

NEWS

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SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 15, 2012

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Hidalgo succeeds Lopez as IHSS PA executive director

The Board of Supervisors on Tuesday appointed Rosa Hidalgo to serve as Executive Director of the County's In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority, succeeding Helen Lopez, who will retire on March 23 after more than eight years with the County.

Ms. Hidalgo has 16 years of experience in social services, starting as a Child Protective Services Social Worker with Los Angeles County and transitioning to the Behavioral Health arena in Imperial County, where she held various administrative positions. Ms. Hidalgo began her tenure with the County of San Bernardino in 2000 as a Social Worker II with the Department of Behavioral Health, where she held various positions. She moved to the IHSS Public Authority in May of 2004, where she has been responsible for the day to day operations, fiscal activities and program development. She served as the registry manager and deputy director, and gained her managerial experience under Ms. Lopez's mentoring.

Ms. Hidalgo holds a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from Cal Poly Pomona and a post-graduate degree in Healthcare Administration from Capella University. Ms. Hidalgo has also completed coursework to receive the Labor Relations Academy Masters Certification.

Ms. Hidalgo is a graduate of the County's Management Leadership Academy, Executive Track and continues to participate as a coach. She is a member of the county's Hispanic Employees Alliance and helped develop the organization's mentoring program. Ms. Hidalgo participated in the Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE) Leadership program in 2003, and was selected to a group of 20 Latina leaders out of 150 applicants throughout the state of California.

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"The San Bernardino County Public Authority is known as a leading agency throughout the state and I will continue to carry the high standards set by Helen Lopez," Ms. Hidalgo said.

Ms. Lopez will be recognized by the Board of Supervisors on March 27. She came to the County in December 2003 as the IHSS Public Authority was being developed. Under her leadership the public authority formed close working relationships with the County Department of Aging and Adult Services, other County departments, provider labor unions, the California Department of Social Services, and other state agencies.

The public authority is now recognized as a lead agency among the California Association of Public Authorities. During Ms. Lopez's tenure the public authority earned recognition from the National Association of Counties, receiving an Achievement Award in 2011 for demonstrating an effective and innovative program that contributes to and enhances county government.

Ms. Lopez represented the California Association of Public Authorities (CAPA) on the California Welfare Directors' Association's Long Term Care Operations committee, was the Chair of CAPA's Southern Counties committee, and sat on CAPA's Legislative and Finance Committee, where her expertise was recognized by her peers both on a local and State level.

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Rosa Hidalgo