Victoria Vicente 2018 NER WOCN Scholarship Personal Statement:

When I was a young girl, my Abuela struggled with her diagnosis of rectal cancer and had to live her last few years with a stoma and end colostomy. She never adjusted to her new life with a stoma because her resources at the time were limited. She never had a WOC nurse at her side to educate her, to hear her, or to motivate her. Looking back, it's hard for myself and my family to think of any health care professional that took time to help her transition into her new life.

My goal as a future WOC nurse is to be an accessible, educated resource for patients and clients with complex wounds, ostomies, and continence issues. To honor my Abuela's memory, I will strive to be the resource for others that she never had.