

Manuel (Manny) Flores

Manny Flores is the President and CEO of SomerCor, an Illinois based Small Business Administration (SBA) Certified Development Company. Manny first joined SomerCor as a board member in 2016 and was appointed President and CEO by his board peers in 2018.

Under Manny's leadership, SomerCor has more than doubled its lending volume from \$51MM in FY2018 to \$104 MM in FY2021, increasing access to capital for small businesses across Illinois. Manny is a strong proponent of growing minority and women-owned businesses and has enhanced SomerCor's outreach and lending activities to better serve under-resourced communities. Manny also expanded SomerCor's participation in economic development initiatives related to strengthening the region's small business ecosystem including the Chicago Inclusive Growth Coalition, the Chicagoland Opportunity Zone Consortium, and the Cook County Economic Development Advisory Committee.

Manny's unique professional background includes holding elected office as a Chicago City Council member (2003-2010) and serving as Director and Acting Secretary of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (2011-2015).

In addition to his work at SomerCor, Manny is active on numerous non-profit boards including the Small Business Advocacy Council, the Metropolitan Planning Council, the United Way of Metro-Chicago, the Environmental Law and Policy Center, and Kids Above All. Manny is an attorney, a graduate of the George Washington University Law School, and a Leadership Greater Chicago fellow - class of 2009.

About SomerCor

SomerCor is a U.S. Small Business Administration, non-profit Certified Development Company headquartered in Chicago. In its 29 years of business, SomerCor has served more than 3,500 businesses and 1,600 communities, provided \$1.58+ billion in SBA 504 and Community Advantage loans, and has helped create more than 41,000 jobs across Illinois. SomerCor also proudly partners with the City of Chicago in administering the city's Small Business Improvement Fund and Neighborhood Opportunity Fund programs.