



PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Calvin Jermaine Kirklin Awarded \$8,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Pine Bluff, AR—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Calvin Jermaine Kirklin of Pine Bluff, Arizona, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Youth (MFP-Y). As an NBCC MFP-Y fellow, Kirklin 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 Kirklin and the 30 other master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Kirklin is both a student and graduate of Henderson State University, in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, where he is pursuing a master's degree in the clinical mental health counseling program. Upon graduation, Kirklin plans to work with minority transition-age youth. The target population he would like to serve includes low-income, African-American at-risk teenagers living in group homes. His lifelong goal and dream is to empower, uplift, inspire and motivate youth and help them to become better individuals. He would also like to receive his certification in play therapy to work with children who have been abused. Earning this fellowship will allow Kirklin to continue his education and obtain all necessary and appropriate training and certifications. This fellowship will also allow him to obtain coaching, advising, mentoring and support so that he can become a qualified and competent counselor.

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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