



NEWCOMER POV

# What makes the region stand out?

We asked these newcomers how Dallas feeds the different parts of their life—family, work, culturally.



**Samantha Fowlkes** — Vice president, head precision medicine initiatives, Caris Life Sciences  
*Moved from South Africa to Richardson in 1984*

“Dallas has my heart... it absolutely fills all parts of me, easy travel world-wide, great cost of living, space, cleanliness, availability of goods and services, proximity to meaningful friends and family, a great career with a Dallas-based company. Very hard to think about moving anywhere else with all that!”



**Milton Grays** — Owner, MDG Productions  
*Moved from Gainesville to Cedar Hill in 2016*

“As a business owner and creative, DFW fuels my passions every day. I began my career in marketing and eventually launched my own video production company, MDG Productions. The metroplex is brimming with businesses—both up-and-coming and well-established—that need high-quality content to thrive. The **constant demand for marketing, storytelling, and collaboration** keeps me motivated and inspired.”



**Megan Nichols** — Vice president, commercial relationship manager at Regions Bank  
*Moved from Fort Smith, Arkansas, to Lakewood in 2023*

“Growing up only a few hours away, I often found myself in Dallas, whether it be flying in and out of the DFW airport, attending a Dallas Cowboys game, shopping, or planning a weekend getaway. The more I would visit, the more I could see establishing a **prosperous livelihood** here.”

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Samantha Fowlkes, Milton Grays, and Megan Nichols connect with fellow newcomers for our cover shoot at Crown Block, a Michelin-recommended steakhouse and sushi spot perched atop Reunion Tower. With panoramic views of Dallas, it's one of 23 North Texas restaurants in the inaugural Michelin Guide Texas.