the community gains inspiration for how to live a better life. When people come here, they feel happy and satisfied.

## Son Der

Ethnicity: Chin

Place of Birth: Chin State, Myanmar

Citizen



#### A place where I feel welcome

### Son Der

Ethnicity: Chin

Place of Birth: Chin State, Myanmar

Citizen



#### A place where I feel isolated, unwelcome

m: 0 mom alo: 26

adystrating: ay moson ultonact, antorastration of anyogen and a moson of consentation and anyon and anyon.

# Son Der

Ethnicity: Chin

Place of Birth: Chin State, Myanmar

Citizen



#### A place where people can come together

# Mingala International Market at 122nd and Division is where our many refugee communities shop for foods from our home countries. It is welcoming to all kinds of people! The staff are very friendly and we can all meet other people who live in Portland. Maybe you should come?

I went to this dealer to buy a used car one day, I was looking for a car with affordable and good gas mileage type from Japanese or Korean auto maker. And as soon as I asked the dealer agent, he shouted to me that this is not Asian car dealer place and harassed me and told to go home. I felt not only unwelcome but also feel very disappointed with his customer services.

I arrived in the United States as a refugee in 2011. I was so happy and I felt so welcome. I was greeted at the airport by volunteers and I was helped with housing and employment. Here in Portland, I can work, I can start a business and I can become a citizen. Wow.

#### **Y**asmine

**Ethnicity**: Rohingya, stateless

Place of Birth: Yangon, Myanmar

Eligible for Citizenship 2019



#### A place where I feel welcome

allewse zewhe: en: want of enemy of of of one in one estate all a substant of of one in substant of of one of

#### Yasmine

13

Ethnicity: Rohingya, stateless

Place of Birth: Yangon, Myanmar

Eligible for Citizenship 2019



#### A place where I feel isolated, unwelcome

of 4, of: one; Ab: whi: ship blogeme: glow!!

4, eft of one was: effects on: 482. of ship one; 482. of one was of one was of one was of one one of one one of one one of one one of one o

#### Yasmine

14

**Ethnicity**: Rohingya, stateless

Place of Birth: Yangon, Myanmar

Eligible for Citizenship 2019



#### A place where people can come together

An we are youn II so when we are youn II so when we are youn II so when why are are all the weak of the are are all the weak of the are are all the source of the area of the



I have attended many meetings at David Douglas High School. It is good because of a lot of refugees know this school. We can see each other and we can meet other people from the community. It is clean and the DDHS people are very friendly and welcoming. I even went to my first Town Hall with Senator Wyden there in January 2018!

Mid County Health Clinic was very helpful to me and my family when we arrived. We received good helpful, medical care. But when I had ongoing trouble with an IUD and requested it be removed, the nurse was very mean to me. I had many appointments because I was in so much pain and could not do my work. The nurse had a very angry face and asked me "don't you know how expensive this is?" and made me feel bad. I told her I understood and was sorry, but I was taking pain medicine regularly, unable to sleep at night and unable to properly care for my children. I needed another choice. I did not feel welcome at all on that day. The doctor that day was much nicer. He replaced my birth control method and I have had no problems since.

One of the happiest days of my life was at Ron Russell Middle School. One day, it brought me to tears of joy. My family lived in Malaysia before coming to the United States. In Malaysia, people are not welcoming to refugees. We were not even allowed to go to public schools because we were "undocumented." We had to pay money to send our children to international school. It was so expensive - our rent was 40% of our pay, and the school cost another 25%. My husband had to work overtime all the time, and we cut back on other expenses, including food.

Education is very important for life. So, when I was invited to my children's school to meet with the principle, I felt so happy. Not only did he tell me about how well my daughter was doing, he also asked about *my* plans for learning English. Every time I come to the school, he stops me and says hello. It makes me feel so welcome.