

Kerry R. Venegas

Education Director, Hoopa Valley Tribe
Vice President, Tribal Education National Assembly (TEDNA)

Kerry Venegas brings experience spanning the public, private, and non-profit sectors researching and developing programs that set high expectations for the achievement, education, culture, and care of Native students. She previously served as the Assistant Education Director for the Yurok Tribe after several years as the Policy and Native High School Initiative Director for the National Indian Education Association in Washington, DC. In addition, she has served as a Peace Corps volunteer working with Indigenous Quechua communities in Bolivia; as an Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow for the National Science Foundation's Tribal College Rural Systemic Initiative; as a research consultant with the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development - Honoring Nations program supporting and sharing and innovations in self-determination and education; and as a high school science teacher working with at-risk youth across the United States. Ms. Venegas holds an Education Specialist degree in Transition Special Education from the George Washington University, an M.Ed in Education Policy and Management from Harvard University, a M.A. in Secondary Education from the University of New Mexico, and a B.S. and B.A. in from Colorado State University. She is ABD from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and is continuing her work for Native sovereignty in education, including the collaboration between tribal nations and public school districts in meeting the needs of Native students.