



JULISSA SOTO

For more than twenty years, Soto has dedicated her career to being a leading advocate for Latino immigrant equality, inclusion and health equity in Colorado and throughout the nation. From working with teen parent programs and serving on the Colorado Vaccine Equity Task Force, to promoting health equity at the American Diabetes Association, Soto has pioneered a wide range of programming designed to empower marginalized communities.

Her advocacy efforts have appeared in publications throughout Colorado, as well as NPR, Time magazine, the American Public Health Association's Public Health, Religion and Spirituality Bulletin, and a new documentary from the Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition. She has been a featured TEDx Talk speaker, and her success in leading and managing evidence-based prevention programs serving new immigrants has been recognized at both the state and national levels:

- **2023 Immunization Champion Award**, *Association of Immunization Managers*
- **2023 Distinguished Service Award**, *CU Anschutz Medical Campus*
- **2023 Immunization Neighborhood Immunization Champion (Honorable Mention)**, *National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit (NAIIS)*
- **2022 Award for Excellence in the Promotion of Health Equity**, *Colorado Public Health Association*
- **2022 Community Faith Award**, *Church of Saint Mary Magdalene*
- **2022 DEI Champions in Advocacy Award**, *Colorado Springs Independent, Colorado Springs Business Journal, Southeast Express and Colorado Spring Military Newspaper Group*
- **2022 Equity in Immunization Award**, *National Coalition for Immunization Coalitions and Partnerships*
- **2022 Big Shot of the Year Award**, *Immunize Colorado*
- **2022 Victor Smith Memorial Award**, *Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition*
- **2022 Heroines of the Pandemic Award**, *Pikes Peak Women*
- **2021 Accolades**, *U.S. Senator Michael Bennet*
- **2021 Accolades**, *U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper*
- **2017 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Best Practices Award**, *National Diabetes Prevention Program (NDPP)*
- **2016 People Who Make a Difference Award**, *Wells Fargo*
- **2015 William Funk Award for Building Stronger Communities**, *Colorado Nonprofit Association*

- **2014 Unsung Heroine Award, *Latinas First Foundation***
- **2012 Kathy Hill-Young Community Spirit Award**
- **2012 40 Under 40 Award, *Denver Business Journal***
- **2007 Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award**
- **2007 and 2006 Colorado Rockies Leadership Award Finalist**
- **2006 Excellence in Education Award, *Denver Hispanic Chamber of Commerce***
- **2006 Layperson of the Year, *Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved***
- **2005 *Dia de la Mujer Latina “Courage and Valor” Award, Latino/a Research & Policy Center***

Her work and achievements continue to inspire other immigrant hopefuls and newcomers in Colorado and across the globe. A Channel 22 documentary chronicling her journey navigating systems in the United States and becoming successful in a new country, *Mexicanos Exitosos*, aired in both Mexico and Spain. In 2021, Soto’s innovative programming and community-based intervention strategies earned one of Colorado’s most prestigious honors when Colorado Governor Jared Polis proclaimed September 20, 2021 as “Julissa Soto Day”. Since then, Julissa’s efforts have led to the vaccination of more than 24,000 Latino adults, youth and children, as well as the distribution of more than 130,000 COVID-19 tests and 60,000 masks.

Today, Soto is proud to continue to provide consulting and education services to partners and agencies throughout Colorado and the United States as CEO and founder of Julissa Soto Latino Health Equity Consulting. She serves on the Health Equity Commission for the Colorado Department of Public Health and is the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Co-Chair of the Regional Accountable Entity (RAE) Program Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC), which provides guidance on health equity and outcomes. She also serves on the Suicide Prevention Commission for Colorado representing the voices of suicide attempt survivors - and particularly those facing multiple disparities. As a member of the Vaccine Community Advisory Board, Julissa contributes to research at the University of Colorado and Childrens Hospital by advising research recruitment efforts, connecting staff to community organizations, participating in discussions about vaccine and COVID treatment, and advocating for inclusive research practices. She also serves as a board member for Colorado Migrant Rural Coalition (CMRC) – where she advocates for healthy equity and economic justice – and is member of the board of STRIDE Community Health Centers and the KIPP Colorado Public Schools Board of Directors. In 2022, Julissa became a member of the Legislative Leadership Network for the Colorado Catholic Conference, where she combines her faith and health equity advocacy.

At the national level, Julissa Soto is an active member of the National Hispanic Medical Association, and she currently serves on the United States Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)’s National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health (NNED) steering committee. She is also a member of the National Conference for Immunization Coalitions and Partnerships Planning Committee and

serves on the Immunization Workgroup for the National Association of County and City Health Officials. As a Cultural Advisory Board member for Vaccinate Your Family – a national nonprofit organization that strives to protect people of all ages from vaccine-preventable diseases – she shares her extensive health equity expertise to aid in the development of outreach plans to increase pediatric COVID vaccine uptake in marginalized communities.

In her spare time, Julissa serves as an Ambassador with the Colorado Department of Public Health Care and Finance, and is proud to partner with Young Invincibles as a mentor empowering young adults to enhance their voices, impact and economic opportunities.

For more information about Julissa Soto, visit www.julissasotoconsulting.com, or call (720) 427-5542.