

**Miriam Calderon**

Miriam Calderon is the Associate Director of Education and Children's Policy, in the Office of Research, Advocacy, and Legislation, at the National Council of La Raza (NCLR) in Washington D.C. In this capacity, Ms. Calderon directs NCLR education and children's policy and advocacy work with a particular focus on early childhood education. Prior to joining NCLR, Ms. Calderon served as an Assistant to Multnomah County Commissioner Serena Cruz, the first Latina elected to the Board of County Commissioners in Portland, Oregon where she coordinated the Coalition for Latino Education and implemented a task force to address gang violence in the Latino community. As a social worker, Ms. Calderon worked as a mental health consultant for Latino families in a Head Start center, coordinated a mentoring program for Latino youth involved in the juvenile justice system, and assisted Latino youth that had been unsuccessful in the public school system to pursue their educational goals. Ms. Calderon holds a BA in Sociology from the University of Delaware and a Master's in Social Work from Portland State University. She has published several reports on Latinos and early childhood education and her work is cited in both the English and Spanish media.