

Division of Corporations

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Florida Department of State
Division of Corporations
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FLORIDA PROFIT/NON PROFIT CORPORATION
Center for Central American Empowerment, Inc.

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**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
CENTER FOR CENTRAL AMERICAN EMPOWERMENT, INC.
(A NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION)**

**ARTICLE I
NAME**

The name of this corporation is Center for Central American Empowerment, Inc. (the "*Corporation*").

**ARTICLE II
PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS**

The principal office and mailing address of the Corporation is located at 7204 Hanson Drive S., Jacksonville, FL 32210.

**ARTICLE III
PURPOSES**

The Corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively as a corporation not-for-profit and for charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "*Code*"), and the Treasury Regulations issued thereunder, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

Notwithstanding the generality of the foregoing, but at all times subject to the restrictions set forth in these Articles, the Corporation intends to create, operate or support projects that benefit people in need, with a strong focus in the Central American isthmus, comprised of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Belize and Panama, with a particular emphasis on creating and/or supporting projects that benefit women, girls, families and their environment. These projects will help women, girls and families break the cycle of poverty, oppression and exploitation; increase educational and vocational and employment opportunities for Central American women and girls; address obstacles to their wellbeing; support the family unit and their environment; and promote male responsibility. A broad spectrum of comprehensive support may include but is not limited to the following types of projects:

- Women's and girl's empowerment (AA, domestic violence support groups, etc.).
- Opportunities for employment, education, sports and recreation programs.
- Access to health care including comprehensive reproductive health, mental health, etc.
- Access to clean water, electricity, adequate housing and neighborhood safety.
- Countering oppression (domestic violence, relationship violence, sex trafficking, etc.).
- Promoting legal protections to ensure the rights and welfare of women and girls.
- Programs that promote male responsibility, family stability and community sustainability.

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ARTICLE IV POWERS

The Corporation shall have the general power to do all lawful acts, as conferred upon corporations not-for-profit by Section 617.0302, Florida Statutes, including all those things necessary or expedient to carry out the purposes and responsibilities of the Corporation.

Notwithstanding the generality of the foregoing, the powers of the Corporation shall be subject to the following limitations and restrictions:

(a) The Corporation shall have no power to do any act inconsistent with the provisions of Sections 501(c)(3) and 170(c)(2) of the Code, or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Laws and the Corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by (i) a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, or (ii) a corporation contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Code, or any other corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

(b) No part of the income, profit or assets of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, directly or indirectly, its directors, officers, or other private persons; provided however, that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article III of these Articles of Incorporation; and

(c) No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(a) All corporate powers shall be exercised under the authority of, and the affairs of the Corporation shall be managed under the direction of the Board of Directors, except as otherwise provided by law or in these Articles of Incorporation or the Bylaws of the Corporation.

(b) The Corporation shall have four (4) directors as of the filing of these Articles of Incorporation. The number of directors may be increased or decreased from time to time according to the Bylaws, but shall never be less than three (3) or more than nine (9).

(c) The Board of Directors shall have the power to elect additional or successor directors and shall have the power to remove any existing director as provided in the Bylaws.

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(d) The names and addresses of the initial members of the Board of Directors are as follows:

NAME	ADDRESS
Peter M. Racine	7204 Hanson Drive S., Jacksonville, FL 32210
Lawrence J. DuBow	6730 Epping Forest Way North, Villa 110, Jacksonville, FL 32207
Kelly A. Racine	7204 Hanson Drive S., Jacksonville, FL 32210
Claudia Milligan	2823 Ionic Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32210

ARTICLE VI OFFICERS

(a) The officers of the Corporation shall be a President, a Vice President, a Treasurer and a Secretary, and such other officers as may be provided by the Bylaws.

(b) The officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the members of the Board of Directors at their annual meeting or at such other times as provided in the Bylaws.

(c) The names of the initial officers of the Corporation are as follows:

Peter M. Racine	President
Lawrence J. DuBow	Vice President and Treasurer
Claudia Milligan	Secretary

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**ARTICLE VII
INITIAL REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT**

The street address of the initial registered office of the Corporation is 7204 Hanson Drive S., Jacksonville, FL 32210; the name of the initial registered agent of the Corporation at that address is Peter M. Racine.

**ARTICLE VIII
INCORPORATOR**

The name and address of the subscriber to these Articles of Incorporation is Peter M. Racine, 7204 Hanson Drive S., Jacksonville, FL 32210.

DURATION AND COMMENCEMENT

The Corporation shall exist perpetually. Corporate existence shall commence on the date these Articles of Incorporation are executed, except that if they are not filed by the Department of State of the State of Florida within five (5) business days thereafter, corporate existence shall commence upon filing by the Department of State.

**ARTICLE IX
MEMBERS**

This Corporation shall have no members.

**ARTICLE X
BYLAWS**

(a) The Board of Directors, by majority vote, may provide such Bylaws for the conduct of the business of the Corporation and the carrying out of its purposes as they may deem necessary from time to time, including, but not limited to, provisions for the quorum and voting requirements for meetings and activities of the Board of Directors; provided, however, that such Bylaws shall not conflict with any of the provisions of these Articles of Incorporation.

(b) Upon proper notice, the Bylaws may be amended, altered or rescinded by the majority vote of members of the Board of Directors at any regular meeting, or any special meeting for such purpose.

**ARTICLE XI
AMENDMENTS**

Upon proper notice, these Articles of Incorporation may be amended, altered, changed or repealed by majority vote of the members of the Board of Directors. All power and authority conferred hereby upon officers and the Board of Directors of the Corporation are granted subject to the further amendment of these Articles of Incorporation.

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ARTICLE XII
CORPORATE LIQUIDATION AND DISSOLUTION

No person, firm or corporation shall ever receive any dividends or profits from the undertaking of the Corporation, and upon dissolution, the assets of the Corporation, after all debts and liabilities are paid, shall be distributed:

(a) to one or more organizations qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, that have purposes similar to the charitable purposes of the Corporation;

(b) to the federal government or a state or local government, for public purposes similar to the charitable purposes of the Corporation consistent with Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, and in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida; or

(c) upon order of a court of competent jurisdiction, to another organization to be used in such manner as in the judgment of the court will best accomplish the charitable purposes of this Corporation.

ARTICLE XIII
LIMITATIONS ON CORPORATE POWER

Should the corporation at any time be considered a "*Private Foundation*" under Section 509(a) of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, the following limitations will apply:

(a) The Corporation will distribute its income for each tax year at such time and in such manner so that it will not become subject to the tax on undistributed income imposed by Section 4942 of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law;

(b) The Corporation will not engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in Section 4941(d) of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law;

(c) The Corporation will not retain any excess business holdings as defined in Section 4943(c) of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law;

(d) The Corporation will not make any investments in a manner that would subject it to tax under Section 4944 of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law; and

(e) The Corporation will not make any taxable expenditures as defined in Section 4945(d) of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

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**ARTICLE XIV
INDEMNIFICATION**

The Corporation shall indemnify officers, directors, employees and agents to the full extent permitted by the Florida Not-For-Profit Corporation Act, provided, however that no such indemnification shall be permitted if such indemnification would violate the purposes of the Corporation as specified in Article III of these Articles of Incorporation or would be inconsistent with the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) and Section 170(c)(2) of the Code, or corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Laws.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, the undersigned subscriber, have made, signed and hereby acknowledge these Articles of Incorporation this 30 day of October, 2015, for the purpose of incorporating as a corporation not-for-profit under the laws of the State of Florida.



Peter M. Racine

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**CERTIFICATE DESIGNATING PLACE OF BUSINESS
FOR THE SERVICE OF PROCESS WITHIN THIS STATE
NAMING AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED**

Pursuant to Chapter 48.091, Florida Statutes, the following is submitted, in compliance with the Act:

That the Center for Central American Empowerment, Inc., desiring to organize under the laws of the State of Florida with its principal office, as indicated in the Certificate of Incorporation, in Duval County, Florida, has named Peter M. Racine, located at 7204 Hanson Drive S., Jacksonville, FL 32210, as its agent to accept service of process within this State.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY REGISTERED AGENT:

Having been named to accept service of process for the Corporation at the place designated in this Certificate, I hereby accept to act in this capacity, and agree to comply with the provision of the Act relative to keeping open said office.

Date: October 30, 2015


Peter M. Racine, Registered Agent

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