



AAMAS 2019 Speaker **Sylvia Hernandez Kauffman**

Friday, April 26, 2019
10:15-11:30 AM



Sylvia Hernandez Kauffman is the Inspector General for Texas Health and Human Services. She was appointed to this position in January 2018 by Texas Governor Greg Abbott. The Inspector General is responsible for preventing, detecting and deterring fraud, waste and abuse in the delivery of all health and human services in the state of Texas. Texas spends \$40 billion in health and human services per year. Sylvia oversees the operations of the 600-person office and sets the vision, direction, and strategy for the office. Prior to her current appointment, Sylvia served as Principal Deputy Inspector General, and as Deputy Inspector General for Data and Technology. In that role, her primary responsibility was the development and oversight of the IG's fraud analytic strategy in support of the mission of the office.

Prior to joining the Texas Health and Human Services, Sylvia was a program manager, project manager, and senior policy analyst with the Strategic Planning Unit in the Information Technology Division at the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In that role, she was responsible for the procurement, design, development, implementation, and operation of the state's award-winning portal, www.mass.gov. For her work in transforming the delivery of government services in Massachusetts, Sylvia received the Governor's Special Achievement Award.

Sylvia has worked for the Office of Management and Budget in Washington D.C. as an IT policy analyst intern and has also been a project manager, team leader, systems analyst, and database administrator with Exxon Company, USA, now ExxonMobil, in Houston.

A native Texan, born and raised in Brownsville in the beautiful Rio Grande Valley, Sylvia was the first person in her family to attend college. She was valedictorian of her high school and earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from Stanford University. Sylvia received her Master in Public Policy from Harvard University. Sylvia lives in south Austin with her husband, David, and their three children, Daniel, Natalia, and Isabella and their pet pig, Hamilton.

