

PARTICIPANTS

Alexia Cortez is the government affairs associate at the PPIC Sacramento Center. She collaborates with PPIC research staff in the areas of criminal justice, water and environmental policy, and the 2020 Census to connect PPIC's work with policymakers and community leaders. Before joining PPIC, she served as a campaign fundraiser and was an executive assistant in the Office of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. She holds a BA from the University of California, Berkeley, where she majored in political science.

Joseph Hayes is a research associate at the Public Policy Institute of California, where he studies population change, educational policy, and corrections issues. Recent projects have focused on estimates of the undocumented immigration population, English Learner reclassification policies in California public schools, and the changing composition of the state's prison and parole populations. He holds an MS in agricultural economics from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Maria Jeans is program coordinator of The Maddy Institute, which serves as the public policy institute for the San Joaquin Valley's four public universities: California State University's Fresno, Bakersfield, and Stanislaus campuses, and University of California, Merced. She is also anchor and producer of the institute's public affairs TV program *El Informe Maddy*. She is primarily responsible for the internal and administrative support of the institute, as well as administering the institute's Legislative Intern Scholar Program in Washington D.C., Sacramento, and political offices throughout the San Joaquin Valley, and the Wonderful Public Service Graduate Fellowship program. Prior to joining the Maddy Institute, she worked with local nonprofits in Clovis and as an assistant news producer for Univision.

Jesus Martinez is executive director of the Central Valley Immigrant Integration Collaborative, a Fresno County-based nonprofit organization created in 2014 to empower immigrant families and immigrant services in the region. In 2018, he was appointed by Governor Jerry Brown as a member of the California Complete Count Committee. Previously, he served as coordinator of the Central Valley DACA Project at the Immigrant Legal Resource Center. He served for two years in the Michoacán State Congress before being appointed director general at the Institute for Michoacanos Abroad, the state immigration affairs agency. He has also taught Latin American and Chicano Studies at California State University, Fresno. He was a postdoctoral fellow at El Instituto de Investigaciones and earned a PhD in ethnic studies, an MA in Latin American studies from the University of California, Berkeley, and a BA in political science from Santa Clara University.

Cindy Quezada is a senior program officer for the Center at the Sierra Health Foundation and leads the state-funded Region 6 ACBO (Administrative Community-Based Organization) census effort. She started her career as a research scientist focused on bacterial disease and transitioned into foreign policy and international development work. She has been a policy advisor at the US Department of State, and has worked for the US Agency for International Development (USAID) as the Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisor to the mission in Egypt, where she later worked independently to assist nascent NGOs with strategy development and large-scale fundraising efforts. She returned to the Central Valley in 2017, where she first worked for the Central Valley Immigrant Integration Collaborative as the director of Research and Special Projects, leading census-related research projects and an immigrant health task force. She earned her BSc from University of California, Davis, MSc from Oxford University, and PhD from the California Institute of Technology.

Don Saylor is Yolo County Supervisor, representing parts of the cities of Davis and Winters; the campus of the University of California, Davis; and southwestern Yolo County. He is the 2019 chair of the Board of Supervisors and also served as chair in 2014. Previously, he served as a member of the Davis city council from 2004 through 2010 and was mayor in 2010. He has also served as an elected member and board president of the board of trustees for the Davis Joint Unified School District. In his professional career, he served in leadership, planning, and analytical roles in local government, and in both the executive and legislative branches of California state government. He earned a BA in history from the University of Wyoming and an MPA from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin.