

Esther Lucero (Diné), MPP

President & Chief Executive Officer
Seattle Indian Health Board



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



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

Seattle Indian Health Board, Seattle, WA 11/2015-present
President & CEO

California Consortium for Urban Indian Health, San Francisco, CA 10/2013-10/2015
Director of Programs and Strategic Development

Native American Health Center, Oakland, CA 2/2010-10/2013
Director of Policy and Programs

Native American Health Center, San Francisco, CA 05/2009-08/2009
Consultant

Native American AIDS Project, San Francisco, CA 04/2007-02/2009
HIV Case Manager

Teaching Experience

San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA 12/2015-Current
Adjunct Professor

San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA 08/2010-12/2015
Adjunct Professor

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