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I was born and raised in Nicaragua. When I graduated from high school, Findlay College, now University of Findlay, in Ohio, offered me a scholarship to study in the US. I completed my undergraduate degree there, later pursuing an MA and PhD at Bowling Green State University also in Ohio.

Upon arriving in Findlay from Nicaragua, I noticed that people that looked like me were not represented in the student body, faculty or staff. But, we were very well represented in the tomato fields picking the crops. Through some introspection and study I came to the conclusion that only through educational advancement, we, Latinos, could move up. Since graduating I have dedicated my life to improving opportunities for all through education.

In 1980 I moved to California for family reasons and have resided in Monterey County since 1996. The California Community Colleges gave me a home. I started working as a part-timer and 25 years later I was President of Chabot College in Hayward. My purpose in running is to provide leadership and support the graduation and transfer of MPC students, to attract and retain excellent faculty, staff and administration and to offer camaraderie, advice and support to other Trustees.

Name: *Celia Barberena*
District: *Monterey Peninsula Community College District*
Age:
Occupation: *Educator*

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