

Sara Ungaro's journey has been influenced by various life experiences and challenges. She grew up in Southern California until 2005 when she moved to Mohave County. After relocating, she pursued her education at Mohave Community college and obtained her GED at the age of 16. She then embarked on an AA in Science, focusing on psychology. However, her path was interrupted when she was diagnosed with late-onset type 1 diabetes at the age of 25. Additionally, her two children were also diagnosed with type 1 diabetes during their early adolescence. As a result, Sara put her education and career on hold to care for her family.

In 2015, Sara earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology from the University of Phoenix. Shortly after, she began her career in mental health, specializing in crisis services in Mohave County. Her passion for helping those in need grew during this time. In 2019, an opportunity arose within Mohave County Community Services as a Youth Program Representative. Sara took on this new role, aiming to provide more impactful support to individuals in the community who faced significant barriers to employment. However, she transitioned into this position just before the outbreak of a global pandemic, which had a profound impact on workforce services and resulted in a surge in unemployment rates across the country.

Since joining Mohave County Community Services Workforce Division, Sara has been promoted to the position of Workforce Manager, overseeing the ARIZONA@WORK Mohave-La Paz Counties Program. In her current role, she is focused on implementing a partner referral system, connecting community-based organizations and programs to ensure efficient access to wraparound services. Sara collaborates with local training providers and employers to identify skills gaps within organizations, creating tailored training programs to foster a "grow your own" culture.

Her day-to-day activities vary from statewide workforce meetings addressing growth and disparities to organizing large-scale hiring events and assisting program participants with their on-the-job training needs. Looking ahead, Sara's aspirations include partnering with various organizations over the next five years to establish a youth center that provides educational support, after-school care, and work-based learning opportunities.

Despite the challenges and responsibilities, she faces, Sara takes pride in her daily accomplishments as someone early in their career, fostering a purpose-driven culture within her team, and returning home to her loving family.