

# NEWSLTR

NOV 2021

## Dear M.O.C.I Members & Supporters,

The M.O.C. Initiative is always open to new members. Find more information, including the link to sign up at <https://provost.nmsu.edu/student-resources/men-of-color/>

We hope to see you at our next meeting.

- M.O.C.I. Executive Team

Contact Us: M.O.C. Initiative  
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Find us on Instagram:   
[NMSUmenofcolor](#)

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*Preservation of one's own culture does not require contempt or disrespect for other cultures.*

- Cesar Chavez

## College Issues for MOC Begin Even Before Getting a Foot In the Door

In the current decline of men on campuses across the nation (see past newsletter), males of color, specifically African American Males in general are less likely to graduate from high school, research says. In comparison with African American females, almost 60% won't get a diploma, on top of that MOC are also systematically excluded from advanced and college preparatory classes. Research points out some risk factors associated with academic success of the males of color like family problems, financial difficulties, and poor health. When they arrive on campus, the males find the college experience distant and encounter cultural differences that lead to a loss of motivation. Therefore, campuses face the challenge on both enrolling and retaining MOC. Research suggests tackling males social isolation, help students cope with socioeconomic struggles by providing responsive programs that minimizes or stop the alienation felt by minority males.



## Disparity in Mental Health Services and Research for MOC

Men of color who face daily experiences with anxiety or depression are disproportionately less-likely to take medication or talk to a mental professional compared to non-Hispanic males. College students face these issues at the front-line. Studies suggest that mental health treatment is lower among students of color pointing to higher levels of stigma, specifically among Asian and African-American students. Studies regarding mental health and men of color are also lacking. Most of the existing studies are single campus research projects and fail to grasp the issues from both a qualitative and quantitative lens. Mental health services exist on all campuses and even here at NMSU, they stand underutilized. There is work to be done to break down stigmas and barriers to provide access to mental health resources at equitable levels.

## Upcoming Events:

- **11/13** Dripping Springs Hike
- **11/18** Study Session
- **11/22** Thanksgiving break
- **11/23** Home for the Holidays Social

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