## Eric Gonzalez

Rooms Division Manager Holiday Inn Conference Center LeHigh Valley

"It's not about a work culture. It's a life culture. That's what makes The Journey so wonderful."



ric smiles when he talks about The Journey. The smile has a whole story behind it. He has found a home. "It is wonderful to work with a company where the Principles I lead my life by are what the company truly believes and what is the success of the organization." Eric passionately explains his connection to The Journey.

The Journey is an "others-centered" culture. We begin by first looking at those we serve and asking what we must do to help them achieve Great Performance. Eric carries the heart of a servant in all he does. It would be enough to just say, "I am the Youth Leader at my church." But that is not enough for Eric. He is a site supervisor, mentor and coach with the Allentown Mentoring Enrichment Network which, in plain terms, means Midnight Basketball Program every Friday night from 9pm until 12 am. It is more than just basketball...it is helping to educate, engage and empower a rising generation of more than 150 twelve to seventeen year olds.

That mentoring attitude has always been a part of Eric's style. He began his hospitality career in Pennsylvania in 1999 with the Holiday Inn brand. His quest for leadership growth took him to Millennium Hilton in NYC across the street from Ground Zero. That life changing moment and the birth of his second child called him back to Pennsylvania. The Philadelphia Marriott Convention Center, with its 1,400 rooms was a true growth opportunity for Eric as Operations Manager. But the most amazing growth was placed before him when he found the MJ Company values alive and well in Allentown.

"I find great joy and fulfillment by serving others. Each of us has a special gift and we must employ it in serving one another. Just as Michael Jordan served as the greatest to his fans, we must use our talents to serve ours." There is that smile again. "The Journey is the "IT" that it takes to succeed personally and professionally."