

**RESOLUTION 203**  
**Jessica Bueler & Welcome Neighbor STL**

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis Board of Aldermen recognizes Jessica Bueler for her dedication to immigrants and refugees looking to start a new life in St. Louis; and

**WHEREAS**, we commend Jessica for her continuous hard work and creation of Welcome Neighbor STL, a community group supporting immigrants and refugees as they begin a new life in St. Louis; the group offers emotional and social support primarily by partnering volunteers with new families; and

**WHEREAS**, Welcome Neighbor STL was formed after a simple post on Nextdoor.com asking for her neighbor's support of a few Syrian refugee families with toiletry item donations during the holiday season; Jessica was overwhelmed with the amount of support and items she received for the families; and

**WHEREAS**, Jessica knew that for the first three months of their time in the United States, the families were being supported by the International Institute; however, the support from the organization would come to an end – and that there was an inevitable need for people in the community to step up and create an ongoing support system for the families; and

**WHEREAS**, today, Welcome Neighbor STL has nearly 500 volunteers working together to support immigrants and refugees in the City of St. Louis; Welcome Neighbor STL has raised more than \$15,000 for families and offers weekly Supper Club events to help raise funds for the families, present an opportunity for them to share their knowledge and skills and help the refugees gain greater independence and confidence in their new lives; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we recognize Jessica Bueler and Welcome Neighbor STL and commit to supporting her efforts in helping and welcoming these immigrants and refugees to St. Louis; and we direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced this 19th day of January, 2018 by:

The Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President of the Board of Aldermen  
The Honorable Jeffrey L. Boyd, Alderman 22<sup>nd</sup> Ward

Adopted this 19th day of January, 2018 as attested by

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Donna Elliot  
Assistant Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen