

## Our Origins

Our founder Marcela Celorio has thirty years of diplomatic experience in Europe, the Middle East, and mainly in the United States (Washington D.C., New York, San Diego, and Los Angeles). This background provides her with a unique understanding of different multicultural settings and their nuance

Her long consular path gave her the opportunity to assist and protect Mexican immigrants, while dealing with complex challenges including: the immigrant caravans arriving in the U.S.-Mexico Border; negotiating complex cases with authorities in both countries; assisting immigrants held at detention centers and jails; and facilitating dialogue in the *Cross-Cultural Community*.

Traditional strategies are mainly focused on advocating and defending human and civil rights. This fair and humane approach seeks to foster respect for the rights and dignity of all people. In this regard, other governments, international organizations, and nonprofit organizations perform astonishing and laudable work.

However, through years of diplomatic and consular work, our founder realized that it is not just an unilateral effort, this is a two way street endeavor. Thus, Polidore mission is to contribute to the creation of a functional society by helping to achieve a balance between rights and responsibilities (2R's).

Human Rights should not be taken for granted and must be protected. All *Cross-Cultural Community* members must assume and be aware that they are obliged to respect the law and other people's rights as well. It is a bidirectional effort.

There is an incontestable fact that most immigrants have been victims of social, economic, and historical adverse circumstances in both their community of origin and their new community.

From our founder and *Polidore's* team experiences as authorities and citizens in both Mexico and the United States, we will offer solutions to bridge the culture divide, and help craft new approaches to empower the *Cross-Cultural Community*. *Polidore* will advance strategies that go beyond just providing assistance and protection and ultimately overcoming the *victimhood trap*.

A way to empower immigrants is to guide them to become *civic leaders*. This is essential to improve education regarding their rights and freedoms, and with the same conviction and effort, about their duties and responsibilities. This implies not only the legal perspective, but more importantly the moral conviction that we abide by social norms and customs rooted in social values.

It is our responsibility and moral obligation to help immigrants understand the culture, values and system of the U.S. Immigrants are already considered the backbone of the U.S. economy, but much remains to be done in the political, civic, cultural and social arenas.

Immigrants face the challenge of adapting and being accepted in the United States. In addition to knowing their rights, they need to also be aware of their responsibilities to fully assume their role in this new society. That is why the Rule of Law and Civic Education come into play.