



PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation

3 Terrace Way

Greensboro, NC 27403-3660

Phone: 336-232-0376

www.nbccf.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 30, 2016

NBCC Foundation Awards \$140,000 Capacity-Building Grant to Serve Veterans



Colorado Springs, CO—The NBCC Foundation (NBCCF) has awarded a \$140,000 community capacity-building grant to the [Family Care Center](#) in Colorado Springs, Colorado, in support of its veterans services program managed by Duane France. This grant will provide funding to facilitate access to clinical mental health counseling services for veterans in El Paso County, Colorado.

This community capacity-building grant application was available to [NBCC Foundation](#) scholars and fellows and active NBCC Foundation volunteers who are National Certified Counselors (NCCs) in good standing. The awards enable an existing community resource to strengthen or expand its services and bridge gaps in mental health care through financial support for programs as well as technical assistance and public relations support for program implementation and promotion. Funding for the Family Care Center has been awarded in the amount of \$70,000 per year for two years, beginning in the summer of 2016, with the goal of implementing sustainability resources for continuation of the program by the end of the funding period. The Family Care Center and community of Colorado Springs were chosen from among 17 finalist applicants to become the second location in the capacity-building efforts of the Foundation's Veterans Counseling Initiative.

The proposed program will expand the existing partnership between the Family Care Center and the Colorado 4th Judicial District Veterans Trauma Court, which serves as part of a jail diversion program for veterans involved in the court system. Expansion of the program will allow for the continuation of services for justice-involved veterans while also helping to bridge the gap in access to mental health care for veterans in El Paso County, with the goal of preventing unnecessary legal involvement.

Program Manager Duane France, in addition to being a combat veteran of both Iraq and Afghanistan, is an NCC, a [2015 NBCC Foundation military scholarship recipient](#), and a graduate of Adams State University. He hopes to utilize this program as a resource for supervision and internship opportunities for students enrolled in CACREP-accredited counseling programs at Adams and throughout the surrounding region, proactively working to help build a foundation of qualified and experienced veterans counselors for the Colorado Springs community.

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.

###