

# Bio – Catherine Wright Steele

Catherine Wright Steele serves as an administrator for the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Food and Nutrition Division (F&N). Catherine's oversight includes policy initiatives, communication and outreach, program advancement strategies; data and systems management; and special initiatives. Catherine also oversees TDA's Farm Fresh Initiative which includes the Farm Fresh Challenge and Farm Fresh Network. These activities help connect Texans to agriculture, increase community collaborations, promote healthy lifestyles, and improve local Texas economies. She is working to enhance collaboration among staff and stakeholders and foster innovation in program delivery and accountability.

Catherine brings a public policy perspective to the F&N team with 14 years working at the local, state, and federal levels. Catherine served as TDA's Director of Governmental Affairs, worked in local government at the South Plains Association of Governments and in Washington D.C. working for Chairman Larry Combest. Catherine is a Lubbock native and graduate of Texas Tech University. She currently resides in Pflugerville with her husband and children.