At the Y, strengthening communities is our cause and we are committed to helping all people reach their full potential. We believe the strength and cohesiveness of our communities is linked to the overall prosperity of the nation. With more than 42 million foreign-born individuals living in the United States, it is more important than ever to foster an environment that encourages immigrant integration and community cohesion.

The New American Welcome Center at the University YMCA supports foreign-born residents in their desire to integrate into American society and invites our community to be more welcoming and inclusive. The central focus of our NAWC is engaging community institutions and mobilizing community resources to make Champaign County a place where newcomers and immigrants can thrive and flourish.
NEW AMERICAN WELCOME CENTERS BUILD COMMUNITIES THAT ARE:

- **Cohesive:** A vibrant society shared and valued by established and newcomer residents of different experiences, histories, ethnicities and backgrounds.

- **Revitalized:** A collaboration between immigrant families and their U.S.-born neighbors to reinvigorate declining neighborhoods.

- **Inclusive:** A community where all feel welcome, embrace diversity and celebrate the rich cultural fabric of our society.

- **Globally connected:** A society that participates in the robust global economy through a base of multilingual and multicultural workers, consumers, taxpayers, and entrepreneurs.

- **Civically engaged:** A social and cultural environment in which all groups are accepted as equal members of society with the opportunity—and responsibility—to engage and contribute to the common good.

- **Secure:** A more secure nation where all members of society—regardless of race, national origin, or socio-economic status—live in dignity and equality.

THE NEW AMERICAN WELCOME CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY YMCA OFFERS A VARIETY OF PROGRAMS INCLUDING:

- **La Línea:** A helpline for the community. Call La Línea (217 417 5897) to connect to community resources and services on topics like healthcare, housing and legal services. We also offer interpretation, translation and in-person advocacy.

- **Citizenship Instruction:** Increase your knowledge of English, U.S. History & Civics. Are you a legal permanent resident? You may be eligible to enroll in FREE citizenship instruction classes. Classes are offered in coordination with the Urbana Adult Education Center and will begin in January 2018.

- **New Americans Initiative:** Know Your Rights. Become a U.S. Citizen. The New American Welcome Center collaborates with community partners to provide Know Your Rights trainings, DACA assistance and citizenship application help.

- **Immigrant Advocacy:** Volunteer for a better us. Help organize your community, help legal permanent residents become U.S. citizens and help bridge the the gap in social services in Champaign County,

For more information on the New American Welcome Center at the University YMCA, visit universityymca.org/welcome or contact Gloria Yen at (217)337-1500 or gloria@universityymca.org