

## PRESS RELEASE

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Kristin Millisent Jones Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Durham, NC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Kristin Millisent Jones, of Durham, North Carolina, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC fellow, Jones will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her addictions counseling service to underserved minority transition-age youth (ages 16–25).



The NBCC MFP-AC 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-AC, as well as training and collaboration activities, such as <u>webinars</u>, 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 available number of culturally competent behavioral health professionals.

The NBCC MFP will distribute up to \$11,000 to Jones and the 29 other master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Jones is both a student and graduate of North Carolina Central University, in Durham, where she is currently a master's student in the mental health counseling program. After graduation, Jones plans to work with underprivileged youth who have a co-occurring mental health and substance abuse diagnosis. Her desire is to open her own private practice to provide outpatient group services to underprivileged youth who struggle with addiction. This fellowship will allow Jones to reduce the financial burden of completing her degree and allow her the opportunity to complete evidenced based trainings within the mental health and substance abuse field. In addition, the fellowship will assist Jones in applying for licensure and opening her own outpatient private practice.

The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-AC 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.