

**Lisa Cacari Stone, PhD, MA, MS**  
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Commissioner, Lisa Cacari Stone (purépecha/mestiza) has dedicated over 35 years of leadership in advancing the health and social well-being of diverse multi-cultural communities in New Mexico, binationally and nationally. She has served as child welfare worker, behavioral health provider (LMFT), director of a rural federally qualified mental health center (PMS), behavioral health preventionist and medical care administrator (NM Department of Health), analyst for house majority and health policy consultant for the NM state legislator and congressional fellow for the U.S. Senate's Health Education, Labor and Pensions Committee (Senator TED Kennedy).

Her collaborative grants portfolio of \$30+ million spans across the macro-level determinants of health (e.g. health and immigration reform, COVID-19 state mitigation policies), to the community level (e.g. impact of neighborhood context and migration on substance use), to the interpersonal level (e.g. role of family and provider communication on chronic disease management among Latinos). From 2017 to 2024, she was the Executive Director/Principal Investigator of a National Research Center of Excellence funded by the National Institutes of Health: Transdisciplinary Research, Equity and Engagement Center (NIMHD Grant # U54 MD004811-09). In this role, she oversaw the daily operations and scientific scope of the \$7.4 M center which spanned 12 academic colleges, departments and institutes and comprised over 40 faculty, 50+ students and over 200 partners statewide. More recently, Dr. Cacari Stone she co-leads a state-wide project funded by the National Institutes of Health's Community Engagement Alliance (\$5.6 M). This project incorporates citizen science with academic research in implementing innovative multi-level interventions to address the grave structural determinants of health for African American/Black urban, Native American/rural Navajo/urban Indian, Latino/a/x, LGBTQI+ and border communities.

Commissioner Cacari Stone is best known for her expertise in citizen engagement for policy making. In 2021, she launched an "Equity in Policy Institute" which trains place-based teams in evidence-informed policy making and the production of Equity Policy Briefs, digital stories and policy dialogues. In 2022, Lisa was the thought and action leader in designing and implementing a statewide Summit on Health Equity which drew from 350 participants across the state. The summit was dedicated to finding community-centered solutions for policy action through 12 diverse labs ranging across critical policy priorities including behavioral health, transportation, housing and environmental justice.

She has written multiple articles (i.e. Health Affairs, American Journal of Public Health, Journal of Rural Health) and policy reports and delivered speeches nationwide on public health, social policy, social determinants of behavioral health and health, racial and health equity and Community-based Participatory Research.

Lisa has received several awards including the 2019 UNM Health Sciences Center for Excellence in Research in Population Science and in 2020 was named a Latin@ Trailblazer and was selected by the USDHHS to serve as an advisory member to the National She has been recognized for mentoring numerous underrepresented, first generation and emerging leaders.

Commissioner Cacari Stone received her doctorate in health and social policy at The Heller School, Brandeis University, was an endowed WK Kellogg Fellow and completed her post-

doctoral training at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and recipient of the Kaiser Permanente Burch Minority Leadership Development Program (2014-16). She is appointed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as a member to the National Advisory Committee on Health Disparities Research (2023-2027). She has obtained additional training in executive leadership and management through the Mendoza College of Business at the University of Notre Dame and executive coaching with the Center for Creative Leadership.