

***Topic: Co-operative Ownership Models: Residential, Commercial and Community Facility Case Studies***

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Ramon Leon is the founding Executive Director of Latino Economic Development Center, an ethnic based CDC serving the Twin cities area of Minneapolis St. Paul and Greater MN. He has been an active social justice leader in his community, and was the first president of the founding board of directors of “Cooperative Mercado Central”, an Economic justice, community based Cooperative project that sparked the revitalization of Lake St in Minneapolis. He has presented at conferences around the US on different topics related to Wealth creation among minorities, Community revitalization, Immigration, Economic Impact of Immigrants, Building Socially Responsible Business Communities, Public Spaces Development as tools for community development, and others.