

## New Commission Staff Biographies

January 22, 2026

### Carrie Greene

#### Staff Services Manager III

Carrie Greene joins the Commission’s Research, Evaluation, and Program Operations Unit with nearly 20 years of experience in county and federal government. Her career has focused on improving behavioral health and human services systems through collaboration, data, and equity. Carrie’s background includes counseling and mediation for youth involved in the justice system, serving as a campus counselor for AmeriCorps NCCC’s Pacific Region, and providing behavioral health consulting for tribal and urban Indian communities at the Indian Health Service. Most recently, at the Administration for Children and Families, she supported Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Native Employment Works programs, helping strengthen equitable and data-informed approaches to human services. At the Commission, she will oversee grant and contract portfolios that advance the Behavioral Health Wellness Act, the Behavioral Health Student Services Act, and the Innovation Partnership Fund. Outside of work, Carrie enjoys time with her teenage daughters and their dogs, hiking Auburn’s trails, and exploring the science of neurodiversity and the brain.



### Christina Crews

#### Health Program Specialist II

Christina Crews holds a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science in Criminal Justice Management. Her comprehensive knowledge of state, federal, and local policies and statutes leverages her ability to effectively advocate for California's priority populations.



Christina has 12 years of experience in state health care service, having worked across the Department of Health Care Services and the Department of Public Health (CDPH). Before joining the Commission, she managed state and federally funded contracts – overseeing scope of work and budgets – and delivered tailored technical assistance to local health jurisdictions, community-based organizations, Tribal governments, Tribal clinics, and Tribal serving organizations.

Christina possesses a deep expertise in public health initiatives targeting Tribal communities, cultivated over two decades of professional and personal experience. She spearheaded two significant Tribal initiatives within CDPH – specifically at the California Tobacco Prevention Program and the Office of Health Equity's Climate Change Health Equity Branch.

Her extensive background includes fostering strong relationships with sovereign governments, providing tailored technical assistance, educating other state agencies how to better partner with Tribal communities, and enhancing Tribal community capacity. Her work has involved assisting with grant policy, crafting state funding opportunities for Tribal communities, and ensuring the successful completion of contract intervention activities, evaluation, and deliverables.

## **Cristina Valdez**

### **Health Specialist I**

Cristina Valadez joins the commission after working in youth violence prevention at the city and county levels in Colorado for the last four years. There she managed a federal grant that brought together six city agencies with seven community-based organizations to reduce violence in youth and families at highest risk. Under this grant Cristina also developed and implemented the Community Advisory Board, ensuring the grant supported culturally relevant, youth informed mental wellness services.



Prior to that, Cristina was a Population Health Advocacy Fellow placed at a small community-based organization in Los Angeles where she worked on Vision Zero policies and projects throughout the city. One of the major projects was to develop and grow the advocacy group SoCal Families for Safe Streets. Cristina began her career working on a federal education grant for a non-government organization in Chicago which provided support services to students, parents, and teachers of Chicago Public Schools in historically lower performing schools. At this organization she worked in a variety of roles from in classroom support, student mentorship, to evaluation team support. Cristina holds an MPH from UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.