

PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation 3 Terrace Way Greensboro, NC 27403-3660 Phone: 336-232-0376 www.nbccf.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 10, 2016

NBCC Foundation Awards 31 Master's 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-Youth (NBCC MFP-Y). 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 \$248,000 to the 31 NBCC MFP-Y Fellows to support their education and facilitate their service to underserved minority populations, with a specific focus on transition-age youth (ages 16–25).

The Foundation received 130 applications for this fellowship opportunity. The Minority Fellowship Program Master's Advisory Council, chaired by Dr. Walter Swingler, selected 31 of these applicants to receive the fellowship award. These fellows meet the eligibility requirements of the program, including a commitment to apply for the National Certified Counselor (NCC) certification prior to graduation, enrollment in a master's program accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP), demonstrated knowledge of and experience with racially and ethnically diverse populations, and commitment to provide mental health services to underserved minority transition-age youth (16–25) populations for two years post-graduation. The fellows will work with Foundation staff, the MFP Master's Advisory Council and mentors to achieve the goal of the program.

The 2015 MFP-Y Fellows are Samantha Adams, Argosy University Atlanta; Tim Ashdown, Loyola University Maryland, in Baltimore; Jasmaine Ataga, Georgia State University, in Atlanta; Michael Bond, the University of Wisconsin-Stout; Bianca Boyd, Oklahoma State University-Stillwater; Chelsey Antionette Bullock, Mississippi College, in Clinton; Daniel Cisneros, California State University, Sacramento; Anthony Ferguson Jr., Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa; Tonya Gardner, Old Dominion University, in Norfolk, Virginia; Mayra Granados, Regis University, in Denver; Victoria D. Grant, Southeastern Louisiana University, in Hammond; Ayanna Faith Groves, Georgia State University, in Atlanta; Adam Hall, Ashland Theological Seminary, in Ohio; Jana Hanna, the University of Colorado Colorado Springs; Devonna Jackson, Marquette University, in Milwaukee; Carrie M. Jennings, South University, in Glen Allen, Virginia; Danielle Holly Johnson, Regent University, in Virginia Beach; Fulterius Maurice King, the University of North Florida, in Jacksonville; Calvin Jermaine Kirklin, Henderson State University, in Arkadelphia, Arkansas; Daniel Cruz Lattimore, Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Tylanna Marley, Mississippi College, in Clinton; Kelsie Leigh McGuire, Colorado Christian University, in Lakewood; Keith Norman, Loyola University Maryland, in Baltimore; Alicia Araba Quayson, Georgian Court University in Lakewood, New Jersey; Kassy A. Saeppunh, California State University, Sacramento; Alexia N. Smith, Loyola University Maryland, in Baltimore; Marcie D. Stubbs, Argosy University Atlanta; Linwood Webster, North Carolina State University in Raleigh; Therese A. Wells, North Carolina Central University in Durham; Eric Wilson, Colorado State University in Fort Collins; and Trenecsia Wilson, Seattle University, in Washington.

The NBCC MFP-Y 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-Y, including training and collaboration activities, such as webinars, that are open to all NCCs. The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-

Y application period in September 2016. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its Fellows, please visit 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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