



Julia Maestas

Julianita “Julia” Maestas was born and raised in Las Vegas, New Mexico and with the leadership of her father and faith of her mother, her professional and personal path was born. Since the days of community service and networking alongside her father, to later leadership and student life in both high school and college, her sense of passion and love for people and drive for equity developed. As a student leader at the University of New Mexico, she was involved in El Centro de la Raza, Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán (M.E.Ch.A.) and a founding member of the first Latina Sorority Chapter on campus, of the first Latina Sorority in the United States-Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority Inc. In 2002, Julia received her BA in Criminology, with a Minor in Chicano Studies.

Her drive for equity and justice, led her to a ten-year career in juvenile justice, with experience in dependency and delinquency and focus on injustice to children, women, and families. In 2008, she received her MS in Justice Administration from San José State University, with a focus on juvenile justice and specialty courts. Julia was a prime leader and contributor in the Santa Clara County, California Family Drug Treatment Courts, leading and developing the first ever gender specific mentor parent program that was recognized in various capacities on the national, state, and local levels.

Later, Julia explored building leadership and expanding capacity to the areas of corporate and private sectors in accounting, auditing, and finding a change of career and yet again, justice and equity, in human resources. Over the past seven years, she has gained experience in all areas of human resources and center of excellence work in talent acquisition and inclusion and diversity. All this while moving through local to national leadership in the sorority and last serving as Director of Undergraduate Affairs, where she advocated for and influenced empowerment of college age Latinas across the country, program development, evaluation and systems building.

Julia currently is the Sr. Program Manager for the Office of Inclusion and Diversity at Presbyterian Healthcare Services under the leadership of Chief Inclusion Officer Michele Reeves, where she is currently building employee resources groups and strategies for impact on increasing inclusive practices on human resources processes and procedures. Her pursuit of justice, equity, passion for the next generation and investment of personal relationships and empowerment have come full circle and she is committed to create safe spaces for others to do the same.