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**State Delegate Candidate: Puerto Rico**  
*Statement 2*

**NASP Leaders have adopted five strategic goals that guide the association's work. In your state, what are some gains being made in school psychology practice related to these goals, and what are some pressing challenges?**

As NASP leaders when working the field, we must address issues and situations in different areas, with the students, teacher, parents and even the community in order to have the best learning environment possible. The strategic goals we have adopted provide a framework for identifying and addressing these situations within a variety of scenarios in the school environment.

In Puerto Rico we have come a long way in the School Psychology field, by recognizing the role of the School Psychologists and the important contribution these professionals make in the development, and physical and emotional wellbeing of the students. In Puerto Rico we have ensure availability of high-quality School Psychologist by addressing the shortages of professionals in the schools. By working according to the law, we have ensured that our schools have availability of positions in different regions to meet students needs, a diverse and representative workforce, as well as a sufficient supply of school psychologists to support the recommended ratios as established by law. There have also been important gains in recognizing the role of the school Psychologists as qualified mental and behavioral health providers. In Puerto Rico School Psychologists are providing comprehensive mental and behavioral health services consistent with the state law and NASP Practice Model to improve our students learning process.

The school Psychology practice also presents challenges some we can expect, and some are unexpected as we work the field day by day. As a NASP leader some of the pressing challenges that need more attention are developing leadership skills and qualities to ensure that the state association continues to grow and support member by maintaining a balance of new and experienced leaders. Also, it is important to continue advancing in recognizing and implementing de NASP Practice Model statewide to ensure that our school psychology programs are infused with the materials, instruction, supervision and very important the field experiences needed so our School Psychologists can gain and apply knowledge that will enable them to promote a safe and supportive school environment for all students. The Association of School Psychologists in Puerto Rico works to ensure that all children and youth are valued and their right and opportunities protected in the schools and the community.

As a NASP delegate I can have the opportunity to promote within the field positive change and unity with mutual understanding and respect that will lead to the success of our students and their families.