JOIN US
IN BUILDING
A NATION OF NEIGHBORS
WHO WE ARE

Welcoming America leads a movement of inclusive communities becoming more prosperous by making everyone feel like they belong. We believe that all people, including immigrants, are valued contributors who are vital to the success of our communities and shared future.

Just as fertile soil is needed for a seed to grow, welcoming communities foster a culture and policy environment that makes it possible for newcomers of all backgrounds to feel valued and to fully participate alongside their neighbors in the social, civic, and economic fabric of their adopted hometowns.
THE NEED

Our communities are changing. Migration and rapid demographic shifts can spark tension and create new challenges, both for newcomers and long-time residents.

In a 21st century world, the strongest communities will be ones where all people can take part in economic, civic, and social life. These places show it is possible to go beyond fear and even tolerance for a bright future for all.

Today, a growing number of places recognize that being welcoming leads to prosperity and are looking to become more welcoming toward immigrants and all residents. Welcoming America gives these communities the road map and support they need to make this a reality.
WHAT WE DO

Our innovative, locally-focused model includes three components:

CONNECT
We connect community, government, and nonprofit leaders who want to transform their communities.

BUILD
We build the capacity of these leaders to plan for welcoming, working across sectors to identify and address barriers to full participation for immigrants and all community members.

CHANGE
We help communities change local systems and culture as they create policies that reduce barriers, reinforce welcoming principles, and communicate the socioeconomic benefits of inclusion.

Welcoming America’s unique local approach goes beyond a single program or service to work with institutions across the community to reduce barriers to full participation and build bridges between newcomers and long-time residents.
OUR VALUE

We share new approaches to inclusion as we connect people and the exchange of ideas across our network to help create an environment where everyone can truly thrive:
OUR IMPACT

The welcoming movement is building prosperous futures and stronger communities—we see this reflected in simple things, like more entrepreneurs opening businesses and diverse residents serving on boards. Immigrants and long-time residents are working together to build communities where more people are participating at their fullest. Together, they are providing energy and talent that is fueling economic competitiveness.

Welcoming America members are making their communities better places to live for all. For example:

**DAYTON, OH:** The Welcome Dayton Plan has not only measurably improved the lives of immigrants, but also has reversed more than 50 years of population decline and led to thriving business districts and a culturally vibrant city.

**NASHVILLE, TN:** Efforts to welcome and incorporate a growing immigrant population has created tangible economic gains across sectors.

**PHILADELPHIA, PA:** Immigrants are responsible for 96 percent of small business growth and 75 percent of workforce growth since 2000. Today, Philadelphia’s robust welcoming efforts promote civic, social, and economic participation of its diverse residents.

**SCHUYLER, NE:** Javier Arizmendi and his family found opportunity and belonging in Schuyler, where he has helped bring new vitality to town by reviving an aging hotel into a successful business, contributing to the local economy, and providing employment opportunities. For over seven years, Welcoming America’s model and local partners have helped Nebraska’s rural communities value and engage new residents and their local contributions. The state’s foreign-born population has grown by nearly 60 percent since 2000—double the national average—and Latino purchasing power there was more than $3.3 billion in 2010.
ENGAGE

Make our nation a more welcoming one by joining the movement.

MAKE A DONATION: Your contribution will help make our nation more welcoming to immigrants, one place at a time.

PARTICIPATE IN WELCOMING WEEK: Host or attend an event in your community to celebrate diversity and inclusion for all.

BECOME A MEMBER: Partner with us to make your community more welcoming.

Learn more at www.welcomingamerica.org.