



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **NBCC Foundation Awards 23 Doctoral Counseling Fellowships**

Greensboro, NC—The NBCC Foundation is pleased to announce the 2016 fellowship recipients for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP). The goal of the program is to strengthen the infrastructure that engages diverse individuals in counseling and increases the number of professional counselors providing effective, culturally competent services to underserved minority populations. The Foundation will distribute \$460,000 to the 23 NBCC MFP Fellows to support their education and facilitate their service.

The Foundation received nearly 100 applications for this fellowship opportunity. The Minority Fellowship Program Advisory Council (MFPAC), chaired by Dr. Asha Dickerson, selected 23 of these applicants to receive the fellowship award. These fellows meet the eligibility requirements of the program, including holding the National Certified Counselor (NCC) certification, being enrolled in a doctoral program accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP), demonstrating knowledge of and experience with racially and ethnically diverse populations, and committing to provide mental health and substance abuse services to underserved minority populations. Fellows will work with Foundation staff, the MFPAC and mentors to achieve the goal of the program.

The 2016 fellows are Latasha Y. Hicks Becton, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro; Tracy Bibbs, Governors State University, in University Park, Illinois; Katrina Y. Billingsley, North Carolina State University, in Raleigh; Courtney R. Boddie, the University of Missouri–St. Louis; Jason Branch, Auburn University, in Alabama; Keosha M.B. Branch, the College of William & Mary, in Williamsburg, Virginia; Tracey Taylor Carter, Argosy University Atlanta; Alexia Brooke DeLeon, Idaho State University, in Pocatello; Isabel C. Farrell, The University of Tennessee–Knoxville; Siobhan D. Flowers, Texas A&M University–Commerce; Crystal Nikia Gray, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro; Alexandria Kendra Hayes, Argosy University Atlanta; Tabitha R. Haynes, North Carolina State University, in Raleigh; Stacey Diane Aranez Litam, Kent State University, in Ohio; Sadiqa R. Long, Argosy University–Washington, D.C.; Tina Lott-Kamara, Governors State University, in University Park, Illinois; Odis McKinzie Jr., Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, in Blacksburg; Elisa A. Niles, Walden University; Kimberly Mason Peebles, Mississippi State University, in Starkville; Huynh T. Son, The University of Toledo, in Ohio; LaTonya M. Summers, The University of North Carolina at Charlotte; Eric A. Williams, Regent University, in Virginia Beach; and Regina Gavin Williams, North Carolina State University, in Raleigh.

The NBCC MFP is made possible by a grant awarded to NBCC by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The Foundation is contracted by NBCC to administer the MFP, including training and collaboration activities, such as [webinars](#), that are open to all NCCs. The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP application period in September 2016. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its Fellows, please visit [www.nbccf.org/Programs/Scholarships](http://www.nbccf.org/Programs/Scholarships).

About the NBCC Foundation

The NBCC Foundation is the nonprofit affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), based in Greensboro, North Carolina. NBCC is the nation's premier professional certification board devoted to credentialing

counselors who meet standards for the general and specialty practices of professional counseling. Currently, there are more than 60,000 National Certified Counselors (NCCs) in the United States and more than 50 countries. The Foundation's mission is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change.

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