

## Education for Success

As organizations dedicated to the empowerment of minority women, especially Latinas, USA AMEP Foundation and AMEP USA connect, develop, and empower these women through our signature activities and programs:

- networking skills and opportunities
- cross-cultural training
- training in soft skills
- financial literacy
- entrepreneurial education
- access to institutions

AMEP USA was launched in February 2012 as a 501(c)(6) non-profit organization with two initial regional chapters: Dallas and San Antonio. In June 2014, the organization opened a chapter in the state of Arkansas, in October 2016 it opened its Fort Worth Chapter and in 2017 it formally opens its Austin Chapter. In a few years, AMEP USA has managed to obtain recognition for its work on behalf of the professional women and Hispanic businesses in Texas.

USA AMEP Foundation, a non-profit organization obtained its 501(c)(3) status in 2016 to continue and expand the work of AMEP USA and its chapters, as well as do other charitable work benefiting minority youth and women.

Many of these women face a number of barriers and obstacles to thrive:

- they don't obtain accreditation for their studies abroad; therefore accessing lower paying jobs that are beneath their skill levels
- they face language barriers as they are not proficient in English
- they are victims of domestic violence
- they face barriers to obtain a GED, high school, college or graduate degree
- they don't understand the culture of the U.S. and particularly the professional and business culture of our country

AMEP USA through its different Chapters continually provides courses, seminars and workshops in areas such as negotiation, marketing, sales, work-life balance, leadership, communication skills, personal and business finance, as well as other soft skills that are essential in the workplace.

Specifically, we conduct trainings in key subjects such as the legal aspects to start a new business, tax training for small businesses, and negotiation skills for the workplace, sales, and obtaining loans for starting or expanding a business, financial opportunities for minority-owned businesses, work-life balance, cultural competencies, personal branding, as well as CPR & AED.

Our experience has shown that Latina women have been significantly underserved, as it has been hard to find custom-made programs to help them achieve their dreams of advancing in their careers and in the workplace, and of becoming business owners.

AMEP USA's women's education programs have been successful at a small scale as AMEP USA has operated with little or no funding. Nonetheless, AMEP USA's efforts have already made a significant impact on women in the geographical areas it has served through its programs. As a direct result of its efforts, Latina women have acquired skills sets that have enabled them to better manage their money, start new businesses, learn about nutrition, and improve the sales skills of those engaged in a direct selling business, among other skills.

AMEP USA has partnerships with different organizations, including Lift Fund, the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Ana G. Mendez University System, Femmes International, Women Living Abroad and others. AMEP organizes an annual event called "Women's Entrepreneurship Forum" for Latinas to obtain hands-on knowledge on how to start their own business, as well as other programs benefiting Latina women and their families.

With respect to its partnership with Ana G. Mendez University System, AMEP USA refers women wishing to pursue a college education, to further their careers with additional schooling or to obtain accreditation for college and graduate education abroad. Ana G. Mendez University System is the only campus in Texas offering fully bilingual education to its students.