PRESS RELEASE

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FOUNDATION.

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Lisha B. Day Awarded \$10,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Jacksonville, FL—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Lisha B. Day of Jacksonville, Florida, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program Mental Health Counseling-Master's (MFP-MHC-M). As an NBCC MFP-MHC-M Fellow, Day will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved minority populations.

The NBCC MFP-MHC-M is made possible by a grant awarded to the NBCC Foundation by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The Foundation administers the MFP, including 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 number of available culturally

competent behavioral health professionals.

The NBCC Foundation MFP will distribute up to \$10,000 to Day and the other 29 master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Day is a graduate of the University of Central Florida, in Orlando and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling and marriage, couple, and family therapy program at Stetson University, in DeLand, Florida. Upon graduation, Day intends to work with transition-age minority youth, particularly those struggling with depression, anxiety, trauma, issues of self-esteem, sexuality, and identity. She would also like to work with people who are often marginalized, such as immigrants, single parents, women of color, and people living in urban areas, which are typically lacking in mental health resources and/or services. Earning this fellowship will allow Day to strengthen her ability as a counselor in bridging the gap in mental health services in urban areas, such as Jacksonville, by attending trauma-focused conferences and workshops, and learning evidence-based practices geared toward underserved populations. It will also allow her to advocate for both underserved populations and the counseling profession as a whole.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 20 \$20,000 <u>doctoral fellowships</u> through the Minority Fellowship Program and 40 <u>master's-level fellowships</u> of \$15,000 through the MFP-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MHC-M application period in fall 2019. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit <u>http://www.nbccf.org/Programs/Fellows</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 66,000 board certified counselors in the United States and over 50 countries. The Foundation's mission is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change.