



Jolee Perez, M.B.A., CEBS

**Director of Employee Benefits
City of McAllen
McAllen, Texas**

Born in Georgia and raised in the suburbs of Chicago, Jolee Perez made her way to Texas as fast as she could—and hasn't looked back since. After starting her career in corporate manufacturing, Jolee discovered her true calling in human resources, where she has flourished over the past 20 years in the Rio Grande Valley. For the last 15 of those years, Jolee has served as the director of employee benefits for the City of McAllen, where she leads all aspects of the City's benefits programs. With oversight of a 3,400-member, self-funded health plan, Jolee brings strategy and heart to her work—focusing on improving health outcomes, increasing member engagement, ensuring compliance, containing costs, and driving satisfaction across the board. Her role allows her to blend innovation with impact, designing benefit solutions that meet the evolving needs of public servants and their families. Jolee holds a bachelor's degree in business management from Trinity International University in Deerfield, Illinois, as well as an M.B.A. degree in human resource management from the University of Phoenix. She is designated by the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and the International Foundation as a Certified Employee Benefits Specialist® (CEBS®). Passionate about giving back, Jolee has served on numerous boards, including the Health Action Council, Society of Human Resource Management (RGV Chapter), and the Girl Scouts of Greater South Texas. Outside of her professional and volunteer roles, Jolee finds her greatest fulfillment at home. Over the past decade, she and her husband have fostered children and adopted two—an experience that brought her the title she cherishes most: mom.