

CHRISTAL CISNEROS

My name is Cristal Cisneros and I am originally from Gary Indiana. I use she, her, hers, ella pronouns and I am first generation Mexican and I love the outdoors! I moved to Colorado eight years ago after suffering a quarter-life crisis once I finished undergrad with a B.S in Biology and Latino Studies. Since undergrad I have dedicated my career to serving children, youth, and adults in the community setting in which they live and thrive. My work is situated in an intersectional framework that recognizes that individuals live within complex networks. My Ed.D and professional experiences on equity and diversity has provided me with a solid base to continue work on ensuring that all individuals have access to quality learning experiences where they feel valued and respected regardless of their race, age, religion, sex, gender, disability, etc. I have been a proven leader in the education sector for the past eight years. I have worked building formal and informal PreK-12 experiential learning programs for non-profits, community organizations, public and private schools focused on equity. I currently work for Denver Public Schools as an ECE program specialist in which I have created professional development sessions for over 1,600 teachers, helped develop culturally inclusive curriculum, and developed a curriculum study for PreK-3rd students to include food justice and concepts of environmentalism. I recently created a survey for 600 teachers to understand what system changes are needed so that teachers can provide equitable learning opportunities for ECE students that focus on diversity and inclusion. Being anti-racist isn't a 9-5 job for me. I truly believe to be an antiracist educator one needs to embody the tenants of anti-racist work daily. There is no "woke" Olympics, every day we should be open to learning and relearning.

