

Marty Apodaca, MA, LPCC, CCC, NCC

Candidate for President-Elect-Elect



Marty Apodaca is a Senior Counselor at the University of New Mexico's (UNM) Student Health and Counseling where he assists his clients in exploring the intersections of career and mental health. For over a decade, he previously served as a Career Development Facilitator at UNM Career Services, where he supervised and trained both individual and group counseling interns. Marty presents to counseling graduate students on career related topics and has taught undergraduate career development courses.

Marty's NCDA roles include being the Trustee-at-Large for Leadership Academy and a co-associate editor for the Features section of Career Convergence. Previously, he served on the President's Strategic Planning committee and is an alumnus of Leadership Academy. Marty is an active board member and former president of the NMCDA, where he helps facilitate workshops aimed at educating community providers, career practitioners, and school counselors on serving their populations' career needs. Marty has also been faculty at two Career Construction Institutes and offers supervision and guidance to UNM staff and graduate students who use the Career Construction Interview with clients.

Marty has publications in the Career Development Quarterly, Career Planning and Adult Development Network, and Career Convergence. Marty has also been published in the Journal of Individual Psychology, Teaching and Supervision in Counseling, and ACA's VISTAS web magazine. Marty received his BA in English and MA in Counseling from UNM. While working on his MA, he served as a board member and president for Chi Sigma Iota, the counseling honor society. Marty is a Professional Clinical Counselor, Certified Career Counselor, and National Certified Counselor. At UNM, Marty has received the People Appreciate Wonderful Staff Award and was recognized as an American Indian Student Services Campus Partner.

Goal Statement:

My primary goal as president will be to cultivate a culture of growth for our organization. The last two and a half years were a challenging and arduous time for much of our membership and many across the globe. I want to move us forward from disconnection to connection and implement ways to connect our members outside of conferences. I would also like to develop a comprehensive survey to evaluate our membership needs and get your perspective on how you would like to see NCDA support you. Growing leadership within our organization is crucial for progress and I would like to make a targeted approach for graduate students to become more involved with NCDA and create a pipeline for leadership. We all contribute to the story of NCDA, what would you like to see in the next chapter?

Ron Cathey, MA, LPC, LMFT

Candidate for President-Elect-Elect



Ron Cathey is Director of the Career Center at Louisiana Tech University he has supervised and provided training for masters and doctoral students, and He has taught a career development course for 17 years. Ron is a Career Development Facilitator Instructor and just completed a 10-year term as an appointed member of the Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselor Board (LPC) Board of Examiners and chair of the Marriage and Family therapy Advisory Committee.

Recently, Ron served as chair of the NCDA Career Development Month. He served six years as a NCDA Trustee, first, as the Southern Region Trustee and later as State Divisions Trustee. Ron was selected to the inaugural class of the NCDA Leadership Academy, served as the coordinator of the Leadership Academy program, and helped to establish the Leadership Academy Development Committee. Ron received the NCDA Outstanding Career Practitioner Award in 2017. The NCDA Fellow Recognition was presented to Ron in 2020. In additional career and counseling related work, Ron has served as the past present of the Louisiana Association of Career Development and the Louisiana Counseling Association.

Ron received his Master's degree in Marriage & Family Therapy from Northeast Louisiana University. He is a Licensed Professional Counselor, supervisor and a Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist, supervisor. He is a past president of the Louisiana Counseling Association, Louisiana Career Development Association, and Louisiana College Counseling Association.

Goal Statement:

As I consider candidacy of the President of NCDA, I would propose to verify and demonstrate the mission of NCDA through an "Awareness Campaign".

Starting with an intentional discussion with the constituency groups ... the practitioners, educators, researchers who are inspiring, empowering individuals to achieve career and life goals, we would seek to answer two questions: What do they need to do their work? How can we encourage them? Also, the Harris poll, can help us answer the question who in our generation, our cultures, and our communities needs to be empowered and given hope through work.

As we focus on the mission of NCDA, policy makers need to know what we do, but so do the grassroots / public of our nations, states, and communities. With the strategic plan of NCDA as a guide, I would offer to produce a campaign for each individual NCDA member to create, or support, career development in their hometowns: We would create a branding message about the evidence of NCDA changing lives through career development to be deliberate about telling our story to let others know what NCDA is doing and what is working.