



A Fundraiser for Welcome Neighbor STL & START

Dear Friend,

The BIG Supper Club is the annual Welcome Neighbor STL/START fundraiser where we promise to feed your soul and fill your heart with stories of rebuilding lives and rebuilding hope. The event is **Sunday, November 3rd at 6:00 PM** and hosted by Majorette located in Maplewood. Refugee cooks will share their culinary skills by preparing appetizers, dinner, and dessert; inaugural Welcome Neighbor STL awards will be given to friends who are dedicated to our mission, and a robust silent auction will insure we continue helping people build a new life.

As you can see we have much to celebrate, but also more work to do. Our success is a larger story about what can happen when communities come together to support a common goal. We hope you will be involved with our fundraiser and here are the following ways you can make a difference:

- Please consider purchasing a sponsor table, or making a sponsor donation to the event. Attached you will see the various opportunities and benefits.
- VIP and Benefactor Tickets are available and if you can't attend, please think about someone you could purchase tickets for, or any individuals/groups you can encourage to attend. Word of mouth is our best marketing.
- Donate an auction item or experience to increase our silent auction proceeds. The auction will also be online for non-attendees to bid. An online auction donation form can be found at www.welcomeneighborstl.com
- And finally, a general donation towards the event – whatever size, is always welcome. Again, visit our website for our donation portal.

Welcome Neighbor started in 2016 with a group of volunteers delivering toiletries to Syrian refugees and has grown to helping over 40 refugee families navigate their new American lives and over 1,500 supporters. We connect a volunteer partner with a refugee family to assist with everything from school registration to medical needs to social outings to English lessons and much more. To supplement income and learn business practices, we have taught our refugee friends how to manage catering events/supper clubs where the refugees cook and keep 100% of the proceeds. Currently, we have served over 4,000 guests at 77 events and paid the cooks over \$115,000. And the demand keeps growing! A partnership with St. Louis Teens Aid Refugees Today (START), a student-led group from St. Louis Priory High School, has enabled Welcome Neighbor to expand their work. Each Sunday morning, students from START pick up 40-50 meals, which have been prepared by a volunteer refugee cook, and delivers to the homeless population in the city. Plans are in place to extend this service to veterans who are homebound. And did I mention we now have an office and community space for English classes, citizenship education, and craft sales and more!?

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jessica Bueler at jessica@welcomeneighborstl.com or visit our website to donate, complete the online auction forms, and/or sponsor forms at www.welcomeneighborstl.com

Sincerely,

Jessica Bueler

Founder and Executive Director