

Department Director Confirmation Materials

City of Seattle



Sandra J. Valenciano

Director,

Public Health – Seattle & King County

April 21, 2026



City of Seattle

Mayor Katie B. Wilson

April 21, 2026

The Honorable Joy Hollingsworth
President, Seattle City Council
Seattle City Hall, 2nd Floor
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Council President Hollingsworth:

It is my pleasure to transmit to the City Council the confirmation packet for my appointment of Dr. Sandra J. Valenciano as Director of Public Health - Seattle & King County (PHSKC). This packet contains Dr. Valenciano's appointment, oath of office form, resume, press release, and background check. Dr. Valenciano's appointment is subject to confirmation by both the Seattle city Council and King County Council, and this appointment reflects our shared vision of building a healthier, more equitable region. Our Public Health Department plays a critical role in advancing community well-being, reducing health disparities, and promoting health equity for all residents of Seattle and King County.

Dr. Valenciano is a board-certified physician in internal medicine with a Master of Public Health, and currently serves as the department's Acting Director and primary medical expert (Health Officer), guiding policy and practice with scientific rigor and deep commitment to equity. Before joining Public Health – Seattle & King County, she led DeKalb County Public Health in Georgia as Medical Director and District Health Director/CEO—overseeing services for more than 780,000 residents in a richly diverse community. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she served as Incident Commander, ensuring equitable vaccine access and improved operational efficiency, while guiding a department-wide strategic vision focused on equity, efficiency, and engagement. Dr. Valenciano also brings national public health expertise from her service as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer at the CDC, where she led outbreak responses and strengthened national surveillance system. A seasoned educator, she has served as an adjunct faculty at Emory University School of Medicine and trained future public health leaders. She holds degrees from Brown University (Community Health), Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine (MPH), and Boston University School of Medicine (MD), and completed clinical training at Yale and preventive medicine residency at Emory.

This appointment underscores our commitment to advancing a public health agenda rooted in equity, collaboration, and resilience. As I mentioned in my inauguration speech, “I want a city where everyone has the basics of a dignified life, including healthy food, access to health care and supportive communities”, under Dr. Valenciano's leadership, we will continue to advance inclusive strategies to confront health disparities, strengthen disease prevention, and ensure our communities—especially historically underserved populations, have access to high-quality, culturally responsive public health services. Together, we will build a public health system that empowers individuals, supports families, and creates healthier neighborhoods for all.

I trust that after reviewing Dr. Valenciano's application materials, meeting with her, and following the thoughtful review of Councilmember Rinck's Human Services, Labor, and Economic Development Committee, you will find that she is the ideal leader for PHSKC.

The Honorable Joy Hollingsworth
Dr. Sandra J. Valenciano's Confirmation Letter
April 21, 2026
Page 2 of 2

If you have any questions about the attached materials or need additional information, Chief of Staff Kate Brunette Kreuzer would welcome hearing from you. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie B. Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

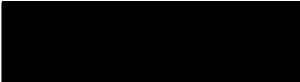
Katie B. Wilson
Mayor of Seattle



King County

Office of the Executive
Chinook Building
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 810
Seattle, WA 98104

March 25, 2026

Dr. Sandra Valenciano


Dear Sandra:

I am writing today to formally convey your appointment to the position of Director/Health Officer of the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health, and to acknowledge receipt of your acceptance. This appointment is made with Seattle Mayor Katie Wilson's full agreement and consent. Please be advised that this appointment is subject to a vote of confirmation by the Metropolitan King County Council, as defined in the King County Code, 2.16.110 and the Seattle City Council.

The effective date of your appointment is Monday, March 30, 2026.

Your annual salary will be \$436,206.576 which is Range 109, Step 10 +5% of the 2026 King County 10 Step Annual/FLSA Exempt Squared Schedule. This position reports to me and is responsible for contributing to the delivery of the Executive's four main policy goals:

- Breaking the Cycle: Addressing homelessness, addiction, and incarceration
- Building More: Expanding housing, child care, transit, and infrastructure
- Be in Community: Making King County government more visible, connected, and community-driven
- Better Government: Delivering a government that is more transparent, efficient, and accountable

As a part of your compensation package, you will be awarded an additional 40 hours of executive leave on top of your current 2026 award of 80 hours. Starting in 2027, you will receive 120 hours of executive leave each year for the next four years (until 2031) when your vacation accruals will be commensurate with the workload and hours you are expected to perform and work.

King County values our diverse and vibrant community and ensuring the health of people in King County is our top priority. We strive to provide equity and opportunity for our employees through our Equity and Social Justice efforts and seek to be the best run government in the nation. Your position, Director/Health Officer, Seattle-King County Public Health, and the talents and skills you bring to it, will aid us in meeting those goals.

This is an exempt position, which is defined by the King County Personnel Guidelines as any position that is not a career service position. Exempt positions are positions to which appointments may be made

directly. Exempt employees serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority. Any future pay increases, excluding cost of living adjustments, will be at my discretion.

Your benefits represent a considerable percentage of your total compensation package and will continue in your new appointment.

I am delighted you have accepted this appointment. We strive to provide equity and opportunity for our employees through our equity and social justice efforts and seek to be the best run government in the nation. Your employment and the talent and skills you bring to it will aid us in meeting these goals. We look forward to your leadership and partnership in approaching public health with a commitment to race and social equity.

Below you will find additional details regarding your employment with King County. If you have any questions, please contact Brittany Hagen Croser at (206) 477-4035

Sincerely,


A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hyeok Kim". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hyeok Kim
Chief Operating Officer

Cc: The Honorable Katie Wilson, Mayor, City of Seattle
Megan Pedersen, Chief People Officer and Interim Director, Human Resources, King County



City of Seattle Department Head Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: <i>Sandra J. Valenciano</i>	
City Department Name: <i>Public Health – Seattle & King County</i>	Position Title: <i>Director</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input type="checkbox"/> Reappointment	City Council Confirmation required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Appointing Authority: <input type="checkbox"/> City Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Joint appointment with King County</i>	Term of Position: * Council Confirmation To King County Executive's discretion <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>
Background: Dr. Valenciano is a board-certified physician in internal medicine with a Master of Public Health, and currently serves as the department's Acting Director and primary medical expert (Health Officer), guiding policy and practice with scientific rigor and deep commitment to equity. Before joining Public Health – Seattle & King County, she led DeKalb County Public Health in Georgia as Medical Director and District Health Director/CEO—overseeing services for more than 780,000 residents in a richly diverse community. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she served as Incident Commander, ensuring equitable vaccine access and improved operational efficiency, while guiding a department-wide strategic vision focused on equity, efficiency, and engagement. Dr. Valenciano also brings national public health expertise from her service as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer at the CDC, where she led outbreak responses and strengthened national surveillance system. A seasoned educator, she has served as an adjunct faculty at Emory University School of Medicine and trained future public health leaders. She holds degrees from Brown University (Community Health), Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine (MPH), and Boston University School of Medicine (MD), and completed clinical training at Yale and preventive medicine residency at Emory.	
Authorizing Signature:  Date Signed: April 21, 2026	Appointing Signatory: <i>Katie B. Wilson</i> <i>Mayor of Seattle</i>

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



CITY OF SEATTLE ▪ STATE OF WASHINGTON

OATH OF OFFICE

State of Washington

County of King

I, Sandra J. Valenciano, swear or affirm that I possess all of the qualifications prescribed in the Seattle City Charter and the Seattle Municipal Code for the position of Director of Public Health – Seattle & King County; that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Washington, and the Charter and Ordinances of The City of Seattle; and that I will faithfully conduct myself as Director of Public Health – Seattle & King County.

Sandra J. Valenciano

Subscribed and sworn to before me

this ____ day of _____, 2026.

[Seal]

Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

SANDRA J. VALENCIANO, MD, MPH

SUMMARY

Board-certified Internal Medicine physician and accomplished public health executive with over a decade of experience managing public health programs that address health equity, community engagement, and population-level outcomes. Expertise in integrating clinical knowledge with public health strategies to improve healthcare access and delivery. Proven track record of overseeing multimillion-dollar budgets, building cross-sector partnerships, advancing data-informed solutions, and leading public health initiatives that bridge gaps in health disparities. Skilled in developing impactful policies, managing diverse teams, and fostering sustainable, community-centered solutions. Adept at emergency preparedness, epidemiological surveillance, and improving healthcare access through data-driven strategies. Passionate about advancing health equity and implementing policies that create healthier, more equitable communities and drive sustainable health outcomes.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Medicine (MD) - Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, MA, May 2014

Master of Public Health, Global Maternal and Child Health (MPH) - Tulane University School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine, New Orleans, LA, May 2010

Bachelor of Arts, Community Health (BA) - Brown University, Providence, RI, May 2008

POST-DOCTORAL TRAINING

Residency, Preventive Medicine - Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA, July 2019 – June 2020

Epidemic Intelligence Service Fellowship - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA, July 2017 – June 2019

Residency, Internal Medicine Primary Care - Yale-New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT, June 2014 – June 2017

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

Unrestricted Washington Medical License, April 2025 – Present

Unrestricted Georgia Medical License, April 2017 – Present

American Board of Internal Medicine Certified, August 2017

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Health Officer and Interim Director of Public Health

Dec. 2025 – Present

Public Health – Seattle & King County (PHSKC), Seattle, WA

Hours per week: 40-60

Administrative leadership

- Serve as Interim Director of Public Health while continuing Health Officer duties
- Oversee \$1.2 billion dollars in state, county, and federal funding to ensure efficient operations of a large metropolitan health department serving over 2.3 million residents
- Direct strategic decision-making and implementation of 2024-2029 strategic plan
- Support a workforce of over 1700 employees, including prioritizing employee engagement, recruitment, and retention
- Supervise cross-cutting functions of the department including communications, emergency preparedness, equity and community partnerships, policy and governmental affairs
- Guide policy and strategy for six divisions (community health services, emergency medical services, environmental health, health sciences, jail health services, and prevention services)

Policy and government affairs

- Member of the King County Executive Cabinet and the City of Seattle Mayor's Cabinet
- Provide briefings to the Executive, Mayor, and council members as needed on public health programs and public health funding
- Attend and provide Director's updates at Board of Health monthly meetings
- Engage with local, state, and federal elected officials on relevant public health issues
- Testify during legislative session on critical legislative issues impacting public health
- Represent the department on the Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials (WSALPHO) Executive Leadership Committee on administrative matters

Community engagement

- Build and sustain partnerships with academia, community-based organizations, and health systems
- Present public health data and information to community members at council member events or partner events to increase awareness and education of county health outcomes, challenges, and opportunities
- Represent PHSKC on the Big Cities Health Coalition, a forum for leaders of the largest metropolitan health departments, to exchange ideas and jointly strategize

Health Officer

Aug. 2025 – Present

Public Health – Seattle & King County (PHSKC), Seattle, WA

Hours per week: 40-60

Leadership, scientific guidance, and policy development

- Enforce state and local public health statutes, rules, and ordinances leveraging broad legal authority to safeguard community health
- Serve as chief scientific advisor to Public Health Director offering objective, evidence-based guidance on complex medical and public health issues
- Navigate the evolving landscape of public health policy, addressing emerging health threats and policy challenges
- Represent PHSKC on the WSALPHO Health Officer committee contributing to statewide public health strategy
- Inform policy decisions, educate policymakers, and advocate for equitable, data-driven public health policies

Communications and public speaking

- Act as public spokesperson on critical health and science topics, representing the department with credibility and clarity
- Deliver presentations and briefings to elected officials, media, and the public to foster transparency and understanding

Community engagement

- Oversee major outreach and education initiatives designed to support, inform, and empower residents across King County
- Promote public understanding of disease prevention and health promotion, focusing on reducing disparities and improving overall community well-being
- Engage with community-based partners including the Health Equity and Anti-Racism Community Advisory Group (HEARCAG) and Community Health Board Coalition to ensure inclusive and equity-centered public health efforts

Disease outbreak response

- Lead the prevention and control of infectious disease outbreaks, using legal authority and evidence-based strategies
- Communicate rapidly with healthcare providers and the public to provide timely updates and guidance during outbreaks
- Monitor disease trends and coordinate targeted response strategies based on real-time data and public health surveillance

Public Health Preparedness

- Oversee planning and preparedness for public health emergencies, including high-profile events such as the 2026 FIFA World Cup
- Collaborate with the Northwest Healthcare Response Network and health systems partners to strengthen regional emergency response capacity

District Health Director and Chief Executive Officer

July 2021 – July 2025

DeKalb County Board of Health/DeKalb Public Health, Decatur, GA

Hours per week: 40-60

Administrative leadership, policy compliance, workforce development, and infrastructure enhancement

- Managed over \$52 million dollars in state, county, and federal funding to ensure efficient operations of a major public health department
- Directed strategic decision-making and ensured adherence to federal and state regulations, including audit requirements
- Built and supported a diverse public health workforce, overseeing recruitment, retention, education, and training
- Developed partnerships with academia and other professional training programs to increase local public health capacity
- Strengthened IT systems for improved network capability, cybersecurity, and organizational infrastructure

Clinical Operations and Community Engagement

- Evaluated and optimized clinical services to enhance efficiency, quality of care, and equitable access for underserved populations
- Oversaw maternal and child health programs, chronic disease prevention, and health equity initiatives while mobilizing partnerships with local governments, schools, and community organizations

Communications and Disease Outbreak Response

- Served as spokesperson, delivering effective public health messaging to educate and engage the community
- Acted as Incident Commander, leading responses to public health emergencies and disease outbreaks
- Monitored population health trends and led responses to acute outbreaks and other health hazards for hundreds of notifiable diseases

Environmental Health and Public Health Preparedness

- Supervised food safety, led poisoning prevention, air quality assessments, and rabies control programs
- Ensured readiness of emergency plans and collaborated with local emergency management for disease response

Quality Improvement and Strategic Planning

- Led development of a 5-year strategic plan to guide public health initiatives and drive continuous quality improvement

Key Accomplishments:

- Served as Incident Commander for public health emergencies, leading responses to COVID-19 pandemic and Mpox outbreak, and effectively communicating with the public and various stakeholders
- Developed a 5-year strategic plan focused on continuous improvement, innovation, and measurable health outcomes to improve public health services and workforce capacity
- Strengthened community engagement by partnering with local government, school districts, faith-based organizations, and community-based organizations to enhance health programs
- Managed multi-million-dollar budget, oversaw agency wide operations, eliminated \$1.5 million funding deficit, and received over \$12 million in additional grant funding

Interim District Health Director / Chief Executive Officer

April 2021 – June 2021

DeKalb County Board of Health, Decatur, GA

Hours per week: 60-80

Emergency Preparedness and COVID-19 Pandemic

- Led COVID-19 testing and vaccination operations as Incident Commander
- Engaged with state leadership through bi-weekly health directors' meetings

Administrative leadership

- Oversaw budgets, contracts, grants, and personnel
- Ensured compliance with federal and state regulations and audit requirements
- Presented operational and financial updates to the Board of Health

Clinical and Operational Excellence

- Evaluated clinical operations to improve efficiency and quality of patient care
- Supervised response to public health emergencies and disease outbreaks

Community Engagement

- Fostered partnerships with local governments, school districts, and community organizations to address public health needs
- Provided accessible and multilingual communications to educate and engage the community
- Delivered clear, timely, and culturally appropriate messaging to inform the public about health services and initiatives

Environmental Health

- Directed food safety, air quality, lead prevention, and other environmental health programs

Performance Management & Quality Improvement

- Implemented quality improvement initiatives based on evaluations of COVID-19 response efforts

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Family and Preventive Medicine Feb. 2021 – July 2025

Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA

- Contributed to the educational, research, and service missions of the School of Medicine
- Supervised Emory Preventive Medicine residents assigned to rotate at DeKalb Public Health
- Participated in didactic teaching sessions and presented on local public health in Georgia

Medical Director, Community Health and Prevention Services

July 2020 – June 2021

DeKalb County Board of Health, Decatur, GA

Hours per week: 60-80

Emergency Preparedness and COVID-19 Pandemic

- Led emergency preparedness, planning, and response efforts as Clinical Operations Section Chief in the Incident Command Structure
- Developed return-to-work guidelines and standardized clinical operating procedures for COVID-19 management
- Successfully reopened two health centers and managed COVID-19 testing site operations
- Directed COVID-19 vaccination programs, including staff training, logistics, vaccine supply management, and community outreach partnerships
- Partnered with DeKalb County Fire & Rescue to vaccinate elderly and homebound residents

Clinical Operations and Public Health Programs

- Oversaw six health centers and led the medical direction, policy formulation, and quality assurance of all clinical operations
- Provided clinical supervision for Maternal & Child Health programs and health promotion initiatives
- Managed CLIA-certified laboratory services and oversaw lab operations
- Received \$6 million in CARES act funding to update the electronic medical records system, implement telehealth services, and acquire 10 mobile health vans for COVID-19 vaccine and clinical outreach
- Supervised Emory COVID-19 Response Collaborative Epidemiology Fellows during their two-year placement

- Established a partnership with Emory University to integrate an Infectious Diseases Faculty member into epidemiologic research efforts.

Administrative, financial, and policy duties

- Directed Community Health and Prevention Services (CHAPS) Division, managing clinical and public health programs
- Played a key role in strategic planning, policy development, and executive decision-making in consultation with the District Health Director
- Managed a \$25M budget across clinical services and state/federal public health programs
- Supervised and evaluated assigned staff, setting performance expectations and priorities
- Represented the District Health Director at state, regional, and local levels, serving as a liaison with the Georgia Department of Public Health

Preventive Medicine Resident

July 2019 – June 2020

Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA

Hours per week: 40

Public Health Leadership & COVID-19 Response

- Collaborated with executive leadership on COVID-19 operations, logistics, and financial decisions at the DeKalb County Board of Health
- Established partnerships with local healthcare providers to expand COVID-19 testing in high-risk communities
- Led operations at DeKalb County Specimen Point of Collection (SPOC) sites, managing data clerks, registration staff, nurses, and volunteers
- Revised Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for COVID-19 testing sites and ensured adequate test kit inventory management
- Provided return-to-work medical guidance for clinical and non-clinical staff
- Ensured the availability of Spanish-language COVID-19 resources for underserved communities
- Served on the Georgia Department of Public Health COVID-19 Task Force, contributing to statewide pandemic response strategies

Clinical Operations and Infectious Disease Leadership

- Provided HIV primary care via telehealth for veterans at the Atlanta Veterans Administration Infectious Disease Clinic
- Conducted epidemiological analysis and summarized COVID-19 patient data at the Atlanta VA Medical Center
- Delivered preventive cardiology care for patients at Emory Preventive Cardiology
- Led efforts to evaluate influenza immunization rates among women's health providers at the Atlanta VA Women's Health Clinic
- Assisted in the development of a collaboration between the Georgia Department of Public Health and the Atlanta VA Women's Clinic to enhance access to telehealth services for women veterans
- Conducted a literature review on self-obtained vaginal swabs for STI and vaginitis screening

Epidemiology & Public Health Research

- Analyzed new HIV diagnoses data in Fulton County and created report summarizing findings for the Georgia Department of Public Health
- Conducted medical chart abstraction for an HIV mortality study
- Assisted with perinatal HIV pharmacy survey to improve treatment adherence

Global Health Experience

- Contributed to the CDC Travelers' Health Branch, redesigning public health communication on travel-related infectious disease
- Reviewed and updated epidemiological data for 31 priority infectious diseases, ensuring clear communication for clinicians and travelers
- Developed plain-language health information to improve accessibility for public inquiries and CDC website content

- Analyzed public inquiries to identify trends and proposed improvements for systematic handling of health-related questions
- Assisted with updating Travel Notice alerts to inform travelers and clinicians about international disease outbreaks

Leadership and Quality Improvement Training

- Completed CDC Preventive Medicine Residency/Fellowship Leadership Training, focusing on policy debate, negotiation, and situational leadership
- Participated in Atlanta VA Quality Scholars Boot Camp, engaging in case-based discussions on quality improvement and patient safety

Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer

July 2017 – June 2019

Respiratory Diseases Branch, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA

Hours per week: 40-60

Surveillance

- Evaluated surveillance methods used for determining the incidence of noninvasive pneumococcal pneumonia in the Surveillance for Non-Invasive Pneumococcal Pneumonia (SNIPP) system
- Evaluated surveillance of Legionnaires' disease outbreaks in the United States using data collected by the National Outbreak Reporting System (NORS) and interviewed state stakeholders as part of the evaluation

Outbreak response

- Participated in investigation of an undetermined source of transmission of a cluster of Legionnaires' disease cases in a public senior housing facility in Washington, D.C. in collaboration with health department
- Led the investigation of an increase in reported injection drug use and homelessness among people with invasive group A *Streptococcus* infections in New Mexico in collaboration with state health department
- Assisted with investigation of an undetermined source of a community-associated outbreak of Legionnaires' disease in McHenry County, Illinois in collaboration with state and local health departments
- Led the investigation of an undetermined source of a community-associated cluster of Legionnaires' disease cases in Sioux Falls, South Dakota in collaboration with state and local health departments
- Developed technical reports on all outbreak responses

Analytic Projects

- Knowledgeable in SAS software
- Evaluated the long-term impact of 10-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV10) introduction in Mozambique on overall, vaccine-type, and non-vaccine type carriage rates and antimicrobial resistance of pneumococcal isolates among children less than 5 years old in Mozambique from 2012-2016
 - Developed analytic plan for project including descriptive analysis and estimation of prevalence ratios
 - Participated in site visit to Mozambique for monitoring of data collection and data quality
 - Cleaned data and performed data analysis
 - Collaborated with international partners on writing of abstracts and preparation of presentations to international conferences
 - Led writing of manuscript and submitted for publication
- Analyzed reported injection drug use and homelessness among persons with invasive group A streptococcal (GAS) infections using data reported to the Active Bacterial Core surveillance (ABCs) system from 2010-2016
 - Created analytic plan for descriptive analysis of project and estimation of trends of reported injection drug use and homelessness over time among persons diagnosed with invasive GAS
 - Cleaned data and performed data analysis
 - Presented preliminary findings to ABCs steering committee March 2018
 - Led writing of manuscript and submitted for publication

Technical assistance

- Provided technical assistance for ongoing meningitis surveillance to partners in Haiti

- Performed site visit to 4 participating surveillance sites to review data collection and methods

Communication

- On call to respond to questions from the public, healthcare providers, and laboratorians requesting public health advice
- Presented public health information at local, national, and international conferences to audiences that included public health community, health care and scientific community, policymakers, and public

Per Diem, Non-Attending Physician

Nov. 2015 – May 2017

Northeast Medical Group, New Haven, CT

Hours per week: 10

- Assessed 14 patients per shift with a supervising attending in a busy inpatient medicine hospitalist service
- Coordinated all aspects of patient care with multidisciplinary team
- Provided safe, high quality care and handled emergencies when they occurred

Internal Medicine Resident

June 2014 – June 2017

Yale-New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT

Hours per week: 80

- Delivered outpatient and inpatient medical care at Yale-New Haven Hospital York Street Campus and Saint Raphael's Campus, and West Haven Campus of the VA Connecticut Healthcare System and provided longitudinal clinical care for patients of the Adult Primary Care Center
- Effectively communicated with patients, family members, and healthcare providers of diverse backgrounds
- Established and maintained collaborative relationships with multidisciplinary team members, including nurses, physical therapists, physician assistants, specialist physicians, care coordinators, social workers, and administrative staff
- Taught and advised junior residents, medical students, and pharmacy students during inpatient and outpatient rotations on matters specific to clinical care
- Supervised the clinical care provided by junior residents and medical students
- Coached and mentored junior residents and medical students
- Participated in six-week global health rotation as a Yale Johnson & Johnson Global Health Scholar in Kigali, Rwanda
 - Provided direct patient care including implementing team plan and following up on results
 - Engaged in all scheduled lectures, case-based learning sessions, and bedside teaching
 - Facilitated two-case based learning sessions for Rwandan residents
- Co-led the Yale Minority Housestaff Organization from February 2016 to June 2017
 - Established organizational vision and annual priorities in collaboration with the Executive Board
 - Served as liaison with hospital leadership and graduate medical education office
 - Coordinated Executive Board meetings and general body meetings
 - Hosted series of events focusing on community service, mentoring, and social gatherings in partnership with medical student organizations, faculty, and staff
- Advocated for continuation of Resident Support Group, a weekly safe space for junior and senior residents to discuss issues faced as doctors in training and co-led the support group during my third year of residency

Child Health and Advocacy Project (CHAP) Coordinator

March 2011 – May 2012

Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, MA

Hours per week: 10

- Researched funding opportunities and received the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Student Service Award, a 3 year award totaling \$9,000 to sustain the project at Boston University School of Medicine
- Received additional funding from the Department of Pediatrics to fund a fourth summer participant

- Planned summer didactic sessions and fall symposium where summer participants presented their work to mentors, faculty, and students
- Distributed applications, interviewed applicants, and selected new CHAP coordinator and summer project participants for the 2012-2013 academic year

Executive Director

June 2009 – May 2010

504HealthNet, New Orleans, LA

Hours per week: 30

- Managed organization of community healthcare partners in Greater New Orleans providing care to underserved communities
- Organized and facilitated Executive Committee and Board Meetings
- Advocated on behalf of safety net providers to federal and state legislators
- Researched potential funding sources, wrote grant proposals, and received the following awards:
 - Kaiser Permanente Program Offices Community Benefit II \$75,000
 - Greater New Orleans Foundation Community IMPACT Program \$30,000
 - Gisela B. Hogan Charitable Foundation \$25,000
- Developed budgets and monitored financial planning and management

Fleur de Vie Clinic Public Health Coordinator

March 2009 – Feb. 2010

Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans, LA

Hours per week: 8

- Organized bimonthly student-run free clinic for uninsured and underinsured community members and provided access to holistic health care including medical care, patient education, mental health resources, and social work services
- Established an interpreter training program, recruited interpreters, and coordinated new program

AWARDS AND HONORS

-
- Atlanta Business Chronicle: 2025 Public Health Care Champion of the Year, 2025
 - National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases Honor Award Certificate: For exemplary work investigating Group A Strep disease among people who inject drugs or who experience homelessness, 2019
 - Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Laboratory Services Honor Award Excellence in Emergency Response: For exemplary multi-disciplinary partnerships across fellowships to improve CDC's response to public health emergencies, 2018
 - National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases Honor Awards Ceremony Certificate of Excellence: For exemplary leadership of CDC's surveillance and response to cases and clusters of Legionnaires' disease, 2018
 - United States Public Health Service Excellence in Public Health Award, 2014
 - Julie Prize in Nutrition, 2014
 - Metropolitan Life Foundation Awards Program Scholarship for Academic Excellence in Medicine, 2013
 - Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Student Service Leadership Project Award. Valenciano (PI). "The Child Health Advocacy Project (CHAP) at Boston University School of Medicine." 2012-2015. Total award: \$9,000
 - R. Elise Magnus L. Memorial Achievement Award, 2010
 - Maternal and Child Public Health Leadership Training Program Scholar, 2008-2010
 - Brown University Harvey A. Baker Fellowship, 2008
 - Gates Millennium Scholar, 2004 – 2010
 - Hispanic Heritage Regional and National Youth Award Winner in Healthcare, 2004

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American College of Physicians
- American College of Preventive Medicine
- American Public Health Association
- King County Medical Society
- National Association of County and City Health Officials
- Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials
- Washington State Medical Association

SKILLS & EXPERTISE

- Health Policy & Administration
- Epidemiology & Disease Surveillance
- Public Health Preparedness & Response
- Clinical Quality Improvement
- Community Health Program Development
- Health Equity & Social Determinants of Health
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Cross-Sector Collaboration
- Public Health Communications & Media Relations

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- Fluent in Spanish and French
- Proficient in Italian

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Publications:

- **Valenciano, SJ**, Moiane, B, Lessa, FC, Chauque, A, Massora, S, Pimenta, FC, Mucavele, H, Verani, JR, Carvalho, MG, Whitney, CG, Tembe, N, Siguaque, B. Effect of 10-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV10) on *Streptococcus pneumoniae* nasopharyngeal carriage among children less than 5 years old, 3 years post-PCV10 introduction in Mozambique. *Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society* 2021; 10(4): 448–56.
- **Valenciano, SJ**, Onukwube, J, Spiller, MW, Thomas, A, Como-Sabeti, K, Schaffner, W, Farley, M, Petit, S, Watt, JP, Spina, N, Harrison, LH, Alden, NB, Torres, S, Arvey, ML, Beall, B, Van Beneden, C. Invasive Group A Streptococcal Infections Among People Who Inject Drugs and People Experiencing Homelessness in the United States, 2010-2017. *Clinical Infectious Diseases* 2021; 73(11): e3718–e3726.
- **Valenciano, SJ**, McMullen, C, Torres, S, Smelser, C, Matanock, A, Van Beneden, C. *Notes from the Field*: Identifying Risk Behaviors for Invasive Group A *Streptococcus* Infections Among Persons Who Inject Drugs and Persons Experiencing Homelessness — New Mexico, May 2018. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2019; 68: 205-206.

Oral Presentations:

- Fowler, R, Knebl, J, Ocasio, ME, Patimeteoporn, C, Nickens, E, **Valenciano, SJ**. #thatbites: Using social media to prevent animal bites and increase treatment compliance among bite victims. (*Accepted for virtual oral presentation*). Oral to be presented at 2025 NACCHO 360; July 14-18, 2025; Anaheim, CA.
- Jordan Jr., D, Fowler, R, Patimeteoporn, C, Cira, R, Bratton, T, **Valenciano, SJ**. Beyond old paint: Analyzing lead exposures in DeKalb County, Georgia's diverse population. (*Accepted for oral presentation*). Oral to be presented at 2025 NACCHO 360; July 14-18, 2025; Anaheim, CA.

- Montoya, M, Genias, I, Patimeteeporn, C, Valenciano, SJ. Analyzing COVID-19 and Mpox case investigation reports to improve data collection in DeKalb County, GA. (*Accepted for oral presentation*). Oral to be presented at 2025 NACCHO 360; July 14-18, 2025; Anaheim, CA.
- Liakakos, H, O'Reilly, L, Yoon Scott, J, Patimeteeporn, C, Charles, G, **Valenciano, SJ**. Screening America's new arrivals: Characterization of refugees seen at the DeKalb County Board of Health. Oral presented at: Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists 2024 Annual Conference; June 9-13, 2024; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- Liakakos, H, O'Reilly, L, Yoon Scott, J, Patimeteeporn, C, Charles, G, **Valenciano, SJ**. Screening America's new arrivals: Characterization of refugees seen at the DeKalb County Board of Health. Oral presented at: Georgia Public Health Association Conference; May 1-3, 2024; Jekyll Island, GA.
- Bhai, SA, Siangonya, B, Carter, S, Xing, M, Patimeteeporn, C, **Valenciano, SJ**. Evaluating telehealth equipment's impact on access to virtual services for Babies Can't Wait (BCW) and Children's Medical Services (CMS) clients in DeKalb County, Georgia. Oral presented at: American Public Health Association; November 8, 2022; Boston, MA.
- Spivey, S, Xing, M, David, B, Brundage, D, Carter, S, Smith, B, Chance-Revels, R, **Valenciano, SJ**. Addressing inequities in COVID-19 vaccination access using a mobile health clinic (MHC) model in DeKalb County, Georgia. Oral presented at: American Public Health Association; November 7, 2022; Boston, MA.
- McDonald, RA & **Valenciano, SJ**. Preventing and comprehensively treating infections, including endocarditis and abscess, in people who inject drugs. Roundtable discussion facilitated by RA McDonald and **SJ Valenciano** at 12th National Harm Reduction Conference; October 20, 2018; New Orleans, LA.
- **Valenciano, SJ**. Invasive group A *Streptococcus* on the rise: Investigating risk factors — New Mexico, May 2018. Oral presented at: Epidemic Intelligence Service Tuesday Morning Seminar; August 14, 2018; Atlanta, GA.
- **Valenciano, SJ**, Onukwube, J, Spiller, MW, Cieslak, P, Como-Sabetti, K, Schaffner, MF, Petit, S, Watt, J, Spina, N, Harrison, L, Alden, N, Smelser, C, Ricaldi, J, Van Beneden, C. Characteristics of persons with invasive group A streptococcal infections reporting intravenous drug use — United States, 2000–2016. Oral presented at: 67th Annual Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Conference; April 19, 2018; Atlanta, GA.
- **Valenciano, SJ**, Baidwan, S, Rosenbaum, JR, Rabin, T. The case for home visits. Oral presented at: 2016 New England Society of General Internal Medicine Regional Meeting; March 11, 2016; New Haven, CT.

Poster Presentations:

- Montoya, M, Genias, I, Patimeteeporn, C, Albanes, M, **Valenciano, SJ**. Un camino peligroso/A dangerous road: Motor vehicle crashes among Hispanic/Latino DeKalb County residents, 2018-2022 (*Accepted for poster presentation*). Poster to be presented at: American Public Health Association Conference; November 2-5, 2025; Washington, D.C.
- Fowler, R, Knebl, J, Ocasio, ME, Patimeteeporn, C, Nickens, E, **Valenciano, SJ**. #thatbites: Using social media to prevent animal bites and increase treatment compliance among bite victims. (*Accepted for poster presentation*). Oral to be presented at 2025 NACCHO 360; July 14-18, 2025; Anaheim, CA.
- Montoya, MM, Patimeteeporn, C, Albanes, M, Arroliga, D, **Valenciano, SJ**. Un DeKalb saludable: Presenting health concerns among Hispanic/Latino DeKalb County residents using an online dashboard. Poster presented at: Georgia Public Health Association Conference; May 1-3, 2024; Jekyll Island, GA.
- Yoon Scott, J, Patimeteeporn, C, **Valenciano, SJ**. Characterizing mpox in DeKalb and Fulton counties, Georgia, June 2022 – January 2023. Poster presented at: American Public Health Association Conference; November 13, 2023; Atlanta, GA.
- O'Reilly, L, Fowler, R, Schneider, Z, Bhai, SA, Patimeteeporn, C, Xing, M, **Valenciano, SJ**. Identifying DeKalb County's disparities in 2022 mpox cases versus vaccination rates to achieve vaccine equity. Poster presented at: Georgia Public Health Association Conference; May 3-5, 2023; Jekyll Island, GA.
- Le, T, Lawson, FS, Hicks, B, Otuata, A, Bullock, K, Fullum, DD, **Valenciano, SJ**. DeKalb strike team initiative: A model for providing COVID-19 vaccinations to vulnerable communities in DeKalb County,

- GA. Poster presented at: International Association of Emergency Managers Conference; November 15, 2022; Savannah, GA.
- Schneider, Z, Xing, M, Patimeteeporn, C, **Valenciano, SJ**. An analysis of the characteristics of COVID-19 patients reported by a metro Atlanta health department, DeKalb County, GA - March 2020 to April 2022. Poster presented at: American Public Health Association Conference; November 7, 2022; Boston, MA.
 - Yoon Scott, J, Xing, M, **Valenciano, SJ**. Characterizing COVID-19 breakthrough infections in DeKalb and Fulton Counties, Georgia, January 2021 – February 2022. Poster presented at: American Public Health Association Conference; November 7, 2022; Boston, MA.
 - Bhai, SA, Yoon Scott, J, Xing, M, Patimeteeporn, C, **Valenciano, SJ**. Socio-demographic characteristics of COVID-19 vaccine recipients at DeKalb County Board of Health (DCBOH) sites, March 2021- March 2022. Poster presented at: Emory COVID-19 Response Collaborative Conference; August 5, 2022; Atlanta, GA.
 - O’Reilly, L, Fowler, R, Schneider, Z, Xing, M, Patimeteeporn, C, **Valenciano, SJ**. Identifying racial gaps in Mpox case rates versus vaccination rates to advance vaccine equity in DeKalb County, GA, 2022. Poster presented at: Emory COVID-19 Response Collaborative Conference; August 5, 2022; Atlanta, GA.
 - DuPont, S, Paras, A, Spivey, S, Opeyo, A, **Valenciano, SJ**. Opportunity in times of challenge – Deploying a novel public health service delivery model during the COVID-19 pandemic. Poster presented at: NACCHO 360 Conference; July 20, 2022; Atlanta, GA.
 - DuPont, S, Paras, A, Spivey, S, Opeyo, A, **Valenciano, SJ**. Opportunity in times of challenge – Deploying a novel public health service delivery model during the COVID-19 pandemic. Poster presented at: American College of Preventive Medicine Conference; June 16, 2022; Denver, CO.
 - Schneider, Z, Ghiya, R, Lawson, F, Hicks, B, **Valenciano, SJ**. Evaluation of a local health department’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Poster presented at: American College of Preventive Medicine Conference; June 16, 2022; Denver, CO.
 - Schneider, Z, Ghiya, R, Lawson, F, Hicks, B, **Valenciano, SJ**. Evaluation of a local health department’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Poster presented at: NACCHO Emergency Preparedness Summit; April 6, 2022; Atlanta, GA.
 - Ghiya, R, Schneider, Z, Lawson, F, Hicks, B, **Valenciano, SJ**. Evaluation of a local health department’s response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Poster presented at: Emory University COVID-19 Response Research Symposium; November 12, 2021; Atlanta, GA.
 - **Valenciano, SJ**, Lessa, FC, Moiane, B, Chauque, A, Massora, S, Pimenta, F, Mucavele, H, Verani, JR, Carvalho, MG, Whitney, CG, Tembe, N, Sigauque, B. Long-term impact of 10-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV10) introduction on carriage of vaccine-serotype and antimicrobial-resistant pneumococci among children less than 5 years old in Mozambique, 2012-2016. Poster presented at: International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases; August 29, 2018; Atlanta, GA.
 - Moiane, B, **Valenciano, SJ**, Massora, S, Chauque, A, Mucavele, H, Pimenta, F, Quinto, L, Santos, RT, Lessa, FC, Verani, JR, Mabombo, V, Tembe, N, Carvalho, MG, Sigauque, B. Long-term effect of 10-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV10) on vaccine-type pneumococcal carriage in children under five years old in Mozambique. Poster presentation given by B Moiane at: 2018 International Symposium on Pneumococci and Pneumococcal Diseases; April 17, 2018; Melbourne, Australia.
 - **Valenciano, SJ**, Baidwan, S, Rosenbaum, JR, Rabin, T. The case for home visits. Poster presented at: 2015 Fall Annual Scientific Meeting of the CT Chapter of ACP; October 30, 2015; Southington, CT.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

11/15/2024	State of Metro Atlanta Health Symposium Panelist
10/5/2024	Lead DeKalb 10-year Celebration Presentation
9/25/2024	CDC Hispanic Heritage Presentation on Hispanic/Latino Health in Georgia
8/9/2024	Emory Rollins Epidemiology Fellowship Keynote Speaker
5/28/2024	DeKalb County Government Planning, Economic Development, and Community Services (PECS) Committee Presentation

4/24/2024	DeKalb Public Health Centennial Celebration Keynote Speaker
1/26/2024	Emory Preventive Medicine Didactics Lecture
10/26/2023	Agnes Scott College Department of Public Health Lecture
10/24/2023	DeKalb County Government Planning, Economic Development, and Community Services (PECS) Committee Presentation
10/17/2023	DeKalb County Government Committee of the Whole Presentation
9/17/2023	DeKalb County Government Planning, Economic Development, and Community Services (PECS) Committee Presentation
6/16/2023	Emory Preventive Medicine Residency Didactic Lecture
6/24/2022	Emory Preventive Medicine Residency Didactic Lecture
3/23/2022	Emory Revisited Faculty Panel 2022: Learning with US
2/22/2022	Humphrey Fellows Presentation
2/11/2022	DeKalb County State of Economic Development Growth Forum, Healthcare Panel
1/4/2022	DeKalb County Government Board of Commissioners Presentation
12/16/2021	4Seniors Event Presentation
12/4/2021	World AIDS Day Virtual Presentation
11/12/2021	Emory Preventive Medicine Residency Didactic Lecture
10/23/2021	NAACP DeKalb General Membership Meeting Presentation
10/22/2021	LatinX and AAPI Health Equity Round Table Presentation
9/23/2021	Vaccine Briefing for DeKalb County Government Presentation
9/22/2021	DeKalb County Court – Chief Justice Asha Jackson Presentation
8/17/2021	DeKalb County Government Committee of Whole Presentation
7/28/2021	State Court of DeKalb County – Judge Alvin Wong Presentation
7/2/2021	Ask the Expert Presentation
6/11/2021	Emory Preventive Medicine Didactics Lecture
6/4/2021	Leadership DeKalb Health Day Presentation
5/11/2021	DeKalb County Government Board of Commissioners Presentation
5/10/2021	Interview with Congresswoman McBath (Doraville COVID-19 Site)
5/4/2021	DeKalb County Government Board of Commissioners Presentation
4/20/2021	Latin American Association Presentation
4/17/2021	Commissioner Bradshaw Quarterly in the Fourth Community Meeting Presentation
4/13/2021	DeKalb County Government Board of Commissioners Presentation

MEDIA APPEARANCES

Broadcast Media (TV/Radio)

10/30/2025	KOMO News – Person unknowingly contagious with measles visited Disney on Ice event
8/22/2024	Decaturish – 2025 Leadership DeKalb Class announced
8/19/2024	11Alive – WIC operations changing in DeKalb County What to know (newscast video)
8/19/2024	Decaturish – DeKalb Public Health relocating Tucker WIC clinic in September
7/29/2024	WSB Radio - DeKalb Health Centers extending hours, accepting walk-ins for back-to-school rush
7/28/2024	Atlanta News First (CBS) -- DeKalb Health Centers extending hours, accepting walk-ins for back-to-school rush
9/5/2023	11Alive - New COVID resource program launches for residents in DeKalb, Fulton counties
2/7/2022	WABE (via Associated Press AP) – COVID-19 vaccination rises among Black Georgians
12/4/2021	CNN Español – Officials offer economic incentives to get vaccinated against covid-19 in the face of an increase in infections in the US
12/2/2021	11Alive - DeKalb County is offering \$100 to everyone who gets COVID-19 vaccine there
10/16/2021	La Raza 102.3/107.1 FM - Vaccination Event Interview - Doraville MARTA Station (no audio/no link)

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- 9/19/2021 DPH Stroke/COVID Interview with Univision 34 Atlanta – 6pm and 11pm (no video link)
 9/18/2021 DPH Stroke/COVID Interview with Univision 34 Atlanta – 6pm and 11pm (no video link)
 9/9/2021 11Alive - [At-home COVID test give users quick results, but aren't county in Georgia DPH data](#)
 8/9/2021 WSB-TV - [At-home COVID-19 tests are reliable -- but hard to find](#)
 8/9/2021 WSB Radio – [At-home COVID-19 tests are reliable – but hard to find](#)
 6/1/2021 WSB-TV Interview with Sophia Choi: DeKalb COVID Update (observed on-air, no video online)

Online/Print Media

- 10/4/2025 The Seattle Times – [Government shutdown reminds us what goes on in D.C. doesn't stay in D.C.](#)
 9/17/2025 The Seattle Medium – [COVID-19 ER Visits Rising, Especially Among Young Children](#)
 8/12/2024 On Common Ground News – [DeKalb Public Health Centers extend clinic hours and walk-in availability for back-to-school season](#)
 2/15/2022 Decaturish – [What's happening this week \(Tucker Constituent Conversations\)](#)
 2/7/2022 AJC – [Racial gap for COVID vaccinations narrowing in Georgia](#)
 2/17/2022 Facebook – [Alexis Weaver, Tucker City Council \(Constituent Conversations\)](#)
 1/13/2022 PSA Video for Commissioner Bradshaw
 10/14/2021 AJC - [New DeKalb vaccine event will target Latinos; \\$100 gift cards offered](#)
 10/8/2021 Decaturish - [City Schools of Decatur names former top CDC official to COVID-19 advisory team](#)
 9/30/2021 On Common Ground - [DeKalb, MARTA launch 'Get Vaxxed' public outreach campaign](#)
 9/20/2021 Decatur Patch - [DeKalb Schools Plans Virtual COVID-19 Medical Roundtable](#)
 9/13/2021 [DPH Stroke/COVID Facebook Live with Univision 34 Atlanta](#)
 8/31/2021 AJC - [DeKalb's new health director has overseen COVID-19 response for months](#)
 8/16/2021 AJC – [DeKalb's \\$100 incentive drives more than 1,100 vaccinations in one day](#)
 8/10/2021 AJC – [DeKalb cop survived COVID-19, makes pro-vaccination plea](#)
 7/28/2021 AJC – [DeKalb offering \\$50 gift cards for vaccinations again this weekend](#)
 4/13/2021 AJC – [Longtime DeKalb health director leaving for White House job](#)
 4/13/2021 Decaturish – [DeKalb Health Director Elizabeth Ford taking job with Biden administration](#)

REFERENCES

Available upon request.



Seattle



King County

Press Release

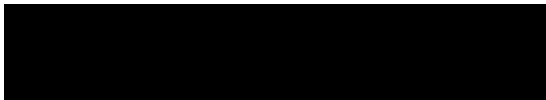
For Immediate Release

Contact Information

Sage Wilson, City of Seattle



Kris Abrudan, King County



King County Executive Girmay Zahilay and Seattle Mayor Katie Wilson Appoint Dr. Sandra Valenciano to Lead Public Health – Seattle and King County

Expert medical and community health professional and current Acting Director chosen to advance public health services for Seattle and King County residents

Today, King County Executive Girmay Zahilay and Seattle Mayor Katie Wilson appointed Dr. Sandra Valenciano to serve as the Director of Public Health – Seattle and King County. Dr. Valenciano currently serves as Acting Director for the department.

Pending confirmation by both the Metropolitan King County Council and Seattle City Council, Dr. Valenciano will advance the department's work to protect and promote the health and well-being of more than two million

residents. The department works across a wide range of areas focusing on preventing illness and injury, responding to emerging health threats, and addressing the root causes of health disparities so that all communities have the opportunity to thrive.

“Dr. Valenciano is a well-known public health expert with an extensive medical and community health-oriented background and a deeply rooted commitment to improving the health and lives of the communities we serve,” said **Executive Zahilay**. “I’m proud to appoint her to lead the department as we continue our work in the public health arena within the region.”

“Dr. Valenciano brings the kind of leadership our region needs right now,” said **Mayor Wilson**. “Her work is grounded in science and community, and the need to address the root causes of health issues impacting our region. I’m grateful for Dr. Valenciano’s leadership at Public Health – Seattle & King County and know she will continue to ensure we are investing in prevention, addressing inequities, and building a public health system that works for everyone.”

As a board-certified physician (MD) in internal medicine with a Master’s in Public Health, Dr. Valenciano has more than a decade of experience working in both local and national settings. Dr. Valenciano was appointed Seattle and King County’s Health Officer in 2025 where she joined the department as the primary medical expert tasked with providing leadership on scientific and medical matters that shape department policy and practice and fostering strong relationships with the broader healthcare community.

“I’m deeply honored for the trust the Executive and Mayor have put in me to protect, support, and improve health for everyone in King County,” said **Dr. Valenciano**. “I cherish the opportunity to serve our remarkable community at this pivotal time and I’m inspired by public health staff and community partners who advance these values every day.”

Prior to joining the County, Dr. Valenciano was the District Health Director and CEO for DeKalb Public Health in metro Atlanta, Georgia. In that role, she managed public health services for over 780,000 residents in a diverse community where over 130 languages are spoken.

Prior to managing public health for DeKalb County, Dr. Valenciano served as an Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) officer at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) where she led domestic outbreak responses, evaluated national infectious disease surveillance systems, analyzed global immunization data, and collaborated with both domestic and international partners.

Dr. Valenciano received her bachelor's degree in Community Health from Brown University, her Master of Public Health degree from Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, and her Doctor of Medicine from Boston University School of Medicine. A board-certified physician in Internal Medicine, she completed her medical training in the Yale Primary Care Internal Medicine Residency Program and completed the Emory Preventive Medicine Residency Program and is board eligible in Preventive Medicine.

Dr. Valenciano's appointment as Public Health Director is subject to confirmation by the Metropolitan King County Council and the Seattle City Council. If confirmed as Director, Dr. Valenciano will also continue to serve as the department's Health Officer.

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King County

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 9, 2026

TO: The Honorable Girmay Zahilay, King County Executive

FROM: Richard Moore, Human Resources Service Delivery Division Director
King County Department of Human Resources

RE: Sandra Valenciano – Background Check

I have received the law enforcement background check conducted on Sandra Valenciano, Director Designee of Public Health – Seattle & King County, by the King County Sheriff's Office. The report contains no adverse information nor revealed any prior criminal record that disqualifies Dr. Valenciano for this position.

Thank you.