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**CONTACT 1:** Mikaela Freundlich 206-685-7899  
**CONTACT 2:** Gino Aisenberg 206-685-2489

## **Latino Center for Health launches inaugural Student Scholars Fellowship Program**

**University of Washington, Seattle:** The Latino Center for Health is pleased to announce the launch of its inaugural Student Scholars Fellowship Program earlier this quarter as part of its mission to advance the field of Latino health by building capacity to address current and emerging health issues facing diverse Latinx communities in Washington state.

“The overall aim of this program is to support the next generation of leaders and scholars who promote the health and well-being of Latinx communities in our state,” says Dr. Gino Aisenberg, associate professor in the UW School of Social Work and co-director of the Latino Center for Health. “Under the leadership of Mikaela Freundlich, Program Coordinator, this fellowship program provides crucial funding to students as well as programmatic activities that promote community and engagement with the faculty and staff of the Center,” adds Dr. Aisenberg.

An outstanding cohort of 10 students in health sciences programs across the campuses of the University of Washington and Heritage University have been selected as the inaugural recipients of this fellowship.

“The recipients of the Latino Center for Health Student Scholars Fellowship Program are the future leaders of Latino communities in our state and region,” says Dr. Leo Morales, professor and chief diversity officer of the UW School of Medicine and co-director of the Latino Center for Health. “They are the most important aspect of the Latino Center for Health’s aspirations and vision.”

The 10 students selected for this year’s fellowship program are:

- **Gabino Abarca**, MPH student in Health Services, University of Washington School of Public Health
- **Amaya Alonso Halifax**, MOT student, University of Washington School of Medicine
- **Magali Blanco**, PhD student in Environmental and Occupational Hygiene, University of Washington School of Public Health
- **Andrea Cabrera**, PhD student in Nursing Science, University of Washington School of Nursing
- **Israel Cervantes Rodríguez**, BSW student, Heritage University
- **Dulce Domínguez**, BSN student, Heritage University
- **Stacey Fernández**, BA student in Social Welfare, University of Washington Tacoma
- **Mariany Morales**, DDS student, University of Washington School of Dentistry
- **Kenia Ramírez**, MSW student, University of Washington School of Social Work
- **Mary Carmen Zúñiga**, MD student, University of Washington School of Medicine

The Latino Center for Health plans to continue this fellowship program on an annual basis as part of its commitment to supporting emerging scholars in Latino health.