



ASOCIACIÓN PUERTORRIQUEÑOS EN MARCHA, INC.

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Nilda I. Ruiz
President

Carlos Raul Rodríguez
Chairman, Board of Directors

A HUMAN SERVICES ORGANIZATION

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APM ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

PHILADELPHIA -- Association Puertorriquenos en Marcha, Inc (APM) is pleased to announce the appointment of Rasak Azeez as Vice President of Finance and Administration. Azeez, who was selected following a national search, brings over 15 years of senior level experience in budgeting, accounting and financial management to the APM.

Azeez is the second major leadership appointment for APM this year. In May, the organization announced a new executive director, Nilda Ruiz, who is working with the board on a new strategic plan and vision for the organization. As chief financial officer, Azeez will be responsible for the administration and oversight of APM's operational, human resource, financial and information systems activities.

Azeez comes to APM following seven years with the National Congress for Community Economic Development in Washington D.C., where he served as vice president for finance and administration/chief financial officer. In this position, he managed all of the organization's management operations including, finance, budgeting, accounting, human resources, Management Information Systems (MIS) and contract administration.

APM Board President Carlos Rodriguez stated "The board of directors has been working closely with our executive director, Nilda Ruiz, on a new strategic plan that will bring stronger fiscal management to our organization. Azeez's experience establishing budgeting and financial policies and his familiarity with the regulations of federal and private funding sources is critical. His role will be to monitor and improve APM's organizational standards of performance, service delivery and quality."

Prior to working in Washington, D.C. Azeez served for two years as director of finance at Bronx AIDS Services in New York. Azeez began his career as a staff accountant at the New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Newark, New Jersey. In his 12 years with the commission, he rose through the ranks to become assistant administrator. In this position, he supervised the accounting and financial staff and managed, planned and monitored an agency budget and spending plans of \$12 million and a payroll of \$10 million. He also monitored operations for cash management, collections and reconciliations, invested securities and prepared financial statements.



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APM Executive Director, Nilda Ruiz, stated “We’re very pleased to have a new finance officer who not only has leadership experience in financial management but is familiar with working in the non-profit and social service arena. He is the right person to implement our vision to strengthen our organization, both financially and organizationally and maximize APM’s impact in the community.”

Azeez has a bachelor’s degree in accounting from Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, New York and Master of Business Administration from Manhattan College, Riverdale, New York.

APM has pledged to improve the quality of life of Puerto Ricans and other Latinos in Philadelphia by fostering and encouraging the spirit of cooperation among all residents of the community. The agency seeks to develop programs, ranging from housing to social services that contribute materially and socially to the betterment of our neighborhoods. Now in its 34th year, APM continues to champion the cause of language and social minorities in Philadelphia.

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