



PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Anthony Ferguson Jr. Awarded \$8,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Des Moines, IA—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Anthony Ferguson Jr. of Des Moines, Iowa, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Youth (MFP-Y). As an NBCC MFP-Y fellow, Ferguson will receive funding and training to support his education and facilitate his service to underserved minority populations, with a specific focus on transition-age youth (ages 16–25).



The NBCC MFP-Y is made possible by a grant awarded to NBCC by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in September 2014. The Foundation is contracted by NBCC to administer the NBCC MFP-Y, as well as training and collaboration activities, such as [webinars](#), that are open to all National Certified Counselors (NCCs). The goal of the program is to reduce health disparities and improve behavioral health care outcomes for racially and ethnically diverse populations by increasing the number of available culturally competent behavioral health professionals.

The NBCC MFP will distribute \$8,000 education awards to Ferguson and the 30 other master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Ferguson is a graduate of the University of Iowa, in Iowa City, and is currently pursuing a master's degree in the clinical mental health counseling program at Drake University, in Des Moines, Iowa. Upon graduation from Drake University, Ferguson will continue to pursue his passion of bringing mental health awareness to underrepresented communities, with a specific focus on the African-American community. Ferguson is interested in working with transition-age youth in order to get them to a place where they are living their best life, which he sees as including not only their mental health, but also financial, spiritual, and physical well-being. With this fellowship, Ferguson will have the opportunity to continue to grow and develop as a counselor. By attending conferences, diverse workshops, and studying under some of the leading counselors in the field at Drake University, Ferguson will be well equipped to make a positive and lasting impact in underrepresented communities.

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.

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 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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