



Iris Cartagena, Executive Administrative Assistant, joined the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority family in December 2015. In this role, she provides administrative support to the Executive Office. She has a background in business management, marketing, and accounting. She has over eight years of experience in the banking industry and private sector, in which she served as a Compliance Officer and Accounting Officer.

Ms. Cartagena was born and raised in Puerto Rico; she attended Caribbean University of Puerto Rico. During her professional career in Puerto Rico, she received a Compliance Officer Certification, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, and Credit & Collection Certifications. In 2002, Ms. Cartagena was recognized by Citigroup at the regional level for her outstanding work and the implementation of a successful marketing plan for mortgage loans. Ms. Cartagena was a member of "Jóvenes de Impacto" (Impact Youth) which helped young people with practical and emotional support to build the skills they need later in life.

In 2008, she moved to Cleveland, Ohio. During the first seven years in Cleveland, she worked for a non-profit social services organization, where she performed various management functions. Ms. Cartagena began working as a site coordinator of a Cuyahoga County program where she had the opportunity to help families with the tools needed to enhance the life of their children. From there, she moved to the Executive Office as the Executive Administrator Assistant. Shortly afterwards, she was promoted to the Fiscal Officer of the organization, where she was able to develop a financial structure system for the finance department.

Ms. Cartagena acquired a Pre-Purchasing Home Buying Certification (HUD), the Ohio Benefit Bank Counselor Certification, IRS VITA Site Coordinator Certification, and the Notary Public Commission for Cuyahoga County. She was also able to work on many projects such as strategic planning and fundraising events.

Furthermore, Ms. Cartagena is a certified Zumba instructor since 2009. She loves to teach zumba and encourage people to achieve their goals, and she wants to positively impact the lives of the people around her in all aspects of their life. Ms. Cartagena happily lives in Lakewood, Ohio with her son.