

## Kimberly Knifong's Biography

Kimberly Knifong serves as the chief of the Business Operations Unit within the Office of Health Equity (OHE) for the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). She oversees a great team dedicated to health equity who conduct a wide array of administrative and support functions, including deployment of resources to advance health and mental health equity. She had previously worked on the California Reducing Disparities Project (CRDP) since 2010 at the former CA Department of Mental Health. She was lead for Phase I of the CRDP and contract manager for many of the population specific contracts in Phase II. She assisted in the development and implementation of the county mental health Cultural Competence Plan Requirements (CCPRs), a statewide systems change mandate to improve access to mental health services and quality of care. Ms. Knifong received a Masters of Business Administration degree and holds a Bachelor of Science degree with a focus in Government and Gender Studies. She has climbed the tallest mountain in the contiguous US, built a few houses in Mexico, and is learning Persian to be able to better connect with her friends.