Maria was born in Colombia and moved to the US in 1999. Her parent’s devotion and involvement with their community in Colombia inspired her from an early age to follow in their footsteps.

She holds a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Alabama and has been leading manufacturing and supply chain operations teams for the past 18 years. Currently, Maria leads the Business and Product Development teams for Meijer.

In 2019, Maria co-founded LIMA – United By Love LLC, a candle and gifts company with the mission to Unite, Empower & Give Back. LIMA is Maria’s passion project and has given her an opportunity to build an intentional network as well as to establish a deeper connection with her community.

Since 2022, Maria serves as Board President at Grace’s Table, a 501c3 in Grand Rapids, MI, with the mission to walk alongside teen mothers from isolation to community so they can reach their full potential. She is thrilled to lead the board to enable opportunities, elevate, and transform the lives of the families they serve. Furthermore, she is a community advocate for Hispanic professionals and Hispanic owned businesses and serves on the Board of Directors at the West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

Maria lives in Ada, MI with her husband Eric, their children Simon and Ana, and their dog Jerry. Maria loves to spend time at the lake, golf, and travel.