

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Christine M. Brown Awarded \$20,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Chicago, IL—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Christine M. Brown, of Chicago, Illinois, for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP). As an NBCC MFP fellow, Brown will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved minority populations.

The NBCC MFP is made possible by a grant first awarded to NBCC by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in August 2012. The Foundation is contracted by NBCC to administer the NBCC MFP, 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 strengthen the infrastructure that engages diverse individuals in counseling and increases the number of professional counselors providing effective,

culturally competent services to underserved populations.

The NBCC MFP will distribute \$20,000 to Brown and the 22 other doctoral counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Brown is a graduate of Chicago State University, in Illinois, and is both a student and graduate of Governors State University, in University Park, Illinois, where she is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in the counselor education and supervision program. Brown is motivated to examine through research the effectiveness of community-based services serving youth involved with the juvenile justice system. Currently, in Chicago and in the communities Brown serves, the impact of community and gang violence is widespread and has immobilized children, youth, families, law-enforcement and the community at-large. Brown is particularly interested in addressing the trauma and potential for post-traumatic stress disorder experienced by youth that have involvement with the juvenile justice system and that have witnessed or been victims of violence in their communities. Brown is also interested in the youth that are now perpetrators of violence as result of trauma. As a counselor educator and supervisor, Brown is compelled to be a part of finding solutions to this public health crisis in Chicago. Specifically, the fellowship will assist Brown in becoming active and involved in research and advocacy and obtaining grants to support community-based mental health services for this population. This fellowship will help Brown to obtain intensive training, including trauma-informed care, restorative justice practices and effective treatment models, to address PTSD with adolescents and young adults within underserved minority populations, including African Americans and Latinos.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 30 \$8,000 master's-level fellowships through the [MFP-Youth](#) (MFP-Y) and 31 master's-level fellowships of up to \$11,000 through the [MFP-Addictions Counselors](#) (MFP-AC). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP application period in September 2017. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit [www.nbccf.org/Programs/Fellows](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 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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