

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Stacy L. Baker Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Apex, NC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Stacy L. Baker, of Apex, North Carolina, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC fellow, Baker 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 Baker and the 30 other master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Baker is a graduate of Peace College, in Raleigh, North Carolina, and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at North Carolina Central University, in Durham. Upon graduation, Baker intends to work with transition-age youth minorities, particularly those who identify within the realm of substance abuse populations. She would also like to work with individuals who are often marginalized, such as ethnic minorities and people living in rural areas where mental health services and bereavement counseling are particularly lacking. This fellowship will allow Baker to attend counseling conferences to establish a stronger professional identity as a counselor and individual, learn evidence-based practices to better serve these populations, and advocate for the 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.

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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