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CITY COUNCIL REPORT

Date:	September 15, 2020
То:	Mark F. Miller, City Manager
From:	Robert J. Bruner, Assistant City Manager Beth Tashnick, Office Manager
Subject:	Welcoming America Membership

<u>History</u>

In 2017, the City of Troy purchased a one year membership to the Welcoming America initiative.

"A non-profit, non-partisan organization, Welcoming America is proud to support the many diverse communities and partners who are leading efforts to make their communities more vibrant places for all. Welcoming America provides the roadmap and support that communities need to become more inclusive toward immigrants and all residents."

The Global Troy Advisory Committee worked with Welcoming America and city staff to participate in the initiative by City Council proclamation, declaring "Welcoming Week", as well as cultural diversity programs celebrated during Troy Daze.

This is an annual membership that the city has not renewed since 2017.

Please find attached FAQ's provided by Welcoming America as well as network information.

WELCOMING NETWORK **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

WHAT IS THE WELCOMING NETWORK?

The Welcoming Network's membership program offers tools, resources, technical assistance, and a global network to help individuals, nonprofit and government partners transform communities into more welcoming places. Participating members connect with their peers to share good ideas and receive recognition for their efforts in local, national and global settings.



WHAT IS WELCOMING AMERICA?

A non-profit, non-partisan organization, Welcoming America is proud to support the many diverse communities and partners who are leading efforts to make their communities more vibrant places for all. Welcoming America provides the roadmap and support that communities need to become more inclusive toward immigrants and all residents.

WHERE DOES WELCOMING AMERICA WORK?

Through an array of programs and initiatives, including our Welcoming Network, Welcoming America helps local governments and nonprofit organizations build a welcoming infrastructure in more than 500 communities across the United States, and around the world.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A MEMBER OF THE **NETWORK AND WHO CAN JOIN?**

Governments, nonprofits, and individual professionals working in immigrant inclusion are eligible to join the Welcoming Network. Members commit to advancing and institutionalizing welcoming efforts in their community, and they receive benefits including training, resources, networking, and leveraged funding.

WHAT IS THE WELCOMING ECONOMIES **GLOBAL NETWORK?**

The Welcoming Economies Global Network, a project of Welcoming America in partnership with Global Detroit, is a regional network of more than twenty initiatives from across the Rust Belt working to tap into the economic development opportunities created by immigrants. The WE Network strengthens the work, maximizes the impact, and sustains the efforts of these inclusive economic development initia-

AS AN INDIVIDUAL CAN I JOIN THE WELCOMING NETWORK?

Yes! Individuals working in the immigrant inclusion field can join the Welcoming Network. This is a feature of our network that was launched in 2019 in response to a growing number of requests for support from individuals seeking to engage with the movement but working in organizations unable or ineligible to participate in the Welcoming Network. To join as an individual, members must commit to the values and vision of a welcoming community. Through the Welcoming Network, individuals can access tools and support to help them in their day-to-day immigrant inclusion work, and also help them catalyze their local organizations to join the Welcoming Network and increase their impact in their community.

tives. Learn more about the WE Network by visiting www.weglobalnetwork.org.

LAST REVISED: 11/20/18



HOW DO I JOIN THE WELCOMING ECONOMIES GLOBAL NETWORK?

The WE Network invites local governments and nonprofits that welcome, retain, and empower immigrant communities in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin to apply. Core member applications must demonstrate that organizations are leading in two or more areas of inclusive economic development work.

Organizations can join the WE Network at one level and the Welcoming Network at another. For example, at the premium dues rate, an organization can be a Welcoming Network premium member and a WE Network core member. WE Network membership is available at the general and core level only.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO JOIN THE NETWORK?

The Welcoming Network has four levels reflecting specific benefits, with dues ranging from \$150 at the individual member level to \$2500 at the premium member level. As an organization that operates with a diversity and equity lens, we have built in a sliding scale and a robust scholarship program to help ensure that communities are able to access membership regardless of their ability to pay membership dues. We know fiscal calendars and internal processes vary from member to member, and staff will work with members to find solutions to barriers organizations may face when joining or renewing their membership. Full details on dues and our scholarship program can be found at www.welcomingnetwork.org.

WHAT IS THE WELCOMING INSTITUTE?

Beyond membership, Welcoming America offers customized trainings and coaching packages to advance your work. See www.welcominginstitute.org and contact us at info@welcomingamerica.org to discuss your training and coaching needs.

WHAT IS CERTIFIED WELCOMING?

Welcoming America's Certified Welcoming program provides an avenue for measuring promoting, guiding, and validating your community's welcoming efforts. Through the Certified Welcoming process communities go through a formal evaluation of current work to identify local strengths and set a roadmap for areas of growth. . Program participants complete a self-evaluation, participate in a multi-day inperson site visit, and receive an extensive written assessment of current work including local highlights and next steps. Those that work to meet the Welcoming Standard also receive the designation

WHAT DOES MY ORGANIZATION COMMIT TO DOING AS A MEMBER OF THE NETWORK?

By joining the Welcoming Network your primary commitment is to actively build a more inclusive community through the work of your organization. This means engaging partners, implementing programs, and communicating values. As part of that larger commitment to the work, Welcoming America asks members to pay dues to support the network, host an annual Welcoming Week event, participate in learning opportunities such as conferences, webinars, and workshops, complete the annual State of Welcoming survey, and assign at least one main point of contact and dedicated staff person for welcoming work. If your organization is joining as a core or premium member, you will be asked to complete a self-assessment when you join. If your organization is a local government, you will also commit to passing a Welcoming Resolution. Learn more about commitments and benefits of joining our Welcoming Network by visiting www.welcomingnetwork.org.

of Certified Welcoming. Past participants have used the program to strengthen current programming, bring on new partners, validate work, and attract businesses and new residents. Members may apply their annual membership dues to the Certified Welcoming fee. Visit www.certifiedwelcoming.org for more information.

For a complete list of our most frequently asked questions, visit www.welcomingnetwork.org.



WELCOMING NETWORK



JOIN THE GLOBAL MOVEMENT FOR INCLUSIVE AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

Apply Online

Talk with Us

Access our Network

ABOUT THE WELCOMING NETWORK

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A diverse network of over 200 organizations and growing

Access to coaching and strategy sessions with our expert staff





Exclusive access to timely member resources, webinars, and calls

Opportunities for peer learning and community exchange programs



"I encourage my colleagues in other cities to join the network because it's a great place to learn about, develop, and validate best practice. The more communities we have in the network, the stronger we make our communities."



Diego Abente

Vice President & Director of Microenterprise Development, President of the International Institute Community Development Corporation of St. Louis

JOIN THE NETWORK WELCOMINGNETWORK.ORG CONTACT US: membership@welcomingamerica.org

ABOUT THE WE GLOBAL NETWORK

than twenty initiatives across the Midwest

opportunities created by immigrants. Most

MO, NY, OH, PA and WI.

The Welcoming Economies Global Network, a project of Welcoming America in partnership

with Global Detroit, is a regional network of more

working to tap into the economic development

member organizations come from the WE Global

Network's 10-state region: IL, IN, IA, MI, MN,



WELCOMING NETWORK MEMBER BENEFITS GUIDE

		Phone Coaching and Strategy Sessions	1 Hour	2 Hours	4 Hours	8 Hours
MEMBERSHIP DUES		Member-only forum, library, and quarterly newsletter				
Individual Professionals General Membership Core Membership Premium Membership	\$150 \$200-500 \$1,500 \$2,500	Discounts to conferences and merchandise				
		Participation in optional advocacy campaigns				
		Member rates for Welcoming Institute				
		Access to training and technical assistance opportunities				
		Member-only conference calls, webinars, and talking points				
		Access to Getting Started and Network Branding Toolkit				
🔅 WE Global Network members	mhershin	Priority access to Certified Welcoming Scholarship				
is available at the general and core level. Both memberships include Welcoming Network membership. Organizations can also mix and match; for example, at the premium dues rate, an organization can be a		Eligible to serve on Network Leadership Committee				
		Eligible for member spotlights and features on national webinars*				
		Invitations to national/international partner events*				
		Eligible for Community Exchange programs				
		Two free registrations to Network conferences				
premium Welcoming Network member and a core WE Global member. * Premium members receive highest priority for these opportunities pending level of match with the opportunity.	In-depth on-boarding call with Network staff					
	obal	Priority access to training and technical assistance*				
	ties	Eligible for Spark Fellows Program*				
		Priority eligibility to host Network conferences*				
		Premium Welcoming Week Starter Kit				
		Collaborative opportunities such as Core Member Day				
		Elect WE Global Steering Committee 🍥 Core Only				

Learn more and join online at welcomingnetwork.org, where you can find a complete list of membership benefits, details on our membership dues, and our membership scholarship program.

WELCOMING NETWORK MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENTS Welcoming Network Members commit to:

- Follow general membership principles
- Pay dues to support the network
- Host a Welcoming Week event
- Participate in learning opportunities such as conferences, webinars, workshops, etc.
- Complete the annual State of Welcoming Survey
- Assign at least one main point of contact and a dedicated staff person for welcoming work
- Complete Certified Welcoming Self-Assessment (Core and Premium members)
- Pass a Welcoming Resolution (Core and Premium Government members)

ABOUT WELCOMING AMERICA

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