



Pride Month

#Yearbook

June 16, 2022

2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

LEADERSHIP PANEL & CELEBRATION

Join RAIN in celebrating Pride Month on June 16 at 2:30. RAIN is joined by Leaders in state government to talk and discuss LGBTQ+ issues, their personal journeys through state government, finding and helping others find belonging in the community while at work, and increasing LGBTQ+ inclusivity. Followed by membership mingle from 4 to 4:30.

[Register](#)

Auto Captioning services will be provided for this event. Additional accommodation requests should be sent to rain@ofm.wa.gov.

Cindy Guertin-Anderson



Darrow Brown



Tara Smith



J. Manny Santiago



<https://lgbtq.wa.gov/rain>

Meet the Panel



Cindy Guertin-Anderson

she/her

Assistant Director of Workforce Support and Development at DES

Cindy Guertin-Anderson, she/her/hers, serves as the Assistant Director for Workforce Support and Development at DES. In this role, Cindy leads the teams who support state agencies and other public sector organizations throughout the employee life cycle, from recruitment and retention, to training and development (Statewide Learning), and offering personal and professional support along the way (WA State EAP). Cindy first came to state government in 2016 as Director of the Employee Assistance Program. Prior to this, she worked in the non-profit sector, primarily with survivors of violence and for social change in a variety of settings, including as director of a rape crisis and domestic violence program, trauma therapist, yoga teacher, and community organizer for organizations focused on LGBTQ+ rights and antiracism work in the community. She and her wife live in Olympia with their dog, preschooler and 1st grader, who are quite skilled at verbalizing their feelings and needs, as you'd expect from kids who have a therapist and a chaplain for moms.

Meet the Panel



Darrow Brown

he/him

Program Director of WA Employee Assistance Program at DES

Darrow Brown is the Program Director of the Washington State Employee Assistance Program - a program that promotes the health, safety and well-being of more than 100,000 public employees. The EAP is one of three programs in the Workforce Support and Development division at the Department of Enterprise Services (DES). Darrow has over 25 years of professional experience in information technology, social work, mental health and employee and student assistance programs. Prior to joining the State in June 2020, he was the Program Manager for Safe at Hopkins - a bullying and workplace violence prevention program at Johns Hopkins University and Hospital/Health Systems. Darrow, his spouse (a Seattle native), their 2 kids and 2 dogs moved to the Pacific Northwest from Baltimore, Maryland in summer 2018. Darrow and his family currently reside in University Place, WA.



Meet the Panel



Live your dream.

CARPE DIEM

Tara Smith she/her

Director of WA Department of Enterprise Services

Governor Jay Inslee appointed Tara C. Smith as Director of the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services (DES) September 7, 2021, and she was confirmed by the Washington Senate on March 2, 2022. As a member of the Governor's Executive Cabinet, Tara drives the mission of DES to strengthen the business of government.

With more than 800 employees across many diverse business lines, DES delivers cost-effective central support services that meet the needs of customers throughout state and local governments, so they can focus on their core missions. Tara oversees DES's \$280 million operating budget, and a capital program of \$1.2 billion through many different programs, including centralized procurement, facilities management, real estate, printing and mailing, surplus equipment disposition, public works capital projects, risk management, fleet management, workforce support and development, care and custody of the country's largest state capitol campus, and the support of small agencies.

Tara has more than 20 years of leadership and management experience in the public sector. Prior to coming to Washington, Tara was the Director of the Internal Services Department for Miami-Dade County, where led one of the county's largest operational agencies. She spearheaded the first social infrastructure public-private partnership project in the southeast region and established the county's first public-private partnership office for future development of critical infrastructure.

Tara is a dedicated mentor and advocate for social justice, equity and inclusion of minorities, and for women in leadership roles. She earned her bachelor's degree in social work and a Master of Public Administration from Florida International University, where she was recently awarded the Public Service Distinguished Alumni Award. She is also certified by the Project Management Institute.

Tara lives in Puyallup with her life partner, Monica. While she spends most of her free time in volunteer work, she also enjoys yoga and is a certified yoga teacher.

Meet the Panel



Wow!

live
laugh
love

2022

J. Manny Santiago he/she/they

Executive Director of WA LGBTQ+ Commission

J. Manny Santiago is the Executive Director of the Washington State LGBTQ Commission, having been appointed by Governor Jay Inslee to this position in 2019. Originally from the mountains of Puerto Rico, Manny graduated with a degree in Sociology from the University of Puerto Rico – Mayagüez Campus. He studied theology, obtaining a Master in Divinity at the Andover Newton Theological School in Massachusetts, and studied Public Administration at the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico in Ponce. Manny serves on various committees and workgroups on religion, Latinx identity, sexual and gender identity, and immigrants' rights at the national and international level. His writings have been featured in several books and professional journals, as well as in The Huffington Post, The Washington Post, and many other national media. He currently lives in Tacoma with his husband and enjoys cooking, traveling, hiking, and reading works by Latina women writers.