



THE WELCOME PROJECT
Education and advocacy with Somerville's immigrant community

Announcement: Board of Directors Position(s) at The Welcome Project

2013 Board Openings. The Welcome Project is currently seeking candidates who are interested in joining our board and sharing their experiences and networks in order to advance the organization's vision, mission and programs. Ideal candidates will be passionate and knowledgeable about immigrant communities, social justice, community empowerment and/or grassroots activism. Additionally, we are particularly interested in applicants with the following skills or interests:

- **Financial Oversight:** Seeking candidates who have experience in accounting or finance and are able to contribute to the board's oversight of the organization's finances. Ideally, candidates will have financial-management expertise and/or hold a CPA designation.
- **Fundraising:** Seeking candidates who are able to cultivate individual donors and corporate sponsors and successfully secure major donations and/or monthly giving commitments.

Vision, Mission and Programs. The Welcome Project's (TWP) vision is that immigrants are fully involved in the city's public life and are well-represented in the city's social, economic and political leadership. TWP's mission is to build the collective power of Somerville, MA immigrants to participate in and shape community decisions. We do this through programs that strengthen the capacity of immigrant youth, adults and families to advocate for themselves and influence schools, government, and other institutions. Our programs include:

- **Liaison Interpreter Program of Somerville (LIPS).** LIPS trains bilingual teens to bring their language skills out of their homes and into the world. We train these students to interpret at community events such as PTA meetings, health fairs, and city planning meetings. This is a win-win-win: it gets youth into leadership roles in their city, shows them that being bilingual is an asset, and trains them for possible future careers as medical and legal interpreters.
- **Adult English Classes.** We offer low-cost and free English classes, with morning and evening offerings to accommodate work and family schedules. Classes include topics such as parenting in a new culture, communicating with teachers at the Somerville public schools, looking for work, and dealing with cultural conflicts in the workplace.
- **International Parents' Group.** This group comes together to share experiences and advocate for changes that will make it easier for immigrant parents to engage in their children's education. For example, they have successfully secured increased language interpretation at PTA meetings and translations of school documents so that parents can better participate in school events. Concerned about cultural bullying of some of their children, they are also advocating for more education about cultures for teachers, administrators, and students.

We estimate that each board member contributes 6-10 hours a month, on average.

Responsibilities and Expectations. Each board member signs an agreement in good faith to take an active role within the organization and to serve for at least one year. Major responsibilities for all board members include: • Attend 6 board meetings per year, and additional meetings as appropriate to board membership. Some may be conference calls. • Play active role in fundraising efforts, developing relationships with major donors, corporate sponsors, in-kind donors, and other partners. • Provide proper, informed financial oversight. • Participate in the recruitment and orientation of new board members • Attend and promote the organization's events • Participate in annual performance evaluation of executive director.

How to apply: Please send cover letter and resume to welcome@welcomeproject.org.