WHEREAS, National Welcoming Week is a nationwide event that will highlight the contributions of immigrants to American communities; throughout the country, these events will bring together immigrants and U.S.-born community members in a spirit of unity; and

WHEREAS, National Welcoming Week is an initiative of Welcoming America; Welcoming America is designed to create a welcoming atmosphere – community by community – in which immigrants are more likely to integrate into the social fabric of their adopted hometowns; and

WHEREAS, immigration is at the foundation of our nation and America has long been a gathering place for those in search of a new home; courageous individuals that left their homelands built our country into what it is today, and we are thankful for their sacrifices; and

WHEREAS, today, we continue to welcome immigrants to America; we welcome those who come in search of the “American Dream,” those who flee their home country due to slavery or oppression, and those who are looking for a new beginning; and

WHEREAS, immigrants play essential roles in our community and are leaders in business, volunteers, teachers, and mentors, just to name a few; Allegheny County is committed to creating a friendly environment in our region and our designation as a “Welcoming County” reaffirms our desire to engage immigrants in our communities and foster positive growth.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim September 13-21, 2014 as “National Welcoming Week” in Allegheny County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 13th day of September, 2014.

Rich Fitzgerald

Rich Fitzgerald