

Last revised Feb. 26, 2025

# Director of Public Health and Health Officer

## New leadership taking shape at Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department.

### Director of Public Health

Chantell Harmon Reed, a doctoral candidate in public health at Tulane University, is our director of public health.

An energetic and visionary leader, Reed's diverse background includes roles in public health, healthcare administration and compliance.

As the deputy director of the Public Health Division of the Multnomah County Health Department in Oregon, Reed supported COVID-19 recovery efforts, infrastructure improvements and achieving accreditation from the Public Health Accreditation Board.

Throughout her career, Reed has helped to close disparity gaps through centering social determinants of health. She honed this approach through various roles with Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) of Greater New Orleans.

She also improved operational efficiency in behavioral health care initiatives at JeffCare Community Clinics, a Medicare Certified Federally Qualified Health Center. Her work has improved maternal and infant mortality rates and enhanced the doula workforce.

Reed is committed to community service and has served on many committees and boards, including the New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute, the Loyola Center for Counseling and Education, and the Oregon Public Health Association. Reed has a bachelor's in business from Northwood University in Cedar Hill, Texas, and a master's in healthcare management from the University of New Orleans.

# Health Officer



Dr. James S. Miller, an internal medicine physician and medical epidemiologist, is our health officer.

He earned his medical degree from Harvard Medical School and a master's in public health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He completed internal medicine residency and a fellowship in global medicine at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

Dr. Miller previously worked as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and as a Regional Medical Officer at the Washington State Department of Health. In Washington, he

has helped with the state's response to COVID-19, mpox, and other communicable diseases, including extensive work on communicable diseases in correctional facilities.

Dr. Miller has dedicated much of his career to working with traditionally underserved communities. He spent several years working with community health workers in Uganda and has experience providing forensic medical and psychiatric evaluations for people applying for asylum in the United States. He provided clinical care for Native communities with the Maniilaq Association in Northwest Alaska and with the Seattle Indian Health Board. He also provided care for people experiencing homelessness as part of the Boston Healthcare for the Homeless COVID-19 response in the spring of 2020.

In addition to his role as health officer, Dr. Miller is also a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Washington where he works at the Harborview Medical Center After Care Clinic.

## Powers and duties of local health officers

- [RCW 70.05.070](#)
- [RCW 70.28.031](#)