

Guam | Theresa Arriola, MBA

Director

Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services

Theresa Arriola is the Director for the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services.

Prior to her appointment, Director Arriola served as the Director of the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center (GBHWC) since January 2019. Among her successes at GBHWC, Director Arriola worked to comply with the requirements of the 14-year federal receivership, which was vacated by the courts, saw the department through two successful CARF Re-Accreditations in 2021 and 2024, and re-opened the department's 16-bed detox unit that had been closed for 17 years. Her work brought stability to staffing and overall operations through the hiring of their first full-time pharmacist, standing up the department's billing office, establishing a first-ever student loan repayment program, and securing federal funding to build New Beginnings (Drug & Alcohol Branch), which is expected to open its doors in 2026. In 2023, she received the 2023 Judiciary of Guam – Justicia Award. Prior to GBHWC, she served as the immediate past Executive Director of Sanctuary Inc. of Guam.

