



Georgia Micro Enterprise Network (GMEN)

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*"30 years of building entrepreneurs
in GA and the Southeast – 1997-2027."*

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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GMEN Attends the National Latino Economic Development Conference

ATLANTA, Ga. (August 3, 2026) — The **Georgia Micro Enterprise Network (GMEN)** will attend the National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders (NALCAB) National Conference on September 15-17, 2026, in San Antonio, Texas.

GMEN Chief Operating Officer **Adam L. Smith** and **Alejandro Coss**, President and CEO of the Latin American Chamber of Georgia, will attend the conference as collaborative recipients of NALCAB's Maker2Market grant.

Hosted by NALCAB, the annual conference brings together leaders from across the country who are advancing Latino economic mobility and community development. This year's theme, "**Connect. Collaborate. Activate.**" highlights the value of partnerships, innovation, and action.

During the conference, Smith and Coss will participate in educational sessions, workshops, and networking events. They will exchange ideas with national leaders and explore strategies that support entrepreneurs, small businesses, and local economic development.

"Collaboration creates opportunity," said Adam L. Smith, Chief Operating Officer of GMEN. "This conference allows us to learn from organizations across the country. We look forward to bringing fresh ideas, new relationships, and proven strategies back to Georgia."

NALCAB is the nation's leading organization dedicated to advancing Latino economic mobility through entrepreneurship, small business development, community



investment, housing, and economic growth. Earlier this year, GMEN was awarded a **\$300,000 Maker2Market grant** from NALCAB. The grant was made possible through a **\$2 million investment from the Truist Foundation**. The funding supports entrepreneurs and community-based business development organizations. Through the Maker2Market initiative, GMEN and the Latin American Chamber of Georgia are working together to connect entrepreneurs with technical assistance, business resources, and organizations that help businesses start, grow, and scale.

As GMEN celebrates its 30th anniversary, the organization remains committed to building a stronger entrepreneurial ecosystem across Georgia. The NALCAB National Conference allows GMEN to bring new knowledge, meaningful connections, national resources, and proven practices back to the entrepreneurs and business development organizations it serves.

About the NALCAB National Conference

The NALCAB National Conference brings together nonprofit leaders, community development practitioners, lenders, policymakers, entrepreneurs, and economic development professionals from across the country. To learn more about the conference or register, visit <https://conference.nalcab.org>.

About Georgia Micro Enterprise Network (GMEN)

The Georgia Micro Enterprise Network (GMEN) is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting Georgia's entrepreneurial ecosystem. GMEN works with organizations that help entrepreneurs and small businesses start, grow, and scale through technical assistance, strategic partnerships, collaboration, and capacity building. For more information about GMEN, visit www.gmen.org.

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