

JANUARY CONTRERAS

(b)(6)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer

Arizona Legal Women and Youth Services (ALWAYS), Phoenix, Arizona, 2013-2017 and 2018-2021

- Lead daily operations of a nonprofit law center for vulnerable kids and families
- Manage diverse staff in the delivery of legal services to kids and young adults impacted by the foster care system, youth who are homeless or have run away, and survivors of human trafficking, abuse, and neglect
- Oversee the administration, programs, and strategic plan of this 501(c)(3) organization; manage budgeting and financial management, including funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Department of Justice; nurture relationships with social service providers, donors, foundations, advocates, and government leaders
- Advocate for policy reform and serve as a speaker and convener at the state and national level to advance solutions for vulnerable children, youth, and families
- Oversee legal practice and training in areas including immigration for victims of crime and unaccompanied minors, family law, child support, and criminal history repair

U.S. Immigration Ombudsman and Senior Advisor to the Secretary

U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Washington, D.C.

Ombudsman, Office of the Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman, 2009-2012

- Served as a sub-cabinet level administrator overseeing an independent agency tasked with improving the delivery of immigration and citizenship services on a case-by-case basis and system-wide; Transformed underutilized agency into high value resource for the public
- Managed 45 employees and \$6 million budget
- Launched innovative programs; Built national dialogue with stakeholders on issues ranging from unaccompanied minors to employment visas to Temporary Protected Status
- Served as the Secretary's designee to the White House Council on Women and Girls, and led the first DHS-wide effort to combat violence against women which resulted in policy changes and new training and resources for federal, state, and local law enforcement to support immigrant victims of crime, especially women and children impacted by violence

Senior Advisor to Secretary Janet Napolitano, Office of the Secretary, 2009

- Advised Secretary Napolitano and helped lead the DHS response to the 2009 H1N1 flu outbreak: participated in DHS and interagency whole-of-government collaboration

Acting Director

Arizona Department of Health Services, Phoenix, Arizona, 2008-2009

- Managed nearly 2000 employees and a \$2 billion budget during a fiscal crisis
- Worked with state and local stakeholders to promote, protect, and improve the health of individuals and communities in Arizona, with a focus on rural and tribal communities, delivery of behavioral health services, and emergency preparedness
- Launched agency-wide strategic plan for health equity to reduce racial health disparities
- Created the Office of Children's Health to increase early childhood focus and collaboration

Senior Health Advisor to the Governor

Office of the Governor, Governor Janet Napolitano, Phoenix, Arizona, 2006-2008

- Developed and led Governor's strategic initiatives to protect public health and advance delivery of health care in Arizona
- Oversaw development of health legislation, budget priorities, policies, and regulations
- Coordinated pandemic preparedness efforts with state and county public health leaders
- Served on Children's Cabinet and as Governor's liaison to advocates, health care professionals and providers, foundations, and community and business leaders

Assistant Director

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System, Phoenix, Arizona, 2005-2006

- Worked across the aisle to advocate for budgetary and legislative priorities that support quality delivery of Arizona's Medicaid services
- Oversaw state, tribal, and federal government relations
- Developed a coalition of health care and community stakeholders to preserve and improve health care services for low-income people, children, and families in Arizona

Assistant Attorney General

Office of the Attorney General, Fraud and Public Corruption Section, Phoenix, Arizona, 2000-2003

- Prosecuted white-collar Medicaid fraud, elder abuse, and crimes committed against nursing home residents; crafted investigations and litigated cases to final verdict and sentence

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

- Vitalyst Health Foundation, Trustee, 2019-Present
- Fostering Advocates Arizona, Community Advisory Board, 2015-2020
- Arizona Partnership to End Domestic Trafficking, Steering Committee, 2014-2019
- Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence, Board of Directors, 2012-2017
- Los Abogados Hispanic Bar Association, 1997-Present; Board Member for 10+ years
- Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board, Ex-Officio Board Member, 2008-2009

RECOGNITION/HONORS

- Rosa Carillo Torres Humanitarian Award, Valle Del Sol Profiles of Success, 2021
- Legal Aid Attorney of the Year, State Bar of Arizona, 2020
- YWCA Tribute to Leadership Award, 2020
- Judge Learned Hand Public Service Award, Arizona American Jewish Committee, 2017
- Mujer Leadership Luminaria, 2016
- Outstanding Woman in Business, Phoenix Business Journal, 2016
- Outstanding Mentor, Phoenix Business Journal, 2016
- National Hispana Leadership Institute (NHLI), Executive Leadership Program Fellow, 2013

EDUCATION

Juris Doctor, *University of Arizona College of Law, December 1996; Honors: Dean's Achievement Award, 1994-95; Mary Anne Richey Scholarship, 1995*

Bachelor of Arts, *University of Arizona, May 1993; Honors: Outstanding Senior Robie Medal, 1993 Spring Commencement; Outstanding Senior, 1993 Hispanic Convocation*

ADMISSION

State Bar of Arizona, 1997-Present