



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**FORMER USAA EXECUTIVE TAPPED TO LEAD PROJECT QUEST**

SAN ANTONIO--- Project QUEST, one of the city's top workforce development organizations, has named David J. Zammiello as its new Executive Director, as of June 26, 2017. After 32 years, Zammiello retired from USAA in December 2016. Having served in various senior level executive positions, his most recent position was Vice President of Property and Casualty Staff Operations, where he was responsible for providing visionary leadership and implementing strategic business plans.

"We are extremely excited to have David join our team at QUEST. His visionary leadership, strategic planning, personal commitment to make a difference, and the years of experience that he brings at the executive level will aid extensively in preparing for QUEST's future," said Don Beeler, QUEST's Board Chair.

Zammiello replaces Sister Pearl Ceasar, CDP, who departs QUEST after being elected Superior General of the Congregation of Divine Providence.

"Although this is a bittersweet moment for me, I am confident that David will bring a set of new ideas and opportunities allowing QUEST to continue San Antonio's economic competitiveness for many years to come," said Ceasar.

During QUEST's 25-year history, the leadership of COPS/Metro and its original founders have worked with staff to improve the lives of more than 6,631 students, moving them from poverty into the middle-class. Last month, Mark Elliott, President of the Economic Mobility Corporation, released the results of an in-depth, random assignment evaluation of Project QUEST that was commissioned by the Mott Foundation a little over 10 years ago. The [study](#) of QUEST detailed significant and positive multi-generational effects the organization has had on its participants.

Under Zammiellos' leadership, QUEST will highlight its 25-year contribution to the San Antonio and surrounding areas through an economic impact study, being generated by local economist Steve

Nivin, Ph.D.

"I am honored to have been selected as Executive Director of Project QUEST, an organization which has been an integral part of San Antonio's economic development for the past 25 years," said Zammiello. "I look forward to leading the organization and furthering its mission of strengthening San Antonio's economy for many years to come."

Throughout his career, Zammiello has actively served the San Antonio business and non-profit communities. Currently, he serves on the UTSA Alumni Association Board of Directors, chairing the Strategic Planning committee and recently completed a six-year appointment to the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors. Additionally, Zammiello is a graduate of Leadership San Antonio (LSA, Class 22) and served on the LSA 41 Steering Committee. Among other nonprofit organizations, Zammiello was intricately involved with United Way of San Antonio, San Antonio's Alzheimer Association, as well as San Antonio for Youth Literacy.

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**Project QUEST, Inc.**, is a primary economic development broker, providing critical support, expertise and resources to develop highly-qualified employees for career path opportunities. In collaboration with community stakeholders, QUEST identifies demand-driven occupations, partners with local colleges for education and training, and provides specialized case management to achieve graduation and job placement for its participants. To learn more, visit [www.questsa.org](http://www.questsa.org).

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