



CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

# Loom - Woven Together

## What is Loom?

Loom is a community of refugee women living in Chicago who weave together their creativity and cultural traditions to make and sell beautiful handmade products. These women have fled their country of origin because of a credible fear of persecution on account of their race, religion, political opinion, national origin, or social group.

Loom provides opportunity, at a weekly workshop, to collaborate, develop new skills, earn extra income and be part of a community of creative, enterprising women. Through the encouragement of the group and skills learned, many women secure part or full-time employment in and outside of the fashion industry. Training focused on financial literacy and necessary skills associated with savings and earnings is offered to each of the women.

## Unique Products

At Loom, women from Iraq, Bhutan, Congo, Burma, and Afghanistan gather to produce beautiful handmade products designed in collaboration with local Chicago designers. Women have the opportunity to create, market and sell their products as an additional source of income for their families.

Unique products made by refugee artisans living in Chicago include:

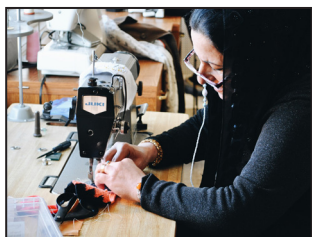
- Silk scarves
- Crochet earrings
- Knitwear
- Pillows

As a result of this social enterprise, women who have fled war and violence from all over the world have the opportunity to work together in Chicago, earn an income, learn new skills, produce beautiful handmade products, and be a part of a community of creative and enterprising women.

## Partner with Loom

- **SPREAD THE WORD** by hosting a Loom Sales event. Gather your friends in the Chicagoland community to share the stories of our refugee artisans and sell Loom products.
- **HELP THE ARTISANS** learn new skills by teaching a workshop in the areas of textile arts, financial literacy, and business management
- **VOLUNTEER** in other ways by visiting [www.loomchicago.com](http://www.loomchicago.com)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** [www.loomchicago.com](http://www.loomchicago.com)



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## THE MISSION OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Catholic Charities fulfills the Church's role in the mission of charity to anyone in need by providing compassionate, competent and professional services that strengthen and support individuals, families and communities based on the value and dignity of human life. *In order to remain faithful to our mission, Catholic Charities is guided by these core values: Respect, Compassion, Competence, and Stewardship.*