

EVA GARZA DEWAELSCHE



Eva Garza Dewaelsche has served as President of SER Metro-Detroit, Jobs for Progress, Inc., for over 20 years. She also became its CEO in 2007. SER Metro is a multi-state workforce development organization established 52 years ago by the American G.I. Forum and LULAC to provide job training and employment services to Hispanics and other minority and under-represented communities in Detroit. In addition to overseeing operations in Detroit, including the Samaritan Center on Detroit's east side, she is responsible for workforce center operations and programs in Texas and Illinois with 40 plus locations and over 500 employees.

Ms. Garza Dewaelsche has been employed with SER Metro for over 40 years where she established a nationally accredited, post-secondary technical school in Detroit and Chicago and later served as Principal of the SER Casa Academy, a charter school serving at-risk youth from the city of Detroit. Prior to SER Metro, she worked at National Bank of Detroit, as a market research analyst for 10 years. A former police officer, she has also served two terms (9 years) on the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners under Mayor Archer (1999-2003) and under Mayor Duggan (2015-2020).

A lifetime resident of Detroit, Ms. Garza Dewaelsche has been actively involved for over 45 years in pursuit of her personal goal to help enhance the quality of life for Detroiters through her career and by serving on numerous boards and commissions. In 2014 she was recognized by President Obama for her leadership at SER and received The White House "Champion of Change Award". Her current board affiliations include: Detroit Economic Growth Corporation, Wayne County Community Development Entity (CDE), Detroit-Wayne County Integrated Health Network (DWIHN), New Detroit, Inc., Comerica Community Development Advisory Council, LA SED, SER National Board, WSU President's Advisory Council, Detroit Regional Workforce Alliance, and DTE Community Advisory Council.

Ms. Garza Dewaelsche is a graduate of Western High School in Detroit. She obtained her Bachelors in Sociology and Masters in Education from Wayne State University and is a fellow of the Michigan State University Political Leadership Program. She has also completed the Harvard Executive Training in Community Leadership, Detroit Regional Chamber's Leadership Detroit Program, and New Detroit's Hispanic Leadership Program.

Ms. Garza Dewaelsche resides in Detroit with her husband Robert. They recently acquired El Central Hispanic News in Detroit....she is the majority owner and publisher, and he is the managing editor and runs daily operations. They have two daughters, Lisa who lives in New Orleans and Christina who lives in New Jersey with her husband and two children.