City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: Elizabeth Perez		
Board/Commission Name: Seattle Women's Commission		**Position Title:** Member
☒ **Appointment** ***OR*** ☐ **Reappointment**	**City Council Confirmation required?** ☒ Yes ☐ No	
Appointing Authority: ☐ City Council ☒ Mayor ☐ Other: *Fill in appointing authority*	**Term of Position: *** 7/2/2025 **to** 7/1/2027 ☐ *Serving remaining term of a vacant position*	
Residential Neighborhood: First Hill	**Zip Code:** 98104	**Contact Phone No.*:***
Background: *Elizabeth is adaptable, working with change management, community outreach and engagement, she is skilled in Conflict Resolution, DEIB, Effective Communication, Executive Coaching, Health Policy, Leadership, Political Navigation, Project Management, Public Health, Strategic Planning, Strategic Leadership and Vision, Health Equity and Disparities Reduction. She brings experience in Budget Management, Stakeholder Engagement and Partnership Development, Performance Management & Quality Improvement, Crisis Communication & Emergency Response and looks forward to utilizing her vast skillset in the SWC.*		
Authorizing Signature (original signature): **Date Signed (appointed):** **October 7th, 2025**	**Appointing Signatory:** *Bruce A. Harrell* *Mayor of Seattle*	

**Term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not the appointment date.*

Elizabeth Perez, MPH

Strategic healthcare executive with 15+ years of experience leading public health initiatives and managing multi-milliondollar health services operations. Proven track record of fostering community partnerships, implementing evidence-based health programs, and improving healthcare access for underserved populations. Skilled in policy development, budget oversight, and cross-functional team leadership. Experience in healthcare, federal, state, and local government, and strong knowledge of laws, regulations, and grants. Excels in forging and nurturing partnerships with a broad spectrum of stakeholders to drive measurable improvements in community health outcomes.

WORK EXPERIENCE

WA State Department of Health • Olympia, WA • 03/2021 - Present

Chief of Public Affairs and Equity

- Lead a division of over 200+ public health professionals across multiple programs, managing an annual budget of $100M while achieving 98% operational efficiency.
- Spearheaded the development and implementation of a comprehensive health equity framework for the state, resulting in a 35% reduction in health outcome disparities among underserved communities.
- Established innovative partnerships with 700+ community organizations, Tribes and Native serving organizations, and healthcare providers to expand access to preventive care services:
- Notable outcomes including creating nationally recognized, innovative equitable grant funding methodology issuing and securing over $30M to CBOs across the state to reduce health inequities
- Designed and implemented performance management systems that improved program effectiveness by 40% through data-driven decision making and developed strategic partnerships that reduced vaccine related inequities by 30%
- Led cross-functional teams in developing and implementing statewide community mobile health initiatives, resulting in a 20% increase in health screenings among underserved populations
- Established innovative rural health access program that increased preventive care utilization by 35% across 12 medically underserved communities
- Developed the agency-wide equity strategy and community compensation policies and implemented the Governor's Pro-Equity Anti-Racism plan. By working with community members, I direct a multi-pronged team addressing health inequities, focusing on language access, policy, workforce, community relations, and investments.
- I lead the health in all policy work creating an equitable rulemaking process, work with legislative requests to analyzeequity impact to communities on bills.
- Serve as subject matter expert on national committees and panels on community driven approaches to improve population health outcomes.

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Harris County Public Health • Houston, TX • 09/2015 - 03/2021

Director of Communications, Health Education, and Community Engagement

- Overseen and managed a portfolio of population based public health programs by using data to organize mobile healthvillages across the county tailoring services to the health needs of the community. The health villages addressed food access and provided preventative health exams, vector control mitigation, and health literacy, which increased participation in events by 300% and prevention exams by 40%.
- Worked with programs to led organizational transformation initiatives that enhanced operational efficiency by 25%while improving service delivery quality by doing quality improvement assessments and ensuring all health promotion efforts were rooted in science of behavioral change.
- Developed and implemented evidence-based health education principles across all program areas working to ensuringprograms were meeting optimal outcome measures
- Supervised the development and execution of public health communication, community engagement emergencyresponse plans including COVID-19, Hurricane Harvey, Zika, etc.
- Designed, implemented, and evaluated health equity programs, resulting in a 25% increase in access to preventive care services at WIC and health clinics.
- Developed and implemented innovative health equity solutions, leveraging technology and data analytics at our clinics to identify service barriers and increase responsiveness by 50%.
- Led multiple marketing and communication efforts to increase visibility of animal shelter, created partnerships with private sector partners, and increased philanthropy efforts by 50%.
- Improved health by influencing and engaging local businesses, faith-based organizations, healthcare institutions, academic institutions, and community organizations to help build healthy communities through events and dedicated policy efforts.
- Worked with refugee and immigrant organizations to connect groups to public health services. Created community health worker training for public health to offer CEUs to promotoras de salud as part of increasing workforce diversity in health.
- Built and maintained robust relationships with community organizations, advocacy groups, and local government entities to advance project goals and mitigate potential conflicts.
- Led a team to implement healthcare programs that foster community well-being, enhancing service responsiveness and achieving significant improvements in patient satisfaction within 9 months.

Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) • Rockville, MD • 08/2014 - 08/2015

Public Health Advisor

- Advanced mental health parity implementation, ensuring equity-focused access to behavioral health services by working with nationwide networks, especially to refugee and immigrant populations by 33%.

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- Organized and led communication and social marketing efforts to communities about mental health benefits/mental health parity through the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and created mental health social marketing campaigns and social media marketing and content to reduce behavioral health stigma that increased calls to helpline 30% by focusing on cultural and language variation.
- Managed and oversaw grants, budgets, and contracts related to public engagement platforms, campaigns, and community-driven efforts.
- Ensure compliance with federal, state, and local healthcare regulations with new parity laws by working with state and national organizations on rulemaking efforts.
- Spearheaded efforts with agency staff to develop and implement initiatives addressing social determinants of health to address behavioral health comorbidities and chronic disease.
- Conducted research and analysis to identify trends and opportunities in health equity, informing program strategies and investments to minority-serving organizations and released reports on increased access to behavioral health services.
- Led a cross-functional team to enhance monitoring of the behavioral health initiatives in healthcare services, resulting in a sustainable change management framework within 8 months.

Office of Minority Health • Washington, DC • 06/2010 - 08/2014 Public Health Advisor

- Utilizing my previous healthcare experience, I led the implementation of the Affordable Care Act for vulnerable communities, collaborating with the White House and White House Initiatives to enhance healthcare access and equity.
- Directed policy development and implementation for major public health initiatives, focusing on health equity and community engagement.
- Collaborated with diverse stakeholders to design and implement programs addressing social determinants of health.
- Led cross-functional teams in developing evidence-based interventions for reducing health disparities
- Managed relationships with elected officials, community leaders, and healthcare providers to advance public health objectives.
- Transformed the design and implementation of health equity programs focused on reducing disparities in language access with the Office of Civil Rights through EO 13166, ensuring that across the federal government, there was accountability for agencies to provide services.
- Advised health communications, provided oversight, and approved all communications, media interviews, social marketing campaigns, and initiatives to minority communities about health insurance and benefits across HHS.
- Created and presented reports and recommendations to the program committees, agency leadership, and congressional representatives regarding investments in Minority Serving Institutions.
- Broadened and implemented a data-driven approach to program evaluation, using findings to refine programs and improve outcomes with the office of

planning and assessment by reducing reporting barriers for smaller community organizations.
- Transformed design of CLAS Standards 2.0 (Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services) in healthcare, focusing on reducing disparities in language access and health literacy across healthcare systems and tying it back to accreditation requirements.
- Promoted the agency in national forums and conferences, sharing best practices and learning from the agency.
- Served as a liaison across HHS agencies, reviewing and assisting with the framework for health equity and community outreach initiatives.
- Led a cross-functional team for 4 months to address issues proactively, leveraging subject matter expertise to enhance product quality and stakeholder engagement around legislative requirements on minority health efforts.
- Established metrics for ACA minority initiatives, enhancing decision-making processes and driving equity within 12 months.

Redlands Community Hospital/Southwest Healthcare • Redlands, CA • 05/2004 - 01/2011
Special

Procedures Imaging Lead

- Steered radiology imaging, enhancing system workflow and metrics.
- Innovated patient examination process, doubling capacity and boosting satisfaction.
- Implemented language process, facilitating access to patient health information.
- Led an initiative to enhance operational processes by pinpointing areas for improvement, resulting in sustained productivity gains over 6 months.
- Led successful collaboration with 25+ community organizations and healthcare providers to develop care delivery network, reducing emergency department visits by 22%.

EDUCATION

Master of Public Health - Leadership and Policy
Loma Linda University • Loma Linda, CA
Bachelor of Science - Radiation Science and Health Administration
Loma Linda University • Loma Linda, CA

CERTIFICATIONS

Master PIO- Crisis/Risk Communications
FEMA ICS
Prosci
Lean Six Sigma
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging
Outward Mindset
APR-PRSA

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VOLUNTEERING & LEADERSHIP

National Public Health Information Coalition

American

Hospital

Association

American

Leadership

Forum

US-Office of Minority Health

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Hispanic Health Coalition

Health Research Institute of Health Disparities-University of Houston

Coalition for Health AI

Public Relations Society of America

American Public Health Association

SKILLS

Adaptable, Change management, Community Outreach and Engagement, Conflict Resolution, DEIB, Effective Communication, Executive Coaching, Health Policy, Leadership, Political Navigation, Project Management, Public Health, Strategic Planning, Strategic Leadership and Vision, Health Equity and Disparities Reduction, Budget Management, Stakeholder Engagement and Partnership Development, Performance Management & Quality Improvement, Crisis Communication & Emergency Response

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Seattle Women's Commission
September 2025

21 Members: Pursuant to *SMC 3.14.920, all* members subject to City Council confirmation, *2*-year terms:

- *8* City Council-appointed
- *9* Mayor-appointed -plus one Get Engaged.
- *4* Other Appointing Authority-appointed: Commission-appointed

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
2	F	2	1.	Member	Tosh Owens	7/02/25	7/01/27	1	Mayor
2		6	2.	Member	Sierra Miles	7/02/24	7/01/26	1	Mayor
	F		3.	Member	Hannah Glover	7/02/24	7/01/26	1	Mayor
8	F	3	4.	Member	Naseem Ghazanfari	7/02/24	7/01/26	1	Mayor
1	F	7	5.	Member	Sirena Nikita Styles	7/02/25	7/01/27	1	Mayor
			6.	Member	Sonia Hitchcock	7/02/25	7/01/27	1	Mayor
1	F	1	7.	Member	Eunji Han	7/02/24	7/01/26	1	Mayor
3	F		8.	Member	Krystal Guerrero	7/02/24	7/01/26	2	Commission
3		2	9.	Member	Elizabeth Perez	7/02/25	7/01/27	1	Mayor
6	F	3	10.	Member	Neely Evanoff	7/02/24	7/01/26	1	City Council
6	F		11.	Member	Emily Rose Barr	7/02/25	7/01/27	2	City Council
3	F		12.	Member	Mariah Rivera	7/02/25	7/01/27	2	City Council
8	F		13.	Member	Vinati Mamidala	7/02/24	7/01/26	2	City Council
6	F	3	14.	Member	Talley Mills	7/02/24	7/01/26	1	City Council
1	F		15.	Member	Jennifer Tran	7/02/25	7/01/27	2	City Council
5	F	1	16.	Member	Kate Faoro Wright	7/02/25	7/01/27	1	City Council
5	F		17.	Member	Nardos Tola	7/02/24	7/01/26	1	Commission
6	F	7	18.	Member	Amanda DeFisher	7/02/24	7/01/26	1	City Council
1	F	4	19.	Member	Whitney Nakamura	7/02/24	7/01/26	3	Commission
6		7	20.	Member	Nadia Goforth	7/02/25	7/01/27	1	Commission
	F		21.	Get Engaged	Sofia Brown	9/01/25	8/31/26	1	Mayor

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9)

	Men	Women	Transgender	Unknown	Asian	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latino	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other	Caucasian/ Non-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Mayor	0	9	1	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Council	0	8	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	4	0	1	0
Comm	0	4	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Total	0	21	1	0	4	2	3	0	2	5	0	0	0

Key: *Diversity information is self-identified and is voluntary.*

***D** List the corresponding *Diversity Chart* number (1 through 9)

****G** List *gender*, **M** = Male, **F**= Female, **T**= Transgender, **U**= Unknown

RD Residential Council District number 1 through 7 or N/A

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