PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation 3 Terrace Way Greensboro, NC 27403-3660 Phone: 336-232-0376 www.nbccf.org

FOUNDATION.

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Mabel Diaz Awarded \$10,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



San Antonio, TX—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Mabel Diaz of San Antonio, Texas, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program Mental Health Counseling-Master's (MFP-MHC-M). As an NBCC MFP-MHC-M Fellow, Diaz will receive funding and training to support their education and facilitate their 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 Diaz and the other 29 master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Diaz is both a student and graduate of The University of Texas at San Antonio, Texas, where they are currently pursuing a master's degree in the clinical mental health counseling program. Upon graduation, Diaz will work with LGBTQ folks in the community, with a focus on queer youth. They are also excited to facilitate healing with marginalized people from all intersections. This fellowship will open up opportunities such as attending professional development conferences and learning best practices from leaders in the profession.

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.