

PRESS RELEASE

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Sadiqa R. Long Awarded \$20,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Washington, DC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Sadiqa R. Long, of Washington, DC, for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP). As an NBCC MFP Fellow, Long 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 <u>webinars</u>, 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 Long and the 22 other doctoral counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Long is a graduate of West Virginia State University, in Institute, and of Trinity University, in Washington, D.C., and is currently a doctoral student in the counselor education and supervision program at Argosy University—Washington in D.C. Long is interested in researching school counselor's levels of preparedness to work with preschool students who have been exposed to trauma. She currently serves as a teacher assistant at Argosy University for counseling and research courses. This fellowship will afford her the opportunity to participate in training offered by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) to further her understanding of the development of early learners and how to best serve their mental health needs, while using developmentally and culturally appropriate practice. The fellowship will allow her to expand her research to fulfill the requirements for dissertation. Long plans to continue advocating for homeless families and providing counseling to preschool students.

The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP application period in September 2016. 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.