PRESS RELEASE

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

www.nbccf.org

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Marissa Arrigoni Awarded \$10,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Winterport, ME—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Marissa Arrigoni of Winterport, Maine, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program Mental Health Counseling-Master's (MFP-MHC-M). As an NBCC MFP-MHC-M Fellow, Arrigoni 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 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 number of available culturally

competent behavioral health professionals.

The NBCC Foundation MFP will distribute up to \$10,000 to Arrigoni and the other 29 master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Arrigoni is a graduate of The University of Maine, in Farmington, and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at Antioch University New England, in Keene, New Hampshire. As an NBCC Minority Fellow, Arrigoni will join the ranks of an elite group of individuals who are being trained to become skilled professionals with a commitment to serve priority underserved populations as identified by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Upon graduation, Arrigoni intends to work clinically with the child and adolescent psychiatric inpatient population. She would also like to continue her research and advocacy work with marginalized individuals, particularly those who have suffered from police brutality. She also wants to work with LGBTQIA+ youth, ethnic minorities, and those with limited access to mental health care. Earning this fellowship will allow Arrigoni to reach these goals, by providing opportunities to attend conferences as well as trainings. These conferences and trainings will establish clinical and cultural competence in working with underserved populations.

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 http://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 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.