



### **Jesse Soriano**

Jesse Soriano currently serves as the Director for the State Office of Ethnic Affairs. He most recently was the director of the Health Sciences Ethnic Minority Affairs Office at the University of Utah, where he was a former member of the School of Medicine Admissions Committee. He also held the position of program administrator for Weber State University's Minority Community Programs Development and as senior specialist for the Educational Equity Center.

Soriano spent nearly ten years as a schoolteacher in Michigan, teaching at the Jr. High and high school levels in inner city Detroit and several small Michigan communities. He also taught at the university level at Michigan State University.

Soriano has served in many capacities in the ethnic community and community at large. He has served as Senior Education Specialist at Mountain West Educational Equity Center at Weber State University, Director for the Office of Bilingual Education and Minority Language Affairs at the United States Department of Education. He currently serves on the following boards: Christus St. Joseph Villa, Comunidades Unidas, Somos Foundation, Utah Coalition of La Raza and Zion's Bank Hispanic Advisory Committee.

Soriano is married to Barbara Soriano and has two sons, four daughters, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Who has had the most influence in your life?

"My mother, who taught me about dignity, beauty and compassion; and my father, who taught me about patience, humility and perseverance."