



Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CCTSI)

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **DENVER** | **ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS**

Biography

Antonio M. Sandoval, MA, is a native-born resident of the San Luis Valley in South Central Colorado. He's lived most of his life in Conejos County. He attended public school in the small rural community of Antonito. As a young man living in this community, Antonio, like many of his peers, later went on to attend Adams State College in Alamosa. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education with major concentrations in History/Government and Spanish. He was a first-generation college graduate in his family. Antonio returned to Antonito and taught in the public schools for 21 years. He also earned a Master of Art degree in Secondary Education from Adams State. In 1990, he received administration certification from the University of Denver. Shortly after receiving principal certification, he became assistant principal at Rocky Ford High School in the Arkansas Valley. In 1995, he became Principal at Sargent High School in the San Luis Valley. In 1998, Antonio's career went full circle, returning to his home school and becoming Junior/Senior High School Principal at South Conejos School District. In 2008, he retired from public education. After retirement, Antonio worked as a program coordinator for the San Luis Valley Immigrant Resource Center on an immigrant integration initiative. It is here where he first became involved in public health issues. As a representative and advocate for immigrant concerns, he was nominated to take a position on the Community Advisory Board of the Rocky Mountain Prevention Research Center. Antonio has been an active CAB member since 2008. He is currently Chair for the RMPRC CAB; a position he's held one other time. In 2018, Antonio was nominated and accepted as a community partner to the PACT Council, a position he's held for the past year. He also is the Chair of another CBO in the San Luis Valley. In 2018, the Center for Rural School Health & Education out of the Morgridge College of Education at the University of Denver was started and a major part of their emphasis is working with high need rural and frontier communities. The center has organized a high functioning community advisory board aimed at promoting happy, healthy children and families living in vibrant rural communities. Antonio is also chair of that CAB.