

Luma Mufleh

CEO and Founding Director of Fugees Family, Inc.

Luma Mufleh is the CEO and Founding Director of Fugees Family, Inc., a non-profit organization that uses the power of soccer, education, and community to empower refugee children to successfully integrate into the United States. Luma is a 2016 Top 10 CNN Hero and TED Talk 2017 Speaker whose story has been featured on CBS *Sunday Morning*, ESPN, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Forbes*, and more.

A lifelong social entrepreneur, Luma has created several programs and initiatives that have gainfully employed, educated, and empowered refugees and immigrants in her community and beyond, with the Fugees Academy serving as a national model for refugee education. While only 20% of refugee students graduate from high school in Georgia's DeKalb County, the Fugees Academy has a 90% graduation rate. These types of results helped earn Luma the 2016 Cournelle Award for Social Entrepreneurship from the Manhattan Institute. With locations in Atlanta, GA and Columbus, OH the Fugees are expanding their model nationally with a third location scheduled to open in Cleveland, OH fall of 2019.

A Jordanian immigrant and Muslim of Syrian descent, Luma received her US citizenship in 2011. Her story—and the story of the Fugees—illustrates both the American dream and the very real challenges of integration and discrimination that so many face today. Luma received her B.A. in Anthropology from Smith College and recently completed the Executive Program in Social Entrepreneurship at the Stanford Graduate School of Business.
