

December 22, 2022

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am beyond grateful for this opportunity to apply for the El Dorado County First 5 Commission's Community Representative seat. I believe that my skills, strengths, background, and experience are an excellent fit for this position and I am thrilled to continue my work supporting the parents and children of El Dorado County.

Please allow me to introduce myself: my name is Luli Velasco and I am Chiricahua Apache, Tohono O'odham, and Mexican. I am Native and Latina. I have lived in El Dorado County for more than 30 years and have been incredibly active in both the Native and non-Native communities for the past two decades. I met and married my husband 18 years ago here in El Dorado County and we currently live on a 2.5-acre family homestead in Placerville with our two spectacular daughters, ages 13 and 4.

I practice traditional Native parenting and I have seen, firsthand, the benefits that come from raising children with a culturally and community-centered approach. I strive to center our Indigenous culture, spirituality, community, and daily connection to the Earth in order to promote balance and healing in my family's life. In my day-to-day life, I advocate for breastfeeding mothers, educate parents about gentle parenting methods, and promote locally and organically-grown food and medicine.

My current role as Executive Director of the Exhilaration Station Family Resource Center is perfectly aligned with the Community Representative Seat on the First 5 Commission. I have served, worked, led, learned, volunteered, and managed in the local non-profit community for more than 20 years. I have also served in the non-profit Waldorf Education Community and the Farmer's Market Community in El Dorado County for the past 9 years. I am a Community problem solver and a creative visionary and look forward to sharing my energy and ideas to support the Commission's work in our Community.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my application for appointment to the First 5 Commission of El Dorado County. I look forward to hearing from you. I can be reached at \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Soft Winds,

Elizabeth Velasco (Luli)  
Chiricahua Apache/Tohono O'odham