



PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation

3 Terrace Way

Greensboro, NC 27403-3660

Phone: 336-232-0376

www.nbccf.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Devonna Jackson Awarded \$8,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Madison, WI—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Devonna Jackson of Madison, Wisconsin, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Youth (MFP-Y). As an NBCC MFP-Y fellow, Jackson will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved minority populations, with a specific focus on transition-age youth (ages 16–25).



The NBCC MFP-Y is made possible by a grant awarded to NBCC by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in September 2014. The Foundation is contracted by NBCC to administer the NBCC MFP-Y, 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 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 MFP will distribute \$8,000 education awards to Jackson and the 30 other master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Jackson is a graduate of The University of Wisconsin–Madison, and is currently pursuing a master's degree in the clinical mental health counseling program at Marquette University, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Upon graduation, Jackson intends to work with underrepresented youth and adolescents in the juvenile justice system. She hopes to work in a criminal justice setting where she will have the ability to promote and uphold the importance of personalizing mental health and preventative treatment for juvenile offenders. She also desires to work in cooperation with underserved populations to enhance treatment models connected to the socio-cultural contexts in their home community. This fellowship will help her continue to receive the training needed to gain the awareness, knowledge and skills necessary to provide the most effective culturally competent counseling services.

The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-Y application period in September 2016. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit www.nbccf.org.

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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