PRESS RELEASE

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Cynthia A. Estrup Awarded \$8,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Appleton, WI—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Cynthia A. Estrup of Appleton, Wisconsin, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Youth (MFP-Y). As an NBCC MFP-Y fellow, Estrup will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her 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 Estrup and the 29 other master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Estrup is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin—Whitewater and is currently pursuing a master's in the school counseling program at the University of Wisconsin—Oshkosh. Upon graduation, Estrup intends to work as a professional counselor within the school system, seeking employment in a diverse and underserved school population. She would like to continue her role as a resource, an educator and a support system for the diverse populations with which she works. It is her continued passion to work with adolescents who do not feel they are supported. This fellowship will allow Estrup to have more time to spend working with students in their after-school programs and activities as well as being able to provide more programming at her site locations.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 23 \$20,000 <u>doctoral fellowships</u> through the Minority Fellowship Program and 31 master's-level fellowships of up to \$11,000 through the <u>MFP-Addictions Counselors</u> (MFP-AC). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-Y application period in September 2017. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit <u>www.nbccf.org/Programs/Scholarships</u>.

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.