

# Griselda Pena- Jackson

## ABOUT

Griselda Pena-Jackson is a Community Research Liaison (CRL) serving the communities within the 2040 Partners for Health footprint, a region consisting of seven neighborhoods in the metro area. She also is the Executive Director of 2040 Partners for Health. Griselda has many years of experience serving in a community and education role, from working as a teacher to working as a Family Support Specialist for Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver. Through these experiences, her passion for community became much stronger, and that led her to the CRL position. This role has furthered her learning in how to engage communities and how to bridge the gap between community members and academicians.

## CCTSI ENGAGEMENT

Community Research Liaison (CRL)

## PROJECT INVOLVEMENT

In her work, she serves many individuals that are severely disadvantaged in their health and social needs, linking them to interventions and programs to help progress their individual health, as well as that of the entire community. She also acts to connect community organizations to where they are needed in the community.



**“The core of my work is who I am.”**

## OUTLOOK

Her role as a CRL has helped her to develop an understanding around the need for leadership within communities and what it means to have an informed voice. She has found a true appreciation for the diversity and resiliency of the population she works with, as she has begun to understand how she can address both the needs of individuals as well as that of the community as a whole. Griselda has a community focus that has been unwavering despite these unprecedented times, pushing beyond the gaps in communication, lack of direction, and fear, to revisit community work in order to address the rapidly changing community priorities and be a source of compassion and support. Through education, empowerment, and asset-driven projects, Griselda hopes to help foster a future of progress, a future of stability and inclusivity, a future of wellbeing and appreciation, and a future of equitable healthcare and sustainable change.