

CASE STUDY

The Welcome Project

Building Connected Communities for Resettled Women

PARTNER

ARCHEWELL
PHILANTHROPIES

ADVISORY SERVICES

MEASUREMENT & EVALUATION

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Opportunity

Archewell Philanthropies launched The Welcome Project in 2023 to fund women-led programming such as sewing, hiking, cooking, storytelling, and more, for recently resettled Afghan women facing isolation, language barriers, and family separation. To understand whether these programs were reducing loneliness, Archewell needed a way to measure impact consistently across 11 grantees.

Our Approach

F4SC **designed a mixed-methods evaluation framework**, pairing participant surveys with grantee-led interviews, refined with input from our [Scientific Leadership Council](#). When early feedback showed that terms like "depression" didn't translate, we **convened a grantee working group to co-design culturally responsive tools** – adapting items from the Afghan Symptom Tracker and adding visual scales. Through ongoing **technical assistance**, we equipped grantees to collect data and conduct interviews themselves, without gathering identifying information that could undermine participant trust.

The Impact

250+	Women reached across 14 communities in the U.S. & Canada
515	Survey responses collected in five languages over two years
98%	Reported increased social connection and decreased loneliness
88%	Felt their culture and lifestyle were welcomed and treated with respect

F4SC gave Archewell a **culturally relevant, repeatable way to measure belonging** that scaled with the program's expansion. Participant-identified needs for job, language, and transportation support also led Archewell to **add job-support sessions and partner connections** in Year 2.

"The women have created their own businesses, are participating in the program, taking advantage of the multiple programs, and their children see firsthand the positive impact of a mother/woman in business. This is empowerment."

— The Welcome Project grantee

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