



WELCOMING
AMERICA



JOIN US
IN BUILDING

A NATION OF NEIGHBORS



WHO WE ARE

Our vision is of an inclusive nation in which all people, including immigrants, have the opportunity to reach their greatest potential, engage with their community, and fully contribute their talents.

We are bridging divides between people to find common ground; helping communities plan and invest in being welcoming, and building economically successful and resilient places for our 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 people 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.

The strongest communities will be ones where all people can take part in economic, civic, and social life.

Today, a growing number of places recognize that being welcoming leads to prosperity and are looking to become more inclusive and equitable for immigrants and all residents. Welcoming America gives these communities the roadmap and support they need to make inclusion a reality.



WHAT WE DO

Our innovative, locally-focused model includes three components:

CONNECT

We connect local 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.

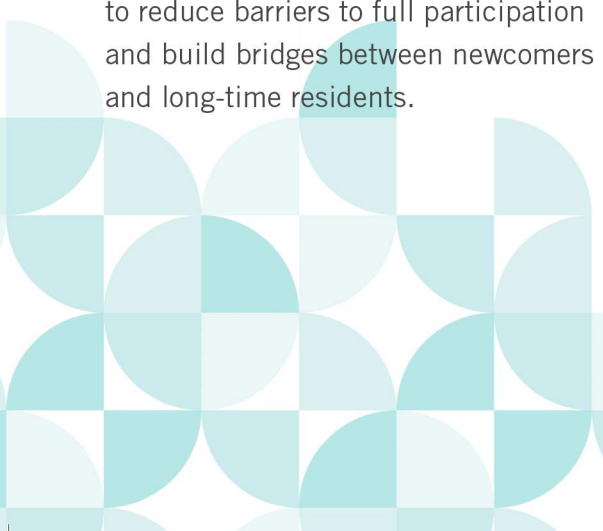
CHANGE

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 GROWING MOVEMENT

Launched in 2009, Welcoming America has spurred a growing movement, with one in seven Americans living in a Welcoming Member Community. Our groundbreaking, social entrepreneurship model is beginning to scale globally.

Welcoming America members are leading the drive toward making welcoming the norm in every community. What began in isolated places has grown into a connected and sophisticated network of organizations and local governments.

CERTIFIED WELCOMING

Certified Welcoming is a formal designation for cities and counties that have created policies and programs reflecting their values and commitment to immigrant inclusion. The designation is reserved for those places that meet the rigorous requirements set out in the Welcoming Standard. The certification process formally evaluates and assesses a community's efforts to provide an inclusive place for all. Smart local government leaders across the country are already working to gain this competitive edge in their communities. Visit certifiedwelcoming.org to learn more.

1 IN 7

Americans lives in a Welcoming Network member community



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.

Research shows that welcoming communities are more economically vibrant and socially cohesive.

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

SALT LAKE COUNTY, UT: Salt Lake County holds the achievement of becoming the first major metro county in the West to become Certified Welcoming. As consumers and investors look to take their business to places that share their values, Salt Lake County is distinguishing itself from its peers, while also living up to the values that make the community a great place to call home for everyone who lives there, including immigrants and refugees.

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.





WELCOMING INTERNATIONAL,

a program of Welcoming America, supports and connects institutions across the world who are advancing inclusion on the local level. Our global vision is a world in which all people, including immigrants and refugees, feel at home. We believe the work of accomplishing that vision begins in local communities, with all sectors working together to build community cohesion and advance institutional inclusion.

One of the many ways we work with members globally is by providing support for developing, piloting, and refining national Welcoming Standards, which capture the core of what it means to be welcoming and provide a comprehensive roadmap for places working to become more inclusive. So far, in 2019, the US Welcoming Standard has inspired the creation of an Australian Welcoming Cities Standard, a New Zealand Welcoming Communities Standard, and German Cosmopolitan Municipality Indicators.

Recognizing the positive effect that promoting inclusion has had on its economy and neighborhoods, Louisville, Kentucky has become a leader in the welcoming movement. Louisville is home to a host of innovative programs and policies to help immigrants and long-term members integrate into the fabric of the city, and, in return, residents of all backgrounds are working together to strengthen Louisville.

Cocoberry Pops has become one of those strengths and a landmark in the Beechmont neighborhood of Louisville. Store owner Bipin Kacchadiya took a dilapidated corner lot and turned it into a busy city center for local residents.



ENGAGE

Make a Donation

- **Online** at welcomingamerica.org
- **By Check:** Welcoming America | P.O. Box 2554 | Decatur GA 30031
- Through your **Donor Advised Fund or a Planned Gift**

Participate in Welcoming Week

Welcoming Week is an annual series of events where communities bring together new and longtime residents to build strong connections across their communities and affirm the benefits of welcoming everyone. Visit welcomingweek.org for more information.

Become a Member

Visit welcomingamerica.org or contact our team at info@welcomingamerica.org

JOIN US IN BUILDING A NATION OF NEIGHBORS



WELCOMING
AMERICA

welcomingamerica.org

