



# Global Network

LEADING **RUST BELT** IMMIGRANT INNOVATION

## 3RD ANNUAL CONVENING

### DAYTON, OH

July 9, 2015



A project of Welcoming America in partnership with Global Detroit.



July 9, 2015

Greetings!

On behalf of the City Commission and citizens of Dayton, it gives me great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to everyone attending the Welcoming Economies (WE) Global Network Third Annual Convening at the Dayton Convention Center. Dayton especially welcomes our out-of-town guests and keynote speaker, Felicia Escobar.

It is inspiring to see how the momentum and work of this collaborative network has grown over time. As a welcoming community, Dayton understands the importance of welcoming, integrating and empowering immigrant communities as an essential part of our cultural fabric. We are proud of our welcoming recognition and honored to be a leader in the region and nation.

This convening is taking place during a historic time in our country. The White House has recognized the importance of creating welcoming communities and has developed strategies to make every American feel welcome and create stronger communities in the process. Its Task Force on New Americans recognizes the importance of local initiatives, and we are proud to host you, our regional partners, in this effort, as we learn best practices and network with one another. By working together, we will create an even stronger welcoming movement.

I hope your time during this convening gives you renewed drive and fresh ideas for making our cities more hospitable and open to immigrants, their families, their cultures and their contributions. Enjoy yourself while you are in Dayton, and thank you for the incredibly important work you do.

Sincerely,

Nan Whaley  
Mayor

# WELCOME

to the 3rd Annual Convening of the  
**Welcoming Economies (WE) Global Network**,  
a Network of more than twenty  
immigrant economic development initiatives  
**LEADING RUST BELT IMMIGRANT INNOVATION.**

Today marks the third time that innovative leaders from across the Rust Belt gather for the WE Global Network Annual Convening to strengthen the work, maximize the impact, and sustain the efforts of local economic and community development initiatives across the region that welcome, retain, and empower immigrant communities as valued contributors to the region's shared prosperity.

We convene here in Dayton to weave together cutting edge policies, successful programs, innovative ideas, and a network of trailblazers in our emerging field of immigrant economic development. This year's program is engaging, insightful, and, perhaps most importantly, designed to connect you with your contemporaries across the Rust Belt.

The WE Global Network is a project of Welcoming America in partnership with Global Detroit. Your hosts, Welcome Dayton, Dayton Human Relations Council, City of Dayton, Welcoming America, and Global Detroit would like to thank you for joining us in Dayton.



# WE

## HISTORY

The vision for creating a Midwestern network among several emerging immigrant economic development initiatives, many of which launched from 2010 through 2012, developed as leaders from local initiatives repeatedly crossed paths at several major regional forums. These short conversations left organizations with a yearning for a structured context within which to share insights, experiences, best practices, challenges, and emerging ideas in the growing field of immigrant economic development.

Together, our member organizations catalyzed the first 2013 and 2014 Welcoming Economies (WE) Global Network (formerly Global Great Lakes Network) Convenings in Detroit and Pittsburgh, respectively. The precedent they set has established the WE Global Network Annual Convening as the most important event for organizing immigrant economic development in the Rust Belt, maybe even in the nation.

Since the first Convening, collaboration among these local economic development organizations has only continued to blossom. In 2014, WE Global Network became a project of Welcoming America, in partnership with Global Detroit. Shortly following the formation of this partnership, the Network received its first grants from the James L. Knight Foundation and JM Kaplan Fund to formalize the Network. These early grants helped fund the development of a strategy document, overhaul of the Network website, execution of ongoing communication and social media efforts, a story-telling project with ethnic media, the creation of a state and local policy playbook, five City-to-City visits for members, and the creation of a communications strategy. Additionally, the grants helped fund a naming and branding strategy, and in early 2015, what was originally called the Global Great Lakes Network became the WE Global Network.

## MISSION & VALUES

The mission of the WE Global Network is to strengthen the work, maximize the impact, and sustain the efforts of local economic and community development initiatives across the region that welcome, retain, and empower immigrant communities as valued contributors to the region's shared prosperity.

### CORE VALUES

- ◆ Immigrant communities are central to expanding economic opportunity and revitalizing the entire region.
- ◆ Welcoming immigrants into the economic and social fabric of a region helps to make that region more socially vibrant for everyone.
- ◆ Regional economic development initiatives can play a role not just in attracting immigrants, but also in retaining them and in enhancing their role in the community's economic and social fabric.



## 3RD ANNUAL CONVENING HOSTS

### HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCIL



CITY OF DAYTON

Many people.  
Many voices.  
One city.

Established in 1962 by the Dayton City Commission, the **DAYTON HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCIL** (HRC) works to promote and ensure a culture of fair treatment and equal access to opportunities for all who live, work, play and gather in the City of Dayton. HRC provides civil rights enforcement; builds the capacity of minority-owned, woman-owned and small disadvantaged businesses; and administers community relations initiatives that promote and maintain peace, goodwill and harmony.



**WELCOME DAYTON** is a community initiative that reflects our country's core philosophy: people with diverse backgrounds, skills and experiences fuel our nation's success. Established by the City of Dayton under its Human Relations Council and directed by a committee representing a cross-section of the community, Welcome Dayton promotes immigrant integration into the greater Dayton region by encouraging business and economic development; providing access to education, government, health and social services; ensuring equity in the justice system; and promoting an appreciation of arts and culture. Welcome Dayton has been a part of the Network since the 1st Annual Convening in Detroit in 2013.



**GLOBAL DETROIT** is a national leader in the emerging field of immigrant economic development. We pursue a broad array of innovative initiatives that are critical to strengthening our regional economy, producing jobs, and restoring prosperity to southeast Michigan families. Global Detroit has helped connect over \$7 million in philanthropic, government, and corporate investments with over a half dozen ambitious initiatives since completing an initial Global Detroit study in 2010. Global Detroit is the founding member of the WE Global Network and continues to manage the Network in partnership with Welcoming America.

WELCOMING  
AMERICA



BUILDING A NATION OF NEIGHBORS

**WELCOMING AMERICA** inspires people to build a different kind of community – one that embraces immigrants and fosters opportunity for all. We are leading a movement of inclusive communities across the nation becoming more prosperous by making everyone who lives there feel like they belong. We connect a broad network of nonprofits and local governments and support them in developing welcoming plans with inclusive policies, programs, and practices that transform their communities into vibrant places where people respect each other and everyone's talents are valued and cultivated. Welcoming America is proud to host the WE Global Network.

# JOIN THE CONVERSATION

## Network Members and Twitter Handles

**Agenda 360** (Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce) @Agenda360  
**Centerstate CEO/Northside UP** @CenterStateCEO  
**Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber** @CincyChamber  
**City of Akron** @CityofAkronOhio  
**City of Chicago** @ChicagoMayor  
**City of Cincinnati** @CityOfCincy  
**City of Columbus** @COLUMBUSCRC  
**City of Pittsburgh** @CityPGH  
**Global Cleveland** @GlobalCleveland  
**Global Detroit** @GlobalDET  
**Global Pittsburgh** @GlobalPittsburgh  
**Global Ties Akron** @globaltiesakron  
**Global Village Festival of Greater Akron**  
**Immigrant Welcome Center**  
**IMPRINT** @IMPRINTproject  
**International Institute of Akron** @IIAAkron  
**International Institute of Buffalo** @IIBuff  
**Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP)/ Global Lansing** @LEAPDetroit  
**Michigan Immigrant Rights Center** @Michimmigrant  
**Michigan Office for New Americans (MONA)** @MichiganLARA  
**Neighborhood Development Center** @NDC\_MN  
**One Macomb (Macomb County)** @lavers\_pam  
**State of New York** @NYGov  
**St. Louis Mosaic** @STLMosaic  
**Upwardly Global** @Upwardly\_Global  
**Vibrant Pittsburgh** @VibrantBurgh  
**Welcoming America** @WelcomingUSA  
**Welcoming Center for New Pennsylvanians** @WelcomingCenter  
**Welcome Dayton** #welcomedayton  
**Welcome Springfield** @welcomesprgfld  
**Welcome TLC** (Board of Lucas County Commissioners) @WelcomeTLC

Use the hashtag  
**#WEConvening**  
to join the conversation online!

Follow the WE Global Network at  
**@WENetworkGlobal**  
and like us on facebook at  
**facebook.com/WENetwork**

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**Felicia Escobar**

Special Assistant to the President for Immigration Policy,  
White House Domestic Policy Council

As Special Assistant to the President on Immigration Policy, Felicia develops the President's strategy for building a 21st century immigration system. This work involves coordinating efforts across the Executive branch to strengthen the current system and working toward passage of meaningful, comprehensive immigration reform legislation. Felicia previously served on U.S. Senator Ken Salazar's legislative team, working with him to develop his legislative agenda on a host of issues including labor, civil rights, judicial nominations and immigration. Felicia advised Senator Salazar during the comprehensive immigration reform debates of 2006 and 2007 in which Senator Salazar was a key member of the bipartisan group pressing for reform.

Prior to this, Felicia was Associate Director of the Senate Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee. In this role, Felicia helped cultivate relationships between Democratic Leader Tom Daschle and key stakeholder groups, including Latino, immigration and education advocacy groups. Felicia started her career as a State Policy Analyst working for the National Council of La Raza. She represented NCLR and its network of affiliates in the Texas State Legislature, testifying before legislative committees to advocate for education, immigrant access to benefits, and hate crimes legislation. Felicia is a native of San Antonio, TX. She received an undergraduate degree from Yale University, a Masters in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and her J.D. from UCLA School of Law.

**David Kallick**

Director of FPI's Immigration Research Initiative  
Fiscal Policy Institute

[@ddkallick](https://twitter.com/ddkallick)

David Dyssegaard Kallick is a senior fellow of the Fiscal Policy Institute, where he directs the Institute's Immigration Research Initiative. He is the author of numerous reports and articles on immigration in the United States, and has written broadly on globalization, Social Security, income polarization, and Danish political and economic systems. Kallick is also visiting assistant professor at the Pratt Graduate Center for Planning.



All speaker and panelist bios can be found at  
[weglobalnetwork.org/speakers-and-panelists/](http://weglobalnetwork.org/speakers-and-panelists/)  
or by scanning the QR Code to the left  
with a QR Code reader.

# WELCOME DAYTON FOCUS AREAS

This year we are taking a page from the Welcome Dayton playbook and are grouping our workshops to mirror Welcome Dayton's five focus areas. Welcome Dayton uses these focus areas as a holistic approach to strategize, plan, and implement their work in immigrant integration.

## Focus Areas



Business and Economic Development



Education



Government and Justice

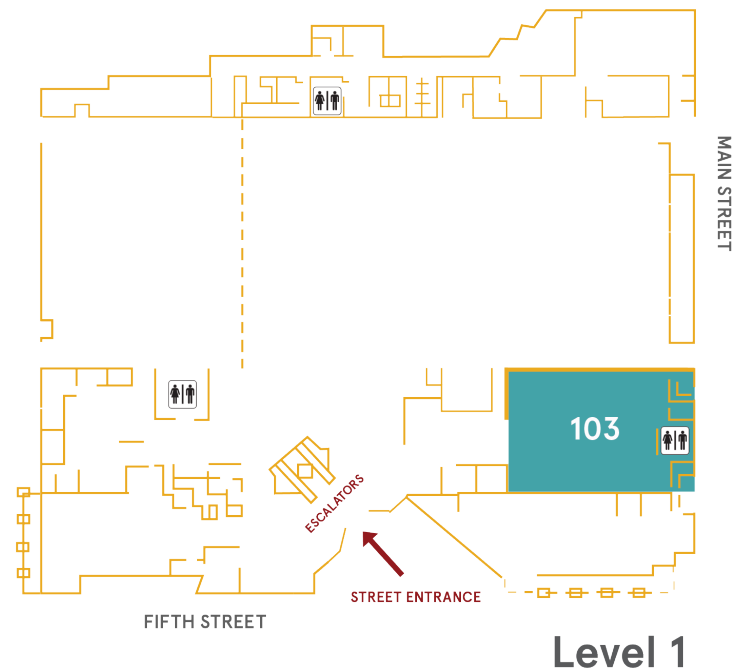
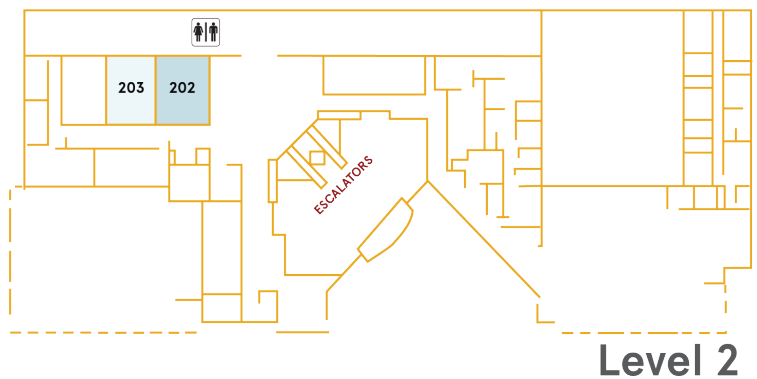
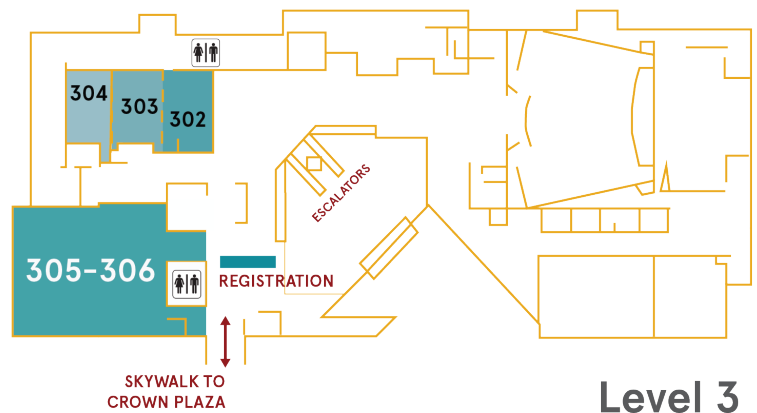


Community Culture and Arts


















Health and Social Services

## CONVENTION CENTER MAP



# SCHEDULE

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	<b>Registration (Level 3) and Breakfast sponsored by DP&amp;L</b>				
8:30 – 10:05 a.m.	Rm. 305-306 (Level 3)				
	<b>Welcome Remarks, Keynote, and Immigrant Entrepreneurship Plenary Discussion</b>				
ROOMS	Level 3			Level 2	
	Rm. 302	Rm. 303	Rm. 304	Rm. 203	Rm. 202
	<b>CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS – ROUND 1</b>				
10:15 – 11:45 a.m.	<b>Immigration and Race: Creating Multi-racial Alliances</b> 	<b>Immigrant Economic Development – Navigating Different Political Climates</b> 	<b>Building Partnerships to Advance Refugee Economic Contributions</b> 	<b>Working with Higher Education</b> 	<b>*AFFINITY GROUP: Entrepreneurship Learning Exchange</b> 
11:45 – 12:45 p.m.	<b>Lunch (Rm. 103 – Level 1)</b>				
	<b>CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS – ROUND 2</b>				
12:45 – 2:15 p.m.	<b>Innovations in International Student Retention</b> 	<b>Cross Ethnic Collaboration – What We’ve Learned and What Lies Ahead</b> 	<b>Creating Local Networks to Advance Immigrant Integration</b> 	<b>Immigrant Entrepreneurship</b> 	<b>*AFFINITY GROUP: Language Access</b> 
2:15 – 2:45 p.m.	<b>Afternoon coffee and snacks (Level 3)</b>				
	<b>CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS – ROUND 3</b>				
2:45– 4:15 p.m.	<b>Working with Law Enforcement in Diverse Communities</b> 	<b>Serving Highly Skilled Immigrants</b> 	<b>Neighborhood Revitalization – The Immigrant/Refugee Opportunity</b> 	<b>*AFFINITY GROUP: Changing Perceptions of Immigrants in Neighborhoods</b> 	<b>Getting Started in Immigrant Economic Development: Sharing Experiences Across the Region</b> 
4:30 – 5:00 p.m.	Rm. 305-306 (Level 3)				
	<b>WE Global Network honors Tom Wahlrab, Welcome Dayton</b> <b>Wrap up and highlights of the day with Steve Tobocman, Global Detroit</b>				

\*Affinity group sessions will be heavily participatory. Questions will guide the dialogue, and all attendees will be encouraged to share their insights and experiences.

## SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

8:30 – 10:05 a.m.

### WELCOME, KEYNOTE, PLENARY

Rm. 305–306 (Level 3)

**Mayor Nan Whaley**, City of Dayton

**Commissioner Matt Joseph**, City of Dayton

**Keynote Speaker Felicia Escobar**, Special Assistant to the President for Immigration Policy, White House Domestic Policy Council

### IMMIGRANT ENTREPRENEURSHIP PLENARY DISCUSSION

Facilitated by David Kallick of the Fiscal Policy Institute, this discussion will feature findings from the FPI study, “Bringing Vitality to Main Street: How Immigrant Small Businesses Help Grow Local Economies,” and immigrant entrepreneurs from the WE Global Network’s “A Day in the Life of an Immigrant Entrepreneur” publication.

- David Kallick, Director of FPI’s Immigration Research Initiative, Fiscal Policy Institute @ddkallick
- Bounthanh Phommasathit, CFO, Diversified Health Management
- Dr. Ayman Salem, President & CEO, Materials Resources LLC

10:15 – 11:45 a.m.

### CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS – ROUND 1



#### Immigration and Race: Creating Multi-racial Alliances

Rm. 302

This interactive workshop informs and engages participants around issues at the intersection of race, citizenship and immigration. Participants learn about the US history around race, personhood and immigration. Through facilitated discussion participants learn innovative strategies of multi-racial alliance building and creating grass-roots solutions to address systemic inequality and institutional discrimination.

- Colette Pichon Battle, Director/Lawyer, Gulf Coast Center for Law & Policy



#### Immigrant Economic Development – Navigating Different Political Climates

Rm. 303

Welcoming and immigrant economic development programs operate in communities with varying policy contexts. Some initiatives have extensive engagement and support from political and elected leadership, others operate without much interaction from government leaders, while still others may find the scope of their activities restricted by state or local immigration policies. Each context presents a unique set of challenges and opportunities that can affect the ability to marshal resources, build community sustainability, and impact the intended population. This panel seeks to explore how such initiatives can maximize their impact across differing state and local policy climates.

- Adam Hunter, Director, Immigration and the States, The Pew Charitable Trusts (Moderator) @amhindo
- Monica Fuentes, Chief Service Officer for the City of Atlanta
- Dan Wallace, Director, State and Local Initiatives, Partnership for a New American Economy





## Building Partnerships to Advance Refugee Economic Contributions

Rm. 304

Refugees compose a significant proportion of the foreign born population in the Rust Belt region. While many come with an entrepreneurial spirit and demonstrate incredible personal resiliency, they need help to achieve their economic potential. This session will explore how refugee service providers and mainstream organizations with an interest in economic development are coming together in partnership to deepen refugees' economic impact in the community. In this session we will explore examples of three partnerships currently underway.

- Susan Downs-Karkos, Director of Strategic Partnership, Welcoming America (Moderator) [@welcomingUSA](#)
- Paul Costigan, VP, Director of Program Development & Quality Assurance, International Institute of St. Louis [@IISTL](#)
- Danielle Drake, Resettlement Support & Resource Specialist, US Together Inc. - Cleveland Office [@USTogetherCLE](#)
- Herman Nyamunga, Director, Global Enterprise Hub & Small Business Development, Welcoming Center for New Pennsylvanians [@hermangild](#)



## Working with Higher Education

Rm. 203

This session will discuss how community-based organizations can collaborate with higher education institutions to better serve the diverse needs of immigrants and refugees. Program models and promising practices from across the country will be highlighted and you'll leave with practical ideas, recommendations, and resources that are useful for creating new opportunities.

- Katherine Gebremedhin, Program Manager, WES Global Talent Bridge (Moderator) [@wesglobaltalent](#)
- Donna Albanese, ABLE Program Manager, Ohio Board of Regents
- Kimberly Barrett, Vice President for Multicultural Affairs and Community Engagement, Wright State University
- Tere Wisell, Community College Consortium for Immigrant Education [@cccie](#)



## AFFINITY GROUP: Entrepreneurship Learning Exchange

Rm. 202

This session will engage all participants in a robust dialogue – the WE Global Network wants to hear from you. Share your ideas about what the Network could provide for your immigrant entrepreneurship programs, and help guide the direction of WE Global Network's support services.

- Steve Tobocman, Director, Global Detroit (Facilitator) [@globalDET](#)

**All speaker and panelist bios can be found at**  
[weglobalnetwork.org/speakers-and-panelists/](http://weglobalnetwork.org/speakers-and-panelists/)

12:45 – 2:15 p.m.

## CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS – ROUND 2



## Innovations in International Student Retention

Rm. 302

International students at American colleges and universities represent a growing segment of the talent pool that companies and metros need to compete. In fact, the nearly 900,000 international students and their families at U.S. colleges and universities are estimated to support 340,000 jobs and contribute nearly \$27 billion to the economy. Recently, the Ohio Board of Regents released a report noting that increasing retention of Ohio's international students after graduation could add almost \$100 million and 1,000 new jobs to the state's economy.

This panel will chronicle the insights of the Ohio Board of Regents report, as well as best practices at Case Western Reserve University and the Michigan Global Talent Retention Initiative.

- Lisa Witt, Assistant Director of Career Services, University of Dayton, Career Advisor with Liaison role to the School of Engineering and Center for International Programs (Moderator)
- David Fleshler, Associate Provost for International Affairs, Case Western University
- Lauren McGarity, Director of Special Projects, Ohio Board of Regents
- Steve Tobocman, Director, Global Detroit/Michigan Global Talent Retention Initiative [@globalDET](#)



## Cross Ethnic Collaboration – What We've Learned and What Lies Ahead

Rm. 303

Many communities struggle to ensure that immigrants and refugees themselves are full participants in shaping efforts to welcome and integrate newcomers, as well as becoming effective advocates for their communities in American society. Community based ethnic organizations (mutual aid organizations) are one vehicle frequently seen. Yet individual organizations struggle to meet the basic needs of their own community, and may not identify anything in common with those from a different country-of-origin or ethnic background than their own. Last, some localities have ethnically specific groups, others have created multi-ethnic organizations. Finding ways to encourage and support people to work across ethnic lines towards a shared purpose is increasingly important – yet challenging to accomplish. In this session, we'll zero in on the case of Buffalo, New York, where a number of efforts have been underway to foster refugee and immigrant leadership, community engagement and collaboration. Using Buffalo as a case study, we'll explore the role of ethnic-based community organizations, cross-cultural coalitions and service providers in fostering cross-ethnic collaboration and a welcoming community.

- Eva Hassett, Executive Director, International Institute of Buffalo (Moderator) [@iibuff](#)
- Denise Beehag, Refugee and Employment Director, International Institute of Buffalo
- Ba Zan Lin, Administrator, Burmese Community Support Center



## Creating Local Networks to Advance Immigrant Integration

Rm. 304

The White House Task Force for New Americans' recently released immigrant integration action plan announced the creation of a Building Welcoming Communities program, encouraging local collaborations to bridge immigrants and receiving communities and to help advance economic, civic and linguistic integration. Come learn how communities across the region are already working across sectors to advance welcoming communities and how your program can be part of the White House's new opportunity.

- Isha Lee, Director of Welcoming Network, Welcoming America (Moderator)
- Rachel Peric, Deputy Director, Welcoming America (Moderator) [@WelcomingUSA](#)
- Melissa Bertolo, Welcome Dayton Program Coordinator, City of Dayton
- Lisa Cooper, Co-Founder, Global Talent Idaho
- Betty Cruz, Manager, Special Initiatives, City of Pittsburgh, Mayor's Office [@WelcomingPGH](#)



## Immigrant Entrepreneurship

Rm. 203

Research has highlighted that language access and cultural competence are the two most important features of business development programming for immigrant entrepreneurs. As many Rust Belt cities aspire to revitalize vacant or distressed neighborhood commercial corridors, this panel discussion will explore mainstreet strategies for local businesses and individualized approaches to building meaningful relationships with immigrant entrepreneurs.

- Ariana Ulloa-Olavarrieta, District Director, Ohio Small Business Development Center (Moderator) [@arianauo](#) [@Ohio\\_SBDC](#)
- Sam Butler, Michigan Community Resources
- Mike LaFave, Vice President/COO, Neighborhood Development Center
- Herman Nyamunga, Director, Global Enterprise Hub & Small Business Development, Welcoming Center for New Pennsylvanians [@hermangild](#)



## AFFINITY GROUP: Language Access

Rm. 202

Public organizations have a responsibility to ensure that individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) can effectively access and utilize important information and services just as those who are fluent English speakers. This session will foster an interactive discussion among participants about the challenges and successes of providing language access for individuals with LEP. Participants are encouraged to share their own experiences and questions regarding language access. The group will also discuss ways that the WE Global Network can support and strengthen the language access efforts of your own agency or organization.

- Andrew Smith, Immigrants and Internationals Initiative, Allegheny County Department of Human Services (Facilitator)

2:45 – 4:15 p.m.

## CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS – ROUND 3



## Working with Law Enforcement in Diverse Communities

Rm. 302

This workshop will address challenges and opportunities law enforcement agencies have when trying to effectively gain the trust of diverse communities. Discussion will revolve around community-policing, immigrant-friendly policing policies, language access, and the importance of diversity during hiring and training of new officers. Participants will hear about over-arching philosophies, specific policies and protocols, and lessons learned in implementation plans.

- Napoleon Bell, Executive Director, Columbus Community Relations Committee (Moderator)
- Richard Biehl, Dayton Chief of Police
- Todd Miller, Director of Public Safety, Mankato, MN
- Jessica Ramos, Immigration Attorney, ABLE



## Serving Highly Skilled Immigrants

Rm. 303

We've all heard stories about a doctor working as a dishwasher, or an engineer driving a taxicab; and have likely wondered how to appropriately serve the high-skilled immigrant population. This workshop is designed to help us better understand the current barriers and opportunities facing skilled immigrants and providers. Stacy Simon, IMPRINT, and Amanda Bergson-Shilcock, National Skills Coalition will provide an overview of the current landscape, including information on how WIOA provides new opportunities to serve high-skilled immigrants. A panel of practitioners from the field will discuss how they have secured government funding to serve skilled immigrants and will share lessons learned.

- Amanda Bergson-Shilcock, Senior Policy Analyst, National Skills Coalition, IMPRINT (Moderator) [@amandaworking](#)
- Lisa Cooper, Co-Founder, Global Talent Idaho
- Paul Costigan, Director of Program Development and Quality Assurance, Institute of St. Louis [@IISTL](#)
- Stacey Simon, Director, IMPRINT [@IMPRINTproject](#)
- Mike Zimmer, Director Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, State of Michigan

**All speaker and panelist bios can be found at**  
[\*\*weglobalnetwork.org/speakers-and-panelists/\*\*](http://weglobalnetwork.org/speakers-and-panelists/)



### Neighborhood Revitalization – The Immigrant/Refugee Opportunity

Rm. 304

Rust Belt cities have faced a half century of economic and social challenges that have left many distressed neighborhoods. Immigrants and refugees have been a part of stabilizing urban communities across the Midwest and Northeast. Hear how exciting new efforts are being launched in WE Global cities to capture the energy and opportunity that immigrants and refugees bring, especially with regards to rehabbing and occupying vacant housing.

- Alison Goebel, Associate Director, Greater Ohio Policy Center (Moderator) @alisongoebelOH @greaterohio
- Raquel Garcia Andersen, Director of Partnership and Community Outreach, Global Detroit @raquelgarciaand @globalDET
- Joe Cimperman, Councilperson, City of Cleveland @joecimperman
- Aaron Sorrell, Director, Department of Planning and Community Development, City of Dayton



### AFFINITY GROUP: Changing Perceptions of Immigrants in Neighborhoods

Rm. 203

Public organizations have a responsibility to ensure that individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) can effectively access and utilize important information and services just as those who are fluent English speakers. This session will foster an interactive discussion among participants about the challenges and successes of providing language access for individuals with LEP. Participants are encouraged to share their own experiences and questions regarding language access. The group will also discuss ways that the WE Global Network can support and strengthen the language access efforts of your own agency or organization.

- Christine Sauve, Coordinator, Welcoming Michigan – Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (Facilitator) @Welcoming\_MI



### Getting Started in Immigrant Economic Development: Sharing Experiences Across the Region

Rm. 202

Welcoming America is releasing the first-ever Guide to Immigrant Economic Development at the WE Global Network Convening. The guide will help local economic development practitioners, local government, immigrant welcoming programs, refugee resettlement agencies, and others implement and hone immigrant economic development programs. The Guide explores ways in which organizations that are new to this work can begin to bring an economic lens to broader integration efforts. This highly interactive session will give participants an opportunity to share promising practices and challenges with each other related to their own communities.

- Susan Downs-Karkos, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Welcoming America @welcomingUSA
- Steve Tobocman, Director, Global Detroit and Author of the Guide to Immigrant Economic Development @globalDET

# GUIDE TO ..... **IMMIGRANT** ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

*by Steve Tobocman*

## WELCOMING AMERICA ANNOUNCES THE FIRST-EVER GUIDE TO IMMIGRANT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Welcoming America's groundbreaking **Guide to Immigrant Economic Development** showcases the role immigrants can play in economic growth, job creation, and prosperity for the entire community.

Chapters contain best practices, strategies, and models that can inform those working in the fields of traditional economic development as well as immigrant integration.

### CHAPTERS

1. Getting Started
2. Entrepreneurship
3. International Student Retention
4. Workforce Development
5. Highly-Skilled Worker Initiatives
6. Connector Programs
7. Rural Development
8. Immigrant Investor Visas
9. Export Promotion
10. Corporate Diversity and Inclusion
11. Encouraging Homeownership
12. Urban Agriculture
13. Integration Services

Check out the Guide to Immigrant Economic Development by visiting:  
[www.welcomingamerica.org/guide-immigrant-economic-development](http://www.welcomingamerica.org/guide-immigrant-economic-development)

.....  
WELCOMING  
AMERICA



.....  
🏡 *Building a Nation of Neighbors*





## MEMBER BENEFITS

At Welcoming Economies (WE) Global Network, our members understand that great ideas come from putting our heads together and sharing stories, best practices, and lessons learned in this emerging field of immigrant economic development. WE Global Network provides industry leadership, resources, and counsel that help member organizations improve their economic development efforts locally. The Network strives to provide value to organizations at a range of growth stages from those who are just starting out to long-standing practitioners by helping to better connect their local economies with an increasingly borderless world. WE Global Network has two membership tiers including Core and General Membership as explained below.

### Core Member Benefits

The Core Membership is comprised of city or state departments, nonprofits, and other organizations in the ten-state region that welcome, retain, and empower immigrants as valued contributors to their local economy. We call their work “immigrant economic development.” The benefits of Core Membership include:

#### Engage in City-to-City Exchanges

Immigrant economic development work takes on a multitude of forms and each of our membership organizations boast unique strengths. Ongoing exchanges within the WE Global Network bring together leaders and inspire member organizations with new means to generate impact at home. These exchanges between visiting members, stakeholders, policy makers, chambers of commerce, local universities, and more help to foster multilateral growth and replication. The Network provides travel stipends to members who take advantage of these exchanges.

#### Joint Membership with Welcoming America

Welcoming America has received national attention and its members enjoy both national and transatlantic learning exchanges. Welcoming America provides tools, resources, and technical assistance.

#### Core Members also receive:

- Technical assistance and thought leadership from WE Global Network
- Member-only resources, research, and publications
- Travel stipends to attend the WE Global Network Convening
- Data, talking points, and graphics for Joint Days of Public Action
- A profile page on the WE Global Network Website
- Selection of the WE Global Network Steering Committee

### General Member Benefits

The General Membership is made up of regional and national thought leaders, elected officials, researchers, business groups, ethnic social service organizations, welcoming entities, philanthropy, affiliate organizations of WE Global Network Members, and individual allies. General Membership benefits include:

- Data, talking points, and graphics for Joint Days of Public Action
- Access to resources, research, and other timely information associated with the field of immigrant inclusion and economic development
- Participation in Network-only webinars and events
- Enjoy benefits of joint membership with Welcoming America

**Complete the “Join the WE Global Membership” form  
in your registration packet to learn more!**

# **UFCW Local 75 & United Latinos** *welcome the* **WE Global Network to Dayton**



UFCW Local 75 is a union of 30,000 working people across Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana united to win good jobs for our communities and committed to the pursuit of economic and social justice.

877-665-0075 | [www.ufcw75.org](http://www.ufcw75.org) | [facebook.com/ufcw75](https://facebook.com/ufcw75) | @ufcw75





# WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY



## Inclusive Innovative Inspiring

Explore Wright State University, where our inclusive learning community, innovative undergraduate programs, and supportive faculty inspire your success.

Schedule your visit today [wright.edu/inspire](http://wright.edu/inspire)

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AFFAIRS & COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**

  
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A night-time photograph of DP&L utility workers. In the center, a worker in a bright yellow-green high-visibility suit and a hard hat with a headlamp stands facing the camera. Behind him, another worker is visible near the open door of a white DP&L service truck. To the left, the side of a larger white DP&L truck is visible, featuring the company logo and the word 'DURAStar'. The scene is illuminated by the trucks' headlights and work lights, creating a high-contrast, professional image.

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