

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Liliana Barron Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates**



Corpus Christi, TX—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Liliana Barron, of Corpus Christi, Texas, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC fellow, Barron 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 [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 available number of culturally competent behavioral health professionals.

The NBCC MFP will distribute up to \$11,000 to Barron and the 30 other master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Barron is a graduate of The University of Texas–Pan American, in Edinburg, and is currently a master's student in the addictions counseling program at Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi. Upon graduation, Barron intends to pursue a career working with children, adolescents and/or transition-age youth at risk for developing or who have already developed a recognized behavioral health disorder. She further intends to work with adolescents, particularly those included in the minority and underserved populations who have substance use and/or abuse issues. This fellowship will allow Barron to attend counseling conferences to establish a solid professional identity as a counselor, learn evidence-based practices to implement with this population and advocate for the addictions counseling profession.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 23 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the Minority Fellowship Program and 30 \$8,000 master's-level fellowships through the [MFP-Youth](#) (MFP-Y). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC Minority Fellowship Program application period in September 2017. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit [www.nbccf.org/programs/scholarships](http://www.nbccf.org/programs/scholarships).

#### 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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