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ECE[®] Aid Newsletter

A charitable initiative developed to provide free evaluation reports for vulnerable and displaced populations.

Dear Friends,

We're closing out February with some good news! Though technically February is the shortest month of the year, it always feels like the longest month to me, mostly due to the weather we experience in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This year has been no different as we all hunker down in the cold weather eating lots of soup and casseroles, binging on TV shows, reading books, or trying to find the energy to not just hibernate in our houses. This February also felt long due to growing concerns in Europe (which I'll write more about next month), as well as the continuing arrival and resettlement of so many displaced folks from Afghanistan and elsewhere.

Thankfully, we have exciting news to announce in this issue that will hopefully ease some of the backlog we've experienced with ECE[®] Aid recipients having to remain on our waiting list. You can read more about what we have planned below. Additionally, as February is also Black History Month, I couldn't leave out our very own Milwaukee superstar, Giannis Antetokounmpo, from this newsletter. Enjoy our news below, and here's to warmer weather on the horizon.

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Black History Month

Honoring Black contributions from the past, celebrating the joy of the present, and providing hope for a greater future should not be confined to just one month out of the year. Even so, we enjoy the celebration and recognition given to the incredible lives of so many Black people who have immigrated to the U.S., were born from immigrant parents, or are descended from those who were taken during the African Diaspora.



I've written about Milwaukee Bucks' basketball star, Giannis Antetokounmpo in the past. However, I'd like to take another moment to recognize some of the great contributions Giannis, son of Nigerian immigrants, has provided not only for our Milwaukee community but also abroad. At the beginning of the pandemic, Giannis donated food and masks to community members while also serving meals to those in need. His support for community organizations in our city as well as overseas, such as his AntetokounBros basketball academy in Greece, demonstrates that Giannis is a superstar who reaches beyond just the NBA. Giannis reminds us that money and fame aren't an excuse to forget one's humble roots. His actions speak to who he is as a person, and Giannis Antetokounmpo should be celebrated by all.

ECE pledges donations to expand ECE® Aid support

Since its launch in 2016, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) has utilized our nonprofit status to raise funds for ECE® Aid, our philanthropic activity to provide fee waivers for academic credential evaluations for those in need, such as refugees. In 2021 we reached the milestone of over 500 total ECE® Aid recipients served.

In 2021 we also recognized the great need in our communities for complimentary evaluation reports in response to two humanitarian crises – healthcare and Afghanistan.

Amidst the ongoing pandemic in early 2021, we asked ourselves, “How can ECE help?” We decided we could use our expertise to help more people enter the healthcare field by donating our services through ECE® Aid. ECE funded the donation of 25 fee waivers for refugees and immigrants with overseas education that will help them enter the U.S. healthcare sector.

Then later in the year, in reaction to the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan, ECE began by donating 25 fee waivers through our ECE® Aid participants to newly displaced Afghan refugees. In late 2021 we offered an additional 30 fee waivers to those being resettled from military bases in the U.S.

And we’re not stopping there.

In 2022 and beyond, ECE has pledged to donate at least 100 fee waivers through our participating institutions in the U.S. and Canada. These are entirely funded by ECE and in addition to the fee waivers that we are able to provide through the generous donations from ECE® customers, staff, board members, and other sources.

Sadly, conflict will not be going away, and neither will environmental catastrophes. The demand for assistance to refugees will continue to increase. However, with this new source of funding for ECE® Aid, more donations equal more people that will have access to better education and employment opportunities. Please consider joining ECE in contributing donations to ECE® Aid so that we may continue to provide crucial credential evaluations for those most in need.



Join us in supporting ECE® Aid



With gratitude,

Zachary Holochwost (he/him)

ECE® Aid & Market Research Manager



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