

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Edith Gonzalez Awarded \$20,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Hampton, VA—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Edith Gonzalez, of Hampton, Virginia, for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP). As an NBCC MFP fellow, Gonzalez will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved minority populations.

The NBCC MFP is made possible by a grant first awarded to NBCC by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in August 2012. The Foundation is contracted by NBCC to administer the NBCC MFP, 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 strengthen the infrastructure that engages diverse individuals in counseling and increases the number of professional counselors providing effective,

culturally competent services to underserved populations.

The NBCC MFP will distribute \$20,000 to Gonzalez and the 22 other doctoral counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Gonzalez is a graduate of the University of Houston, in Texas, and is both a student and graduate of the College of William & Mary, in Williamsburg, Virginia, where she is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in the counselor education and supervision program. Gonzalez is currently interested in researching the mental health needs of Hispanic immigrant families, specifically mixed-status families. She is currently a co-director of the New Horizons Family Counseling Center, a university-based, student-operated, family counseling teaching clinic serving the families of students referred by the public schools and providing clinical instruction in marriage and family counseling for both master's and doctoral-level graduate students. As the only Spanish-speaking intern, Gonzalez is able to work with low-income, Hispanic immigrant families. This fellowship will help Gonzalez to complete her research and increase her education and training on the hidden population of undocumented immigrants.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 30 \$8,000 master's-level fellowships through the [MFP-Youth](#) (MFP-Y) and 31 master's-level fellowships of up to \$11,000 through the [MFP-Addictions Counselors](#) (MFP-AC). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP application period in September 2017. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit www.nbccf.org/Programs/Fellows.

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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