

# Esther Lucero (Diné), MPP

Chief Executive Officer  
Seattle Indian Health Board



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## BIO

Esther Lucero is Diné and Latina and a third generation urban Indian from Colorado Springs, Colorado. Esther received a Master of Public Policy and a BA in Native American studies from Mills College.

While living in California, Esther served as the Director of Policy and Programs at the *Native American Heath Center* where she gained a strong understanding of the importance of cultural- and evidence-based practices while working to prevent substance abuse. Soon after, she became the Director of Programs and Strategic Development for the *California Consortium for Urban Indian Health* and led Behavioral Health Advocacy for 10 Urban Indian Health programs throughout California. In addition to her work in urban Indian organizations, Esther has taught classes at San Francisco State University in American Indian Studies and San Francisco Art Institute in Urban Studies.

In 2015, Esther was recruited by Seattle Indian Health Board for the position of CEO. The organization's dedication to its community and commitment to workforce development and epidemiology along with its national presence in the policy forum attracted Esther to lead the organization into a new era. Within her tenure, she increased the operating budget by \$23 million and completely transformed the organizational culture. She has built a team-based environment and established an Executive team to lead the charge toward the implementation of the first of its kind, Indigenous Knowledge Informed System of Care, which fueled the addition of 3 additional clinic sites. In recent years, the organization has increased its prominence locally and nationally.

Esther currently serves on numerous boards, commissions, taskforces and committees. Her passion and advocacy for Native health, transformative approaches to indigenous research and evaluation, and Federal Indian Law and policy has made her a leader in health in Seattle, Washington State and nationally.

**Esther Lucero**  
27439 SE 169th St.  
Issaquah, WA 98027  
(415) 810-4342  
[ellelucero@gmail.com](mailto:ellelucero@gmail.com)

## Education

### **Master of Public Policy**

Mills College, *Oakland, CA*  
Graduated 2010

### **Bachelor of Arts in Native American Studies with a minor in Chemistry**

Mills College, *Oakland, CA*  
Graduated 2006

## Experience

<b>Seattle Indian Health Board</b> , Seattle, WA <i>President &amp; CEO</i>	11/2015-present
<b>California Consortium for Urban Indian Health</b> , San Francisco, CA <i>Director of Programs and Strategic Development</i>	10/2013-10/2015
<b>Native American Health Center</b> , Oakland, CA <i>Director of Policy and Programs</i>	2/2010-10/2013
<b>Native American Health Center</b> , San Francisco, CA <i>Consultant</i>	05/2009-08/2009
<b>Native American AIDS Project</b> , San Francisco, CA <i>HIV Case Manager</i>	04/2007-02/2009

## Teaching Experience

<b>San Francisco Art Institute</b> , San Francisco, CA Adjunct Professor	12/2015-Current
<b>San Francisco State University</b> , San Francisco, CA Adjunct Professor	08/2010-12/2015

## Publications

Lucero, E. (2011). From tradition to evidence: Decolonization of the evidence-based practice system. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 43(4), 319–324. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02791072.2011.628925>

*The New Generation*, *The Womanist Journal* 2006

## Films

*Killing the 7th Generation: Reproductive Abuses Against Indigenous Women*, Director, Cinematographer, Editor, Co-producer Melinda Micco 2010

## **Leadership and Professional Memberships**

*Native Communities Committee*

*City of Seattle's Community Police Commission*

*City of Seattle's Equitable Communities Taskforce*

*King County Accountable Community of Health: HealthierHere's governing board, Co-chair*

*King County LGBTQ Taskforce*

*Governor's Behavioral Health Taskforce*

*Governor's Indian Health Advisory Council, delegate*

*American Indian Health Commission, delegate*

*Washington Association for Community Health Governing Board*

*Northwest Primary Care Association Governing Board*

*SAMHSA Advisory Committee for Women's Services*

*SAMHSA Region 10 Opioid Taskforce*

*National Tribal Environmental Health Think Tank member-Centers for Disease Control*

*Intertribal Friendship House Board Member*

*HIV Prevention Planning Council, Co-chair of Prevention with Positives Committee*