

APPENDIX I

Tepeyac Association Mission Statement:

The Tepeyac Association is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 network of 40 community based organizations, whose mission is twofold to promote the social welfare and human rights of Latino immigrants, specifically the undocumented in New York City. The Association Tepeyac is also dedicated to inform, organize, and educate Mexican immigrants and their families about rights, resources, and processes to develop leaders, organizations, and communities, to built a great Mexican community, integrated to all races and cultures in New York. Founded in September, 1997 by Mexican community leaders, the Association is the only public resource dedicated to organize Mexican immigrants in the five boroughs of New York City. Through its grassroots structure and leadership the Association serves and influences over 10,000 members.

The Association Tepeyac's Central Offices also serves as a social service agency for those Latinos who cannot go to city agencies because they lack proper documentation. Those who are Spanish speakers, undocumented immigrants live under inhumane conditions, yet are ineligible for most services provided by the city. The Tepeyac Association of New York responds to those needs by organizing Mexicans to defend their human rights, educate them concerning these rights, as well as foster a sense of community through social, economic, and cultural activities. Additionally, the Association's monthly publication, El Popocatéptl, serves to inform members about their rights, services that Association and other organizations in the city can offer them, and empowers their Mexican identity. Clearly immigrants know that the Association is here to serve them. The media is always paying attention about the situations, plans and events that the Tepeyac Association is addressing to empower new immigrants.

Our tasks are to organize, inform, educate and form new organizations with their leaders tackling urgencies, necessities, and human rights, empowering identities and communities. Maintaining a leadership among Mexicans and pushing the development of the immigrant community in New York State and City.

Source: Tepeyac Association Web Site (2001): (<http://www.tepeyac.org>)