

Lisa Ramirez leads policy change aimed at improving the lives of pregnant and postpartum Texans and their families. Serving fourteen years in Health and Human Services, she led the development of redesign-oriented strategic family and behavioral health policies and served as director for the state's response to the opioid crisis. Her expertise is in drug user health with a focus on developing public health strategies that keep families together. She has led teams of subject matter experts committed to providing timely access to high-quality integrated care for low-income Texas residents. In addition, she served as primary subject matter expert on treatment and intervention services for pregnant and parenting women. As the women's services coordinator she developed, managed, and provided oversight for initiatives aimed at improving outcomes associated with maternal opioid use and neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome.

She is a graduate of the Women's Addiction Services Leadership Institute and the Health and Human Services Leadership Academy. She received the DSHS MHSA award for outstanding achievement, the Associate Commissioner's Award, and served on SAMHSA's Center for Excellence Expert Panel on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders and on the board of directors for the National Harm Reduction Coalition.

Ms. Ramirez has a background in art therapy providing services in a variety of clinical settings. She earned her master's degree in Art Therapy from Southwestern College in Santa Fe, NM.