Who we are
Uniting NC is part of a national grassroots collaborative that works to build understanding and respect for immigrants and the cultural changes they bring to our state. We believe that, when people of different races, cultures and backgrounds get to know one another, they realize that we are all people who want the same things: safety, happiness and opportunity. Only after we understand our common humanity can we work together to build stronger, safer, more productive communities.

How we work
Uniting NC pursues its mission by hosting events that bring people of all backgrounds together for meals, films and conversation. We produce public service announcements, billboards and videos that reveal the humanity of immigrants. And we are building a state-wide corps of volunteers working to make their communities more welcoming. We do not engage in policy advocacy or political debates, as these topics can be divisive and do not inspire the kinds of positive, person-to-person interactions we seek to foster.

How to make your community more welcoming

1. Host an event
We need you to take the idea of welcoming and run with it in your community. Think of the clubs, associations or religious institutions you belong to. Think about your friends and neighbors. How can you help break down barriers and misconceptions between groups of different backgrounds? Here are a few of the types of events we can help you put on:
- **The Immigration Board Game:** Bring a small group of people together to play this game that demonstrates the complexities and pitfalls of the U.S. immigration system, and explains why so many immigrants cannot get legal status.
- **Film Screening:** Host a screening of one of many films that explores the lives of immigrants. This can be in your living room, or in a large public venue.
- **Community Dialogue:** A facilitated discussion about cultural change and immigration, which encourages people to speak from personal experience.
- **Speaker:** If you have a willing audience, we can help you find a great speaker who will tell their immigration story.
- **Community event:** Help put together a potluck, service project or social event that brings together immigrants and non-immigrants.

2. Facilitate an event
Maybe you aren't quite ready to host your own event. You can still help us. We get lots of groups throughout the year who ask us to help them put on events. They often want people to give a brief presentation about Uniting NC or facilitate a discussion about immigration. Now that you're trained, we would like to call on you occasionally to help us handle an event. This will allow our small organization to commit to more events each year.

3. Raise money for a billboard
We have a couple images for use on billboards and are developing more. All of them focus on humanizing immigrants. If you want to see a positive message about immigrants in your community, then work with us to figure out the price of a billboard and then help us raise the money to make it happen.

4. Offer your skills to Uniting NC
As an organization with only one part-time staff member, we need help in all kinds of areas. If you have expertise in any of the following areas, please consider volunteering a couple hours a month to help us with:
- **Writing:** We would love to build a team who we can call on to write blog posts, letters to the editor and op-eds.
- **Internet and social media:** We are always looking to build our online presence through our website, Facebook and other online tools.
- **Graphic design:** We often need people to help us design fliers, promotional materials and billboards. We would love to have a group of people to share the work.
- **Advertising:** We need help figuring out how to get our PSAs, billboards and videos out into the world on a limited budget.
- **Fundraising:** If you know how to fundraise, we would love to have your help. You can raise money for something specific, like a Uniting NC billboard in your community, or just help us raise money to continue our work in general.