Agenda

● Uniting for Ukraine: US program
  (https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/uniting-for-ukraine)

● Be a Welcomer: Ukraine Initiative

● Ukraine Welcome Hub (ukraine.welcome.us)
On April 21, President Biden announced "Uniting for Ukraine," an initiative to admit up to 100,000 Ukrainians to the United States. On April 25, the Uniting for Ukraine program opened, with the government accepting applications from sponsors.

- Humanitarian parole with sponsorship – open naming for people forced to flee the conflict in Ukraine
- US Refugee Admissions Program
  - Lautenberg Program applications for religious minorities
  - Pathways for highly vulnerable individuals
A sponsor in the U.S. connects with an individual or family who has fled Ukraine. A sponsor may join forces with other sponsors or volunteers or may work with an organization to ensure robust support for the beneficiary.

The sponsor and beneficiary apply to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The application must be approved for the beneficiary to be granted humanitarian parole.

Sponsor welcomes beneficiary into the community by providing housing, support, and connections to organizations and institutions that can help support and welcome the newcomer. Groups of volunteers may work with an organization to ensure robust support for the beneficiary.

Sponsor and beneficiary continue to work together towards ensuring immediate needs are met while future opportunities to return home or rebuild in the U.S. are explored.
Be a Welcomer: Ukraine Initiative

What?

• Welcome.US is partnering with a diverse coalition of leaders and organizations to mobilize 100,000 Americans to sponsor people forced to flee the conflict in Ukraine.

• Anchored in the Ukrainian American community, partners include resettlement agencies, service organizations, and other national and local nongovernmental organizations with a long tradition of supporting newcomers.

Who:

• More than 70 organizations – Ukrainian American organizations; resettlement agencies; national service organizations; diaspora organizations; veteran organizations; refugee- and immigrant-serving organizations

• Sponsorship effort supported by $3.6 million contribution from Goldman Sachs
Be a Welcomer: Ukraine Initiative

How? Americans can be Welcomers by taking six key actions right now:

● Sponsor: Learn more about sponsoring people fleeing the war in Ukraine at ukraine.welcome.us.

● Be a Welcomer: Sign up to get updates and connect to volunteer opportunities and other ways to show your support.

● Donate: Make a donation to the Welcome Fund. 100% of Welcome Fund donations support frontline organizations supporting Ukrainians, Afghans, and others fleeing their homelands as they build new lives in the United States.

● Donate housing: Offer to temporarily open your home to newcomers through Airbnb.org. You can also donate to Airbnb.org to help cover the costs of temporary housing for newcomers.

● Donate airline miles: Donate through Miles4Migrants so newcomers seeking refuge can access a free flight to their new home.

● Purchase essential goods: Support newcomers as they set up their new homes here in the United States, through Welcome Essentials.
Welcome.US tools and resources to support and welcome people forced to flee the conflict in Ukraine:

• Ukraine Hub
• Sponsor a newcomer/family
• Welcome Exchange for contribution of goods
• Welcome Employment Exchange for jobs
• Welcome Essentials for household and personal items
• Welcome Fund to support front-line organizations
• CEO Council
Welcome is working to ensure that sponsors have access and are connected to organizations that can provide them with support.

Welcome is already working to identify and partner with local organizations in these places who can provide support to sponsors and beneficiaries.

Our goal is to initially identify both local and Ukrainian American organizations in the five highest impacted cities, as well as high-capacity national organizations that can provide nationwide support.

Anticipated high-impact cities

Based on current Ukrainian diaspora population
Welcome.US is aiming to build capacity of these organizations to:

1. Direct beneficiaries to public benefits they are eligible for, and provide resources to answer specific legal questions.
2. Deep Dive 1: Infrastructure for Sponsorship
   - Be able to answer key questions about sponsorship requirements, benefits, and risks
   - Support sponsors to match with Ukrainians who are seeking a sponsor; using a technology tool that empowers beneficiaries
   - Direct sponsors to training and information on best practices for sponsorship
   - Connect sponsors with one-another to create a community of people committed to welcoming
   - Link sponsors to key resources like AirBnb housing, free flights, in-kind donations, corporate support, and more
Welcomers

● Named Sponsors
● Sponsor Groups
● Volunteers
● Amplifiers – Acts of Welcome
● Local Organizations
● National Humanitarian and Service Organization
● Businesses
Partnering on the Ukraine Initiative

• Amplify the call to action: digital toolkit

Our goal is to mobilize 100,000 Americans to sign up to be sponsors.

To support you, please find below:

● Ukraine Hub providing information and resources to sponsor and welcome newcomers
● Digital tool kit with social media messaging and graphics
● Sample email template to send to your network (please adapt for your audience)
● Sample press release template (please adapt for your audience)
● Uniting for Ukraine explainer to assist with understanding the various moving parts
● FAQs
● Welcome.US press release for amplification
Partnering on the Ukraine Initiative

- Become a sponsor-support organization: sign up here to learn more
- Mobilize networks and encourage additional organizations and leaders to partner: let us know here
- Develop joint campaign and outreach materials
- Identify additional resource needs and other opportunities
Thank You!

Questions? Contact: Kit@welcome.us

Resources for being a Sponsor and Welcomer: ukraine.welcome.us

Become a sponsor-support organization: sign up here to learn more

Apply to be a sponsor at: https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/uniting-for-ukraine