

PRESS RELEASE

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Kelsie Leigh McGuire Awarded \$8,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Lakewood, CO—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Kelsie Leigh McGuire of Lakewood, Colorado, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Youth (MFP-Y). As an NBCC MFP-Y fellow, McGuire 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 McGuire and the 30 other master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. McGuire is a graduate of Harding University, in Searcy, Arkansas, and is currently pursuing a master's degree in the counseling program at Colorado Christian University, in Lakewood. McGuire plans to work with inner-city populations, particularly individuals caught in a negative cycle that can't seem to see or find a way out. Receiving this fellowship will give her the opportunity to attend trainings, gain wisdom from personal experiences and from more experienced professionals, further her professional identity as a therapist, and prepare her in a holistic fashion to offer the best care possible.

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.