

## **Dona Lente-Watts**

I am a native New Mexican and a member of the Roadrunner Clan, Village of Pagate, Pueblo of Laguna. After graduation from high school, I served in and retired from the United States Air Force. I currently serve our Veterans by working as a Contracting Officer Representative with the Patient Centered Community Care (PC3) and Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 contract.



One of my passions is to improve the recruitment and retention of American Indians in the Federal workforce; the second is to educate the Federal workforce on American Indian issues, concerns and history. Little of the truth is known about American Indians and the more I learn, the more I want to share with not only my co-workers but anyone who is interested and will listen; and the third is to inform American Indians about Federal opportunities, benefits and services. American Indians are significantly underrepresented in different Federal agencies.

I believe we need to invest in our community in order for our community to thrive and not just survive. I have taken the lead in developing a partnership with the Denver Indian Center and the SAIGE Colorado Front Range Chapter. We conduct quarterly career workshops which train and assist our local Indian community on how to search for employment on the USA Jobs website, we help them write strong resumes, give them interview tips, explain the hiring process and how to understand vacancy announcements. We also educate them on knowing their rights as a minority, disabled, and or covered Veteran.

My hobbies include fishing, boating, traveling and reading. I travel to NM and KY as often as I can to see my family.

I am interested in continuing to serve SAIGE as a board member.