Corporate Roundtable for the New American Workforce

Co-chaired by Chobani and Walmart, the Roundtable represents a diverse group of industries working together to advance an advocacy agenda and provide the foundation for a movement to implement corporate best practices for their foreign-born workers to fulfill their potential and contribute to our nation’s economic success.

THE NEED:
Immigrants, refugees, and their families contribute to America’s economic strength and vitality. The Bureau of Labor Statistics found, “foreign-born workers represented 17.4% of the U.S. labor force in 2019, up from 14.8% in 2005.”

Across different sectors, the foreign-born workforce plays a significant role, so it is vital that the Roundtable reflect a diversity of businesses. Immigrants represent 17% of the U.S. workforce, comprising 73% of the agriculture sector, 19% manufacturing, 35% building maintenance, 28% in highly-skilled healthcare, 20% in logistics and 14% in retail.

THE GOAL:
Convene the nation’s leading corporations and business associations to advance strategies that integrate new Americans into the U.S. labor market so all have the opportunity to thrive.

The Roundtable executes a short and long-term approach, engaging in the current policy debates and advancing a combination of research, communications and services that promote the value of the new American workforce.

OUR PRINCIPLES
• Immigrants — working together with U.S.-born citizens — are fundamental to building a more prosperous country that lives up to the ethos of the American dream.
• The successful integration of newcomers into our workforce and communities is essential to America’s future.
• Immigrants contribute to a diverse and multicultural workforce that strengthens companies and builds communities where all can thrive.
• U.S. jobs and the American economy benefit from immigrants’ work ethic, loyalty, and entrepreneurial spirit.
• Modernizing immigration is necessary to address demographic realities, meet current and future workforce needs, and avert socioeconomic decline.
• A modern and reliable immigration system is an economic, moral, and national security imperative and is critical to America’s success today and in the future.

OUR OBJECTIVES
1. Collaborate among membership to strengthen the workplace for foreign-born employees.
2. Advocate for pro-immigrant policies and integration programs.
3. Conduct research to support employers and their new-American workforce.
4. Provide Roundtable member employees access to the Forum’s Citizenship services platform.

The launch of the Roundtable ensures a collective effort to develop strategies to create a welcoming environment for all newcomers and build communities where all can thrive. It’s an initiative focused on creating shared value for our associates, customers, and our company, and one that emphasizes the importance of investing in the future of America.

Ben Hasan, Senior Vice President and Global Chief Culture, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer, Walmart Inc.

As co-chair of the Corporate Roundtable for the New American Workforce, I’ve had unique visibility to the power of bringing together businesses, sometimes even competitors, with a shared passion and commitment to celebrate the contributions of our foreign-born workforce – contributions to our companies, our communities, and our economies. Roundtable companies support their foreign-born workers and families by promoting workplace immigrant integration programs and advocating for common-sense policy reforms. We are proud to stand with so many like-minded businesses and be an ardent supporter of the Corporate Roundtable.”

Mark Broadhurst, Vice President of Corporate Affairs, Chobani

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