

Latina Chamber selects board



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The Latina Chamber, founded last year by Monica Pleiman and Juanita Chacon, has elected its first board of directors.

The 25-person board was elected by chamber members after the group's membership reached 100 people. Two college and two high school students are among the directors.

The first board meeting will be May 17 and officers will be elected at that meeting, said Pleiman, a newly elected board member and CEO of Optimum Management Systems (OMS). A formal board induction will occur in June.

Pleiman said the next step will be more fundraising, followed by a search for someone to run the group full-time.

"The amount of support we're getting from this city is spectacular," she said.

The new directors are: Timi Aguilar, president and CEO, Aguilar Public Relations LLC; Danette Aguirre, owner, La Fogata restaurant; Christine Arguello, partner, [Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP](#); Esther Baca, student; Myrna Baltazar, president, Alpha Omega Mortgage Services Inc.; Jeanette Blanco-Wellers, president, Silvercool Roofing and Sheet Metal; Judi Diaz Bonacquisti, director, Colorado School of Mines; Juanita Chacon, broker associate, Re/Max Alliance Central; Pat Cortez, senior vice president, Wells Fargo Bank; Marina Estrada, student; Eric Gonzalez, president, Doc1 Solutions; Liz Ojeda, president, Collective Solutions & Services Inc.; Susana Meraz, student; Suzanna Martinez, financial services professional, [New York Life Insurance](#); Patty Mejia, account executive, Colonial Supplemental Insurance; Juan Ramirez Perez, student; Monica Pleiman; Julie Rodriguez, development director, Mile High Montessori; Judy Sandoval, executive assistant and marketing director, Colorado Manufactured Housing Association; Germaine Santistevan, travel specialist, Alem International Travel Service LLC; Suzanne Shaw, vice president of marketing, Mike Shaw Automotive; Elise Spain, Executive Director, Day of Caring for Breast Cancer Awareness; Lewis Turner, director, Young Americans Center for Financial Education; Sharon Vigil, executive director, Colorado Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals; and Andrew Romero, Key Bank.

The Latina Chamber's mission is to help all sectors of the Hispanic community locally, nationally and internationally to access information that will help with advancement in personal,

business and professional lives. The Latina Chamber also wants private, government and nonprofit sectors to access to information about Hispanics.

The group also wants to be of service to the community, regardless of race or culture. Education, health care, immigration and helping youth are among the group's priorities.

"We're just so open to teaming and partnering with people," Pleiman said. "This thing has just taken off. It's just incredible."