

SUMMER 2018 ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT - PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The University of North Carolina **Go Global NC** proudly announces its summer **2018 Latino Initiative Program to Mexico**, with a focus on **Economic and Workforce Development**. A delegation of North Carolina policy and community leaders will participate in an in-depth program for economic and workforce development, with three phases: I) orientation; II) immersion program in Mexico; and III) follow-up workshop. The goals of the program are:

- Increase understanding of the Latino/Hispanic community in order to promote economic development, including the integration of a skilled workforce
- Experience innovative manufacturing approaches combining Private/Public/Institutional Partnerships
- Acquire an appreciation of cultural attitudes, values, and behaviors that are important for understanding best practices and strengthening economic relationships
- Develop an action plan for developing local workforce and economic initiatives that benefit all residents
- Belong to a regional network of leaders and diverse stakeholders who are working across professional disciplines to improve economic and workforce development in their communities
- Gain access to a local network of experienced peers for collaboration during the program and well beyond as Latino Initiative alumni

The **Latino Initiative** was established in 1998 as a result of the increase in the Latino/Hispanic population in the state of North Carolina. The initiative has a network of more than 800 alumni who are leaders in their communities. Some of their innovative projects have impacted the areas of health, education, and policy at all levels.

THE DELEGATION

The delegation will consist of 20+ North Carolina policy and community leaders, including Government Community College, education and representatives from manufacturing industries and economic developers.

PHASES OF EVENTS

Phase I - Orientation - This workshop includes presentations on demographic changes, historical content of Mexico, intercultural training, current context of relationship with NC, and initial discussion on how to apply their experiences upon return from Mexico.

Phase II - Immersion Program in Mexico - The delegation will visit historical sites, community centers, and manufacturing industries. Additionally, the delegations will dialogue with leaders and professionals from diverse fields and converse with families of immigrants living in the United States.

Phase III - Follow-up Workshop – This workshop includes a structured approach to analyze experiences in Mexico, to develop action plans to apply learnings from their experience Mexico to North Carolina's communities, and to identify next steps (e.g., six month/one year follow-up meeting)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The delegation will study Mexico's history, culture, and the impact of industry on Mexican communities. The delegation will have the opportunity to meet Mexican government officials, tour innovative aerospace and automotive industries, and learn about unique collaboration models for developing and sustaining a pipeline for a skilled workforce. The delegation will learn best practices and how to capitalize on Mexico's approach to increase capacity for innovation through advances in manufacturing.

North Carolina leaders will benefit from learning how Mexican industry operates and contributes to overall economic development to more effectively access and cultivate the resources within the Latino communities of North Carolina. At the same time, the delegation will benefit from lessons learned bringing practical, innovative solutions to better integrate immigrants into the fabric of communities across North Carolina.

Today, immigrants play a role in North Carolina's economy in the areas of manufacturing, agriculture, construction, and food services, among other industries. As one of the states with the fastest growing Latino population in the nation, North Carolina is well positioned to establish integrated communities where all residents contribute their full potential to make North Carolina a thriving and vibrant 21st century state.

The program will open in the metropolis of Mexico City, with visit to national monuments and areas of historical significance. The program in Mexico will include site visits to local industries, community projects in rural areas, and innovation hubs. The delegation will visit the state of Guanajuato, a region where many of the Mexican nationals living in North Carolina have migrated from. The delegation will visit different manufacturing plants, including auto and aviation industries. Participants will meet with Mexican leaders from diverse fields and have dialogues with families of immigrants living in the United States. The program will conclude in Guanajuato City with Mexican host families and a closing debrief session to analyze lessons learned prior to departure for North Carolina. In each Mexican town, there will be cultural and educational activities tailored to the delegation to provide a greater understanding of the history, culture, and philosophy of Mexico.

WHY MEXICO?

Mexico is not only our neighboring country to the south, but it is the country from which North Carolina has received the most immigrants in the past two decades. Mexico is the second largest market for goods from North Carolina; in 2015 \$3.19 billion worth of NC goods were exported to Mexico. In 2014, the Census Bureau accounted more than 848,000 Latinos living in the state of North Carolina, with a 111% increase in Latino population since 2000 and an increase of 14.7% in Latino/Hispanic births, representing a significant increase in a new population migrating to the state of North Carolina.

GO GLOBAL NC

We are Go Global NC and we connect North Carolina to the world and the world to North Carolina. For 38 years our international education and training programs have empowered North Carolina leaders with the skills, understanding, connections, and knowledge to succeed in a global community. Go Global NC (formerly the Center for International Understanding) is part of the world-class, 17-campus University of North Carolina system. Our work strengthens North Carolina to act, grow, and prosper.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

(Attendance required to all)

- **January – February** - Informational meetings
- **March – April** (TBD) Community needs assessment meetings
- **July 18** – Orientation Pre-departure Workshop
- **August 6 to 14** – Immersion Study in Mexico
- **September 19** – Follow- Workshop
- **February 2019** – Six Months success and review meetings
- **August 2019** – Year reunion

PROGRAM COST

The cost of participation is \$6,375 per person. Program fees include informational meetings, orientation and follow-up workshops in North Carolina. Nine days programming in Mexico, airfare, ground transportation, meals, international health insurance, Spanish-English Interpreters, partner administrative fees, and other expenses.