COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY ALLIANCE

OPPORTUNITY ZONES & YOUR INFLUENCE

NOVEMBER 16-17
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Speaker Biography

Ashlea J. Quinonez
Southwest Regional Administrator
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Ashlea J. Quinonez serves as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Southwest Regional Administrator serving Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. Mrs. Quinonez was appointed by President Donald J. Trump during his second term in 2025. As the Regional Administrator, Mrs. Quinonez oversees field operations across the region to further HUD's mission and advance Cabinet Secretary Scott Turner's priorities focused on ensuring everyone has the opportunity to achieve the American Dream.

Mrs. Quinonez is an accomplished executive, veteran strategist and result-oriented government relations professional with an extensive record of success in the private and public sectors. Prior to joining HUD, she served numerous communities throughout Texas in the healthcare sector where she was responsible for implementing legislative and public policy strategies and leading efforts in strategic planning, business development, outreach and community engagement on behalf of large healthcare organizations. Prior to her career in the healthcare industry, Mrs. Quinonez was responsible for implementation of federal, state and local government community investment strategies for a global engineering and construction services company. She also served in senior legislative and management roles for former U.S. Senator Phil Gramm and U.S. Congressman Sam Johnson and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Prior to her Presidential appointment in 2025, Mrs. Quinonez garnered over twenty years of extensive leadership and government relations experience in the private and

public sectors while being actively involved as a business and community leader in Texas. She has served on numerous boards for business and non-profit organizations and was a recipient of the National ATHENA Leadership Award in 2019.

Mrs. Quinonez is a fifth-generation Texan and Magna Cum Laude graduate from Texas A&M University where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science. While at Texas A&M University she served as the Election Commissioner responsible for organizing and overseeing all student body campus elections. Mrs. Quinonez is married to Mr. Juan Quinonez and they are the proud parents of one incredible daughter.