

TANISHA VELEZ *Profile*

Tanisha Velez is a native to Cleveland's West Side, growing up mainly in the Clark/Fulton neighborhood. Tanisha Velez is a proud graduate of Lincoln-West High School. She has made it her lifelong journey to educate people about agriculture and sustainability while balancing family life.

At home, she is a loving mother of 3 boys (14,10,7) and a partner to her high school sweetheart for 17 years. Tanisha has seen the struggles of small businesses in the community as a child. She helped her parents in their construction/ property management business. Tanisha has experienced the lack of equality/ education for Latino businesses to grow and thrive in Cleveland. Now as an adult and a small business owner she is battling to not fall under those same circumstances.

Through her variety of work experiences, her heart has always been to be a business owner. With the entrepreneur spirit she is the Founder/ Lead instructor and Grower of Cleveland Fresh, an urban agriculture operation that focuses on indoor growing, specifically microgreens. She is also the President of Jardin (Garden) 4 Life a non profit that supports different community groups and projects with an additional focus on agriculture. Tanisha and her family travel to Puerto Rico to help projects with fellow Wolverines and future generations. She also reaches out to communities to establish farmer markets and inspire others to grow food for business. Tanisha Velez is certified to start community gardens, have chickens, and is a Master Gardener. Tanisha is a part of the first cohort of "The 100 Latinos Cleveland must know".

Tanisha has a certification through the Super Majority to organize a community for shared power. She is ready to embark on her journey, to provide food for families to eliminate food deserts in her hometown Cleveland. With dreams of impacting and creating a generational shift to live longer and healthier through food and community empowerment.