#### PRESS RELEASE

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# FOUNDATION.

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## Marie K. McMahon Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Portland, OR—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Marie K. McMahon, of Portland, Oregon, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC fellow, McMahon 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 McMahon and the 30 other master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. McMahon is a graduate of Appalachian State University, in Boone, North Carolina, and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at Portland State University, in Oregon. Upon graduation, McMahon intends to work with transition-age youth and their families. She is specifically interested in serving marginalized youth, including youth of color, LGBTQIA youth and youth experiencing addiction and homelessness. She is excited about treating youth with a humanistic approach that incorporates psychodynamic modalities, creative expression and feminist counseling. She also has a specific interest in experientially-focused therapy for healing trauma. This fellowship will allow McMahon to devote more time to her studies and serve the community that she loves in Portland, Oregon.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 23 \$20,000 <u>doctoral fellowships</u> through the Minority Fellowship Program and 30 \$8,000 master's-level fellowships through the <u>MFP-Youth</u> (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 <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.