NDC Mission
To be both a resource and advocate for the value of diversity, equity and inclusion. The NDC serves as the umbrella organization that supports our national, regional, and statewide affiliates. The NDC strives to promote diversity, equity and inclusion in the workplace and community through various initiatives.

NDC Vision
To cultivate a nationwide network of affiliated councils that advance diversity, equity and inclusion by transforming workplaces and communities into inclusive environments, where people are not only valued for their talents, but are also empowered to reach their greatest potential.

In agreement with the NDC’s mission to be both a resource and an advocate for the value of diversity and inclusion, our goals include (1) ensure that our interns are exposed to an elite internship (2) with access and exposure to true meaningful business projects, and (3) enhance and develop these abilities through executive and peer networking opportunities, mentorship, career development, team project experiences, philanthropic activities and an opportunity for future careers. Our partnering companies have helped us reach these goals by offering our underrepresented students high quality internship opportunities that will comprise hands-on mentorship around navigating the corporate realm, learning effective communication skills, and enhancing professional development overall.
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Ireion Adams
Prairie View A&M University
Major: Management
As a graduating senior being a part of the NDC Emerging Leader program, opened doors for many meaningful opportunities. Working with the Cohort as well as State Farm interns made me realize the importance and value of relationship building. At State Farm and the NDC Emerging Leaders Program, I was able to strengthen my full ability to network and become more professional. Cynthia played a huge role in my development as she made mentoring simple but straightforward! I believe throughout this program I was able to differentiate both my weaknesses and strengths that created me into such a young professional in just 10 weeks. I am incredibly honored and grateful to have been a part of the summit and work with such great individuals.

Ireion Adams
NDC Emerging Leader 2022
State Farm
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Carlos Apodaca
St. Mary’s University
Major: Industrial Engineering
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I turned down a full-time position to pursue this program after talking with Cynthia after the initial interview process. She promised to deliver a meaningful experience that would provide me with a solid foundation to begin my career and thanks to her and the NDC, I was able to develop the skills that I needed and have landed an even better position than the one I was initially offered.

Carlos Apodaca
NDC Emerging Leader 2022
Comcast
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Joy Branham
Praire View A&M University
Major: Administration/Management
The NDC Emerging Leaders Program has been a great resource for me! The NDC Emerging Leaders Program and the corporate partners believed and invested into me. They gave underrepresented students a chance to be in the corporate world, providing them with the correct tools and then watching them flourish. I am grateful for this opportunity that they gave me.

Joy Branham
NDC Emerging Leader 2022
State Farm
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Erika Cantu
St. Mary’s University
Major: Entrepreneurship and Innovation
This summer I had the opportunity to obtain an internship at Arkansas Childrens through the National Diversity Council’s Emerging Leaders Program. I interned in the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Department alongside V.P. Parker, DEI Director. It was a pleasure being able to be part of an impressive and static team. These past few days have been bittersweet. I am happy to have completed my first internship and accomplish all the goals and projects I was given, but sad that I have to say goodbye to my mentor, VP Parker as well as the AC team and the other interns I met through Arkansas Children’s. The Arkansas Children’s team has helped me both professionally and personally. I was able to develop my professional and leadership skills and gain confidence in my work and myself. This internship has been an unforgettable experience.

Erika Cantu  
NDC Emerging Leader 2022  
Arkansas Children’s Hospital
2021 NDC Emerging Leader

Rodrigo Castillo Garcia
St. Mary’s University
Major: Industrial Engineering
The best part about the NDC Emerging Leaders Program and being a UMA intern is that I got challenged every week with new projects that helped me develop technical and interpersonal skills; and share all of it with my peers and cohort who are having similar experiences at their company.

Rodrigo Castillo Garcia
NDC Emerging Leader 2021
Ultimate Medical Academy
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Logan Coleman
Tuskegee University
Major: Computer Engineering
It has been a pleasure to be a part of the NDC Emerging Leaders Program. From day one, Cynthia has instilled knowledge within me to help me grow professionally. I enjoyed the weekly meetings with her to discuss my experience and what I can do to improve. I was able to meet some of the members within my organization and build relationships with them. I was able to apply the knowledge given throughout my internship.

Logan Coleman
NDC Emerging Leader 2022
Arkansas Children’s Hospital
2021 NDC
Emerging Leader

Dhennebb Coull
San Antonio College
Major:
Communication Design
The best part about the NDC Emerging Leaders Program was being able to work on projects with the skills obtained in school but also grow in other skills. Being able to collaborate with my fellow cohort and learn what it means to network, and learn more about who I am as a professional.

Dhenebb Coull
NDC Emerging Leader 2021
National Diversity Council
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Emily Diaz
St. Mary’s University
Major: Engineering Management
I learned so much as an intern at UMA. I was able to work on several projects and make an impact in the organization. I was able to meet so many new people as well. I am so grateful to have met my fellow cohorts. They have taught me so much as well. Also I’ve learned the most from my mentor, Cynthia. She has pushed me to become my best since day 1 and for that I am so thankful.

Emily Diaz
NDC Emerging Leader 2022
Ultimate Medical Academy
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Juni Ejere
St. Mary’s University
Major: Computer Information Systems
I’m so thankful that I joined the NDC Emerging Leaders Program because I truly feel that I know what it is to be a leader. I notice the tools that I gained from being in the program, such as timeliness, have led me to stand out anywhere that I am. When I speak I feel confident in my abilities and that what I bring to the table is valuable. I feel strongly that I will be able to excel in any work environment now.

Juni Ejere
NDC Emerging Leader 2022
State Farm
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Desmond Hall
Prairie View A&M University
Major: Information Systems
My engagement with the NDC Emerging Leaders Program over the summer has allowed me to mature mentally emotionally and spiritually. As well as better understand and articulate my professional development. I am now able to more effectively navigate formal and informal environments with more efficiency and help others along there improvement processes.

Desmond Hall  
NDC Emerging Leader 2022  
Arkansas Children’s Hospital
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Claudia Jardina
Indiana University
Major: English
The NDC Emerging Leaders Program provided me with valuable information, development, and a cohort for networking that will help me in my career and finding my passion in life. I was also able to tackle leadership tasks which helped me gain confidence and a deeper understanding on how to work more with others to accomplish a project that we can be proud of.

Claudia Jardina
NDC Emerging Leader 2022
Aston Carter
2022 NDC
Emerging Leader

Jeremy Johnson
Virginia State University
Major: Computer Engineering
“This summer as a 2022 NDC Emerging Leader I learned critical skills that will help me excel in my professional career. I was able to connect with great people both through the cohort and my time at Honda. It was a true honor to be a part of Honda’s IT department. I would never had the opportunity to show Honda my skills and talent. However with the opportunity that was presented to me I was honored to be recognize as the 2022 Honda Co-op of the Term Runner-up. Thank you to everyone family, NDC, cohort members, Cynthia, Julia, and Dhenebb would not be possible without you all!

Jeremy Johnson
NDC Emerging Leader 2022
Honda
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Taylor Kyser
Prairie View A&M University
Major: Communications Studies
Over the summer I had the opportunity to intern for the NDC which gave me the chance to intern for Spectrum Health (BHSN) where I have learned a lot through the meetings and through the one on one sessions. There have also been and from the Lunch and Learn series that I have participated in. Being an NDC Emerging Leader has given me a sense of growth that I have gotten from others within the NDC program and for my internship at Spectrum Health (BHSN). I would like to say thank you again for this opportunity, I really learned a lot over the summer.

Taylor Kyser
NDC Emerging Leader 2022
Spectrum Health
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Andrea Lopez
University of Houston
Major: Psychology
The experience I acquired this summer from being part of the NDC Emerging Leaders program was incredible. I was able to learn how to prepare myself for a corporate career by learning the importance of networking and communication in the workplace. I gained experience working with a team to organize a summit with a meaningful message about diversity and inclusion in the workforce. I gained personal skills, because I had to create a relationship with managers and executives from State Farm and ask them to participate in our summit. The program gave me an opportunity to work for a well-recognized company, State Farm, where I worked on a project with other interns that was related to what I am interested in pursuing as a career! I am very grateful for this opportunity because it will guide me towards a great career path.

Andrea Lopez
NDC Emerging Leader 2022
State Farm
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Shontay Newsome
Praire View A&M University
Major: Business Management
The NDC Emerging Leaders Program has truly been an amazing experience for me. It has opened doors to opportunities that I would’ve previously thought were out of my reach. I’ve learned so much during my time working with other cohorts and my internship with Mercedes-Benz USA. I’ve gained knowledge and very useful insight on what it's like to work in my personal career field and passion. I feel like I’m fully walking in my purpose and I’m truly grateful for the NDC & Emerging Leaders Program for making this possible.

Shontay Newsome
NDC Emerging Leader 2022
Mercedes-Benz USA
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Miguel Angel Pecho Kinson
Prairie View A&M University
Major: Management Information Systems
It has been a pleasure to be a part of the NDC Emerging Leaders Program. From day one, Cynthia has instilled knowledge within me to help me grow professionally. I enjoyed the weekly meetings with her to discuss my experience and what I can do to improve. I was able to meet some of the members within my organization and build relationships with them. I was able to apply the knowledge given throughout my internship.

Miguel Angel Pecho Kinson
NDC Emerging Leader 2022
Spectrum Health
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Alexa Ramirez
St. Mary’s University
Major: Digital Marketing
It was amazing. I learned to get confidence in my skills and also that it’s okay to not know everything. I now know that every stage in life is a learning opportunity. It’s okay to be intimidated by things but to not let that intimidation prevent me from accomplishing it.

Alexa Ramirez
NDC Emerging Leader 2022
Arkansas Children’s Hospital
2021 NDC Emerging Leader

Abraham Robledo
St. Mary’s University
Major: Mathematics
“Being a part of the NDC Emerging Leaders program has been a valuable experience. The program fosters professional development and allowed me to build critical business problem solving skills while working with a Fortune 50 company. Not only that, the program has also allowed me to work and network with individuals who truly care about my future.”

Abraham Robledo
NDC Emerging Leader 2021
State Farm
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Syed Shams
University of Houston
Major: Information Systems Security
"I loved my time with NDC Emerging Leaders Program. Loved the fact that everyone was super helpful and was there for each other. It also helped me to come out of my shell and speak my ideas and contribute. Overall I hope more minorities get opportunities like this so that they can also stand out in their own ways.

Syed Shams
NDC Emerging Leader 2022
State Farm
2021 NDC Emerging Leader

Marcus Spratley
Prairie View A&M University
Major: Computer Science
The NDC Emerging Leaders Program has assisted overall with my matriculation as both a career professional and as an academic student. Each week we worked on different inter professional skills that will be an aid in my overall success.

Marcus Spratley
NDC Emerging Leader 2021
Mercedes-Benz USA
2021 NDC Emerging Leader

Cecilio Trevino
St. Mary’s University
Major: Finance & Risk Management
One of the greatest aspects I learned with the NDC Emerging Leaders Program was on the importance of personal development and always continuing to grow as an individual.

Cecilio Trevino
NDC Emerging Leader 2021
State Farm
2022 NDC Emerging Leader

Dajon Wiafe
Morgan State University
Major:
Industrial Engineering
I really enjoyed this program. I was able to connect and learn and have the opportunity to meet so many talented cohorts. I also had the opportunity to go to another state and network with people that can possibly open doors for me and change the trajectory of my family tree. Not only did I meet people I was able to make connections where life long bonds were made. A lot of opportunities were presented to me in this program and I took every opportunity given without any hesitation. I had amazing mentors that were able to help me build confidence, open my mindset and get me to the next level of success. I was able to add skills to add to my resume and just overall make a difference within the community inside an organization.

Dajon Waife
NDC Emerging Leader 2022
UPS