

Arlene Velazquez

Arlene Velazquez is Food For The Poor's (FFTP) **Executive Vice President and Chief People Officer**. She has led the strategic transformation of the Human Resources Department to deliver solutions that strengthen workplace culture, support team member development, and enhance organizational effectiveness and enterprise change management. Arlene also oversees FFTP's Community Engagement and Volunteer Programs, creating meaningful opportunities for individuals and organizations to contribute their time, skills, and passion in service of FFTP's mission in addition to fostering community partnerships and expanding avenues for fundraising and support.

Under Arlene's leadership, Missions & Travel functions have moved to HR, enhancing HR's integration with FFTP's mission and expanding the purpose of missions to offer a meaningful experience for current and potential donors.

Arlene brings more than 20 years of experience in human resources, organizational development, talent management, and strategic leadership, primarily within global organizations in the oil and gas and manufacturing industries. She has traveled internationally, supporting organizations with their people strategies, and has developed a deep appreciation for diverse cultures.

She joined FFTP in 2021 as Human Resources Director and was promoted to her current role in November 2023.

Arlene holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico and has completed graduate coursework in Organizational Psychology at Springfield College. Now based in South Florida, the tropical climate reminds her of her hometown in Puerto Rico. A proud Puerto Rican, she enjoys dancing, savoring good food, and spending time with family and friends.

Quote:

"Our strength comes from people of diverse backgrounds and faiths, united by a shared purpose. We are driven by the belief that, through our work, we can support and empower others and help transform lives. Following Jesus Christ's example, we are privileged to share God's love. Together, we can truly make a difference in the communities we serve."