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I am a PhD student in the department of Geographical & Sustainability of Sciences at the University of Iowa. My research interest are in community recovery to flood disasters, with foci in social vulnerability and resilience. I am currently conducting research on the topic of social capital within resilience and disaster recovery. My past work on flood recovery and the distribution of federal monies for property acquisition has been awarded the J. X. Kasperson Student Paper Award sponsored by the Hazards, Risk & Disasters Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers.

My long-term goal is to be an expert in the scholarly and professional field of disaster recovery. To this end, I have worked in communities and philanthropic settings through my work in public scholarship and community engagement. I enjoy working in applied settings, and as a bilingual and bicultural researcher I am able to work with a wide range of partners. I also am an avid runner and enjoy art & crafts projects.

Specialties: disaster recovery, community engagement, digital mapping, public scholarship