

## **Jessica Vargas**

Dr. Jessica Vargas is a first year Pediatric Dental Resident at the UCLA School of Dentistry. She was born in Los Angeles, but Plainfield, IL has been her home since she was 8 years old. She graduated with honors from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign with a B.S. in Community Health, with a concentration in Health Education and Promotion. She then went on to receive her Doctorate of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) from Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI.

Dr. Vargas has been a very active member in her community, and considers herself a lifelong learner. Community service and public health have always been near and dear to her heart, and she strives to give back to the world what it has given to her. She is interested in researching the most effective ways to prevent early childhood caries in low socioeconomic and minority communities. Also, she has a passion for global public health. She has been on a mission trip to Honduras with the Global Medical/Dental Brigades and to Jamaica with the Christian Dental Society to help provide care for those that had never received dental treatment prior.

Dr. Vargas is fluent in Spanish, and learned the language growing up as a child. She recently joined a cycling club and enjoys running, hiking, going to the beach, traveling, and trying new restaurants.