

Déborah Glauss de Lima
Central New Mexico Community College

I am Déborah, originally from Belo Horizonte, Brazil. I grew up in a region rich in culture but marked by educational inequality. My mother was a dedicated teacher through a grandfathering process without a university diploma, which inspired me and developed my deep belief in the power of education. I became the first in my nuclear family to earn a university degree.

I began studying veterinary medicine but was drawn to law due to my passion for social justice and helping others. Serious personal challenges, including a Type I diabetes diagnosis and the loss of both parents, marked my journey through law school. Despite these hardships, I graduated and passed the Bar exam, a milestone that honored my family's sacrifices and resilience.

I have worked with companies, unions, and individuals, using my legal knowledge to empower others. After moving to Albuquerque, New Mexico, I began studying adult education while navigating life as an ESL learner at CNM, Montoya Campus. My experience has deepened my commitment to supporting adult learners facing language and cultural barriers.

Now working toward my GED to obtain U.S. transcripts, I advocate for equitable access to adult education, language services, and essential community resources like transportation, internet access, and affordable GED testing.

My mission is to be a bridge-builder—connecting people, empowering communities, and ensuring that others facing challenges like hers have the opportunity to learn, thrive, and be heard.