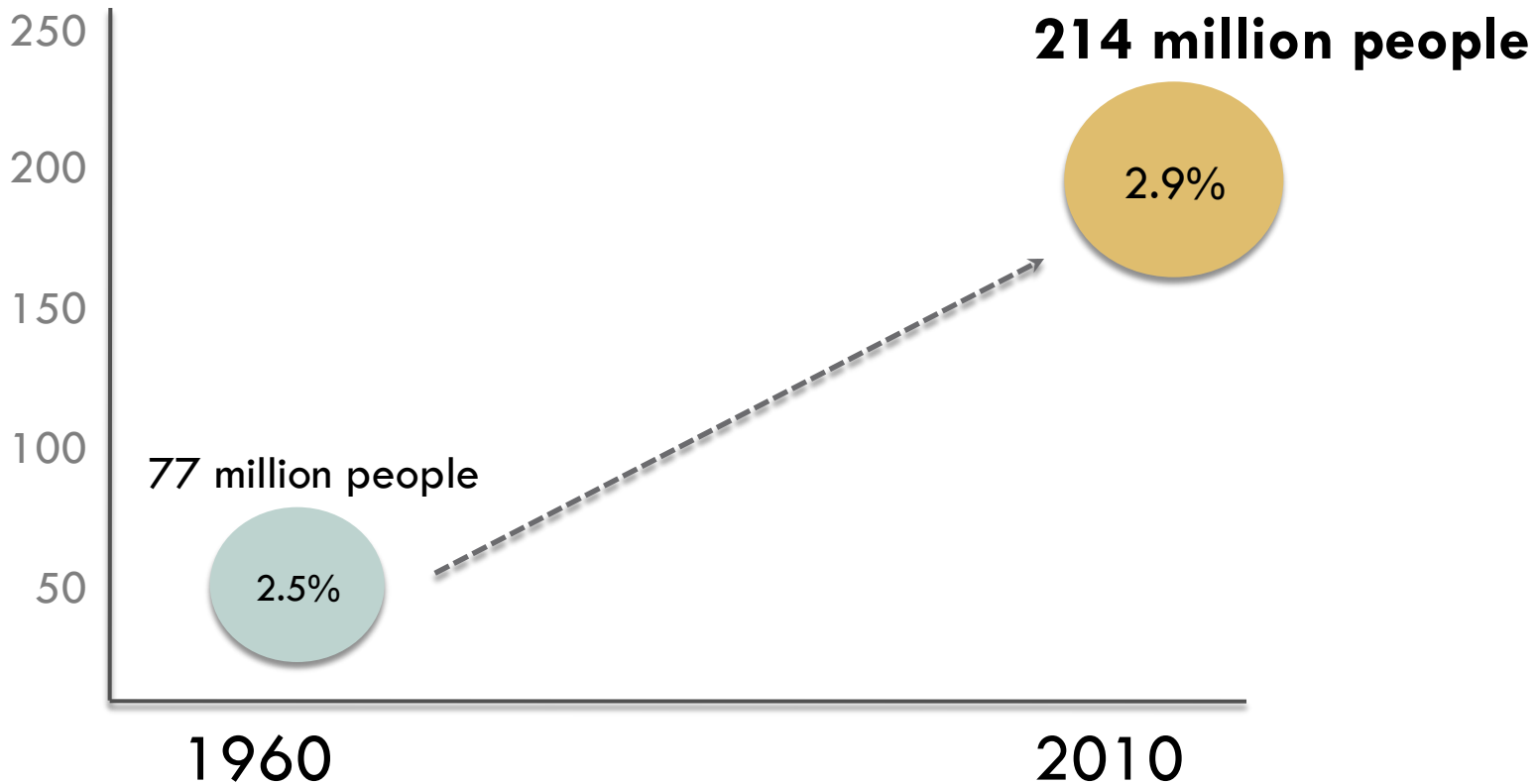


Building Welcoming Communities



Global Great Lakes Convening
June 6, 2013

A World on the Move: International Migrants



WELCOMING



Building a Nation of Neighbors

Changing Communities

- Large scale demographic change
- New immigrant destinations
- Fear, ambivalence of receiving community



Source: MPI, available at <http://www.migrationinformation.org/Casualty/Immigrants.cfm>

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W E L C O M I N G
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Welcoming Tennessee

- ★ First effort to **talk with everyday Tennesseans** about their changing community.
- ★ **Mobilizes local leaders** in towns like Nashville and Shelbyville.
- ★ Launches billboard campaign and other efforts to **change messages** about immigrants in the community.
- ★ Brings long-time residents and newcomers into direct contact to **build trust and understanding**.

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The **New** Story of Tennessee



Like you,
we work hard,
we pay taxes
and we are
people of faith.

welcomingtn.org

We love America, and we're proud to call Shelbyville home.

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Welcoming America

- National, grassroots-driven collaborative
- Goal: create a welcoming atmosphere that supports integration and shared prosperity.
- 22 affiliates spearhead local initiatives across the country
- Additional support to organizations and communities, including the nation's refugee program and municipalities, through the Receiving Communities Initiative



New Focus: Receiving Communities



A welcoming community not only supports immigrants directly, but helps long-time residents understand, contribute to and benefit from immigrant integration.

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Who is the Receiving Community?

- ❑ Long-time residents
- ❑ May be very diverse
- ❑ In some cases, can be immigrants themselves
- ❑ May have conscious or unconscious fear or bias toward immigrants, or are simply ambivalent
- ❑ Those who don't live and breathe this work. Our neighbors and loved ones.



Unsure

The ambivalent
middle 60%

Untapped

Sympathetic,
would engage
if asked

Tapped

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Receiving Communities Model

Leadership

Engage credible, mainstream leaders

Contact

Foster meaningful connections between U.S. born and foreign-born.

Communications

Communicate with messages that speak to unity, common values, and shared contributions.

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Support for Partners and Practitioners



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A Race to the Top

[Atlanta] isn't competing with Birmingham and Chattanooga, it is competing with New York, Chicago, Shanghai, and Mumbai. Atlanta's unparalleled economic and population boom is attributed both to entrepreneurial immigrants determined to succeed in America and to Atlanta's own determination to capture the world's imagination, capital and talent.

--"FOCUS ON ATLANTA." Partnership for a New American Economy

W E L C O M I N G



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What is a Welcoming City?

- Promotes **cross-sectoral planning**
- **Commits resources** to institutionalize strategies
- **Builds community** to engage newcomers and receiving communities
- **Communicates** unifying messages
- **Promotes sustainability** through policies and practices



Welcoming Cities Cohort

A cohort of municipal governments that will:

- Learn from other Welcoming Cities
- Access new tools and resources
- Receive support and recognition
- Participate in national and international learning exchanges



Welcoming America Affiliates



WORKING TO MAKE
NEBRASKA STRONG.



NEW NEBRASKA FAMILIES MAKE US STRONGER.

Nebraska. A good life for everyone. NebraskaInHome.org

Nation



JUST ANOTHER GREAT
NEBRASKA FAN.

NEW NEBRASKA FAMILIES MAKE US STRONGER.

Nebraska. A good life for everyone. NebraskaInHome.org



**WELCOMING
COLORADO**



**COLORADO
WAS BUILT WITH
STRONG
CHARACTER.**

Why stop now?

LET'S GIVE IMMIGRANTS
A FAIR CHANCE.
WelcomingColorado.org



**RUGGED
INDIVIDUALS
MADE HERE.**

IN COLORADO, WE GIVE
IMMIGRANTS A FAIR CHANCE.
WelcomingColorado.org

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Welcoming Rhode Island



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Uniting North Carolina



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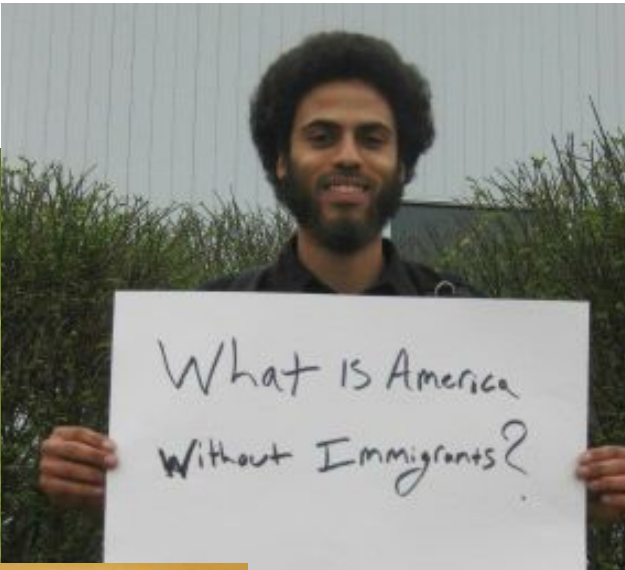
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- Recommendation of 2008 Global Detroit study
- Project of Michigan Immigrant Rights Center
- Statewide initiative, with 4 focus communities
 - Chadsey Condon (Southwest Detroit)
 - Hamtramck
 - Sterling Heights
 - Van Buren County (southwest Michigan)



Why we care



What is “Welcoming” work?

□ Leadership Development



□ Public Engagement



□ Media/Communications



Activities in Southeast Michigan

February 2012: “Welcome Dayton”
visit with Global Detroit



May 2012: Official media launch



May/June 2012:

Immigration



What is Welcoming Michigan?
When it comes to immigration, it's easy to let differences separate us... Michigan thrives when we bring the best of what has been and the best of what can be together to create a stronger, more vibrant Michigan for all. At Welcoming Michigan, we seek to build mutual respect among foreign-born and U.S.-born people who call Michigan home today. Together, it's better.

Why We Care
Welcoming Michigan works to support Michigan's "receiving community" members—U.S.-born Americans who live in communities where immigrants settle — in creating welcoming communities where immigrants can fully integrate into their adopted hometowns. This is why we care...



101
MIRC &
New Detroit



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May 2012: Official Launch!





Activities in Hamtramck

- 4/28/12 Hamtramck Health Hike
- 5/26/12 Kite Day
- 5/31/12 film screening & dialogue
- 7/14/12 Public Safety Day
- 9/15/12 Citizenship Day
- 9/24/12 film screening & dialogue
- 10/23/12 Welcoming Resolution
- 4/6/13 Mini World's Fair
- 6/29/13 Public Safety Day



HAMTRAMCK WELCOMING RESOLUTION

Resolution affirming that the City of Hamtramck is a welcoming community and respects the innate dignity of all people.

WHEREAS, the Hamtramck community remembers, honors, and values our immigrant and migrant roots, and embraces the values of family, faith, and hard work; and

WHEREAS, the Welcoming Hamtramck initiative aims to build cooperation, respect, and compassion among all in our community, including immigrants and non-immigrants alike; endeavors to create an atmosphere in which immigrants and refugees have increased opportunities to integrate into the social fabric of their adopted hometowns; and seeks to embrace diversity while retaining unique cultural identities; and

WHEREAS, the Hamtramck community has long been recognized as a hospitable and welcoming place, where people, families, and institutions thrive and the contributions of all are celebrated and valued. Residents of Hamtramck live up to our highest American values of acceptance and equality, and treat newcomers with decency and respect, creating a vibrant community for all to live in; and

WHEREAS, the Hamtramck community is committed to continue building a neighborly and welcoming atmosphere in our community, where all are welcome, accepted and appreciated; and

WHEREAS, the city of Hamtramck extends the message "you fit in here" to all residents; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the Hamtramck City Council, on this twenty-third day of October, two thousand and twelve, that the Hamtramck community is affirmed as a place where all foreign-born and native-born Americans can live, work, and play together; share in each other's customs and ideals, and appreciate and promote cultural diversity.

We urge residents and stakeholders of the Hamtramck community to join with the efforts and spirit of the Welcoming Michigan initiative and join in lifting up the city of Hamtramck as a welcoming environment for all.



Welcoming Michigan
Building Immigrant Friendly Communities





Activities in Chadsey Condon, SW Detroit

- 4/21/12 Youth Dialogue on Diversity
- 5/3/12 Diversity Training
- 5/6/12 Cinco de Mayo
- 5/19/12 Unity Festival
- 6/8/12 Film screening & dialogue
- 6/25/12 Welcoming Resolution
- 7/7/12 You're Welcome! Youth + Arts
- 7/12/12 Welcoming stories video project
- 8/29/12 Community Potluck
- 9/9/12 A-OK Service Day Clean-up
- 11/16/12 Immigration 101 Training
- 9/21, 10/17, 11/7, 12/11 Cooking classes
- 4/13/13 Youth Dialogue on Diversity
- 4/26/13 Yemeni Bread Making Class
- 5/5/13 Cinco de Mayo
- 9/8/13 A-OK Service Day



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Activities in Sterling Heights

- 5/5/12 Pride & SHINE property clean-up
- 7/21/12 World Refugee Day Picnic
- 10/6/12 Citizenship Workshop
- 11/16/12 Immigration 101 Training



- 1/31/13 monthly ESL Chat starts
- 2/1/13 Cultural Exchange
- 3/21 Get To Know Your Neighbors
- 6/22 *World Refugee Day Picnic*

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Metrics

Since official launch in May 2012:

- Received one Welcoming Proclamation from Governor Snyder
- Passed two Welcoming Resolutions
- Posted 4 billboards, 2 bus shelter ads
- Garnered 686 facebook “likes”
- Launched YouTube channel with 3 videos
- Held over 50 community events with more than 2,700 attendees!



WELCOMING



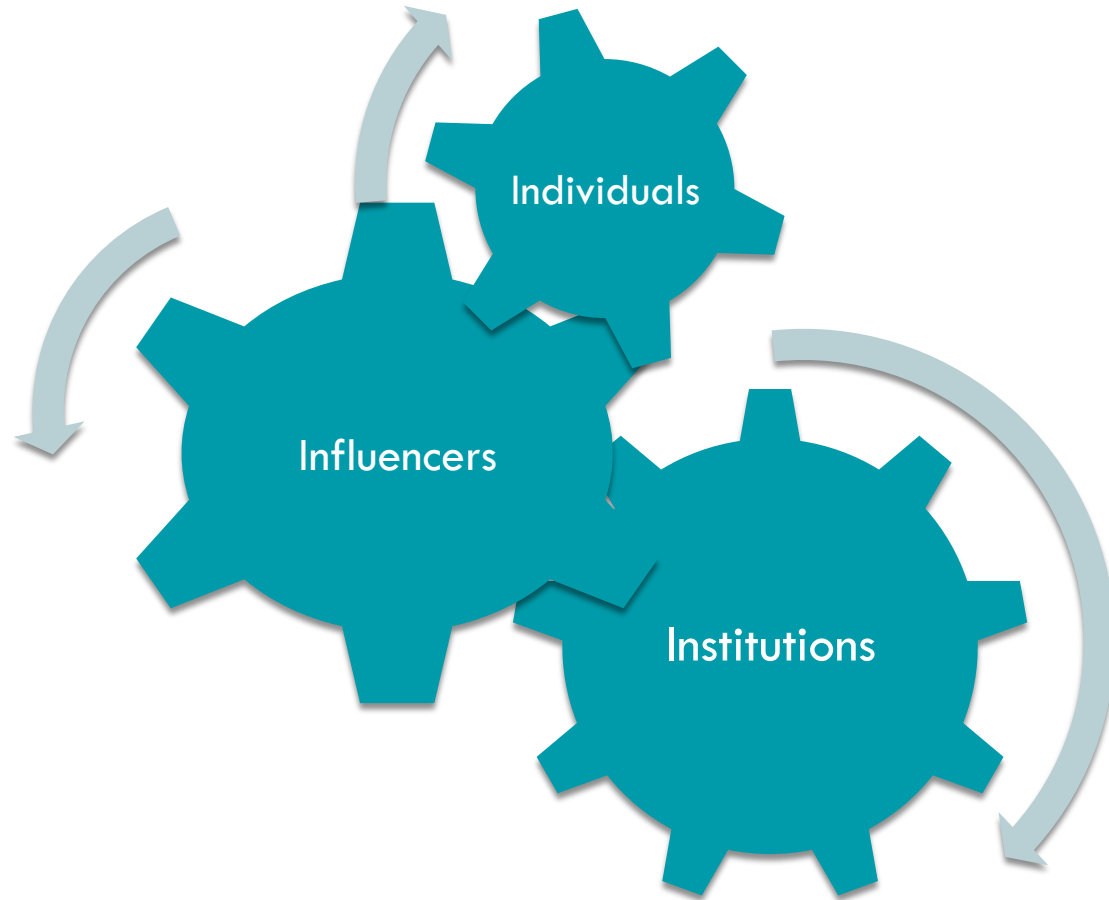
Building a Nation of Neighbors

Qualitative Feedback

- Response to event: “I'd like the opportunity to be involved in more events like that and helping our newer residents find their way in this land of ours --and now theirs. I'd love to help in any way I can.”
- On developing leadership: “I've made our church leadership staff aware of the growing population. We didn't really have much education on it previously, so what I'm learning at the meetings I'm bringing back to my church leadership staff and sharing with them in an effort to make our church more involved and more welcoming.”
- On fostering unity: “I see the changes with people participating in Welcoming Michigan, where before I would think that many people only assisted their community members - if they were Filipino would mostly just service Filipino, or Asian or Chaldean or Arab and now I find that people involved are really interested in helping everyone that is an immigrant, not just their community or their culture.”



Design a lasting architecture



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WELCOMING
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Measuring Change

Organizational Performance Measures	Affiliate/Partner Program Performance Measures	Population-Level Measures for Welcoming Communities
<p>Increased capacity and resources among affiliates and partners</p> <p>Increased knowledge and skills among groups receiving training and assistance</p> <p>Increased partners and resources to national office</p> <p>Success of supported organizations to achieve performance measures and impact</p>	<p>Perception change of "unsure"</p> <p>Community leaders and institutions engaged in initiative's efforts</p> <p>Increased opportunities for contact between immigrants and natives</p> <p>Positive and factual information about immigrants shared, media coverage increased</p> <p>Qualitative impact stories</p>	<p>Change in Institutional Practices</p> <p>Increased understanding and respect between long-time residents and immigrants</p> <p>Increased interaction/social capital between long-time residents and immigrants</p> <p>Positive messages about immigrants dominating formal and informal communication channels</p>



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Table Discussions

- What are examples of how your community provides welcome to immigrants and longer-term receiving communities members?
- What is missing? What new approaches might be promising for creating greater welcoming?

