



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR

December 8, 2016

Church World Service
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 700
New York, NY 10115

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered at the World Monuments Fund Gallery for Church World Service's Benefit4Change.

The Empire State is fortunate to be home to a number of organizations that are dedicated to fostering an equitable society free from inhumanity, violence, hatred, and fear. Since 1946, Church World Service has been an effective faith-based organization of many denominations in the international community, working to protect and empower immigrants and refugees uprooted by conflict and crisis, through human rights awareness, advocacy, and outreach.

Tonight, you come together to pay tribute to those who are true voices of courage in this initiative, and I join in congratulating Elizabeth Ferris and Omar Al-Muqdad for their efforts to fight for the rights of vulnerable communities around the world. With a powerful message of anti-xenophobia, and embracing diversity with compassion, we can work to provide safety, opportunity, and a true sense of welcome to immigrants and refugees displaced by war, violence, and persecution of all kinds.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrew M. Cuomo".

ANDREW M. CUOMO

WE WORK FOR THE PEOPLE
PERFORMANCE ★ INTEGRITY ★ PRIDE