

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Dorothy Hiralien Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates**



Providence, RI—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Dorothy Hiralien, of Providence, Rhode Island, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC fellow, Hiralien will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her addictions counseling service to underserved minority transition-age youth (ages 16–25).

The NBCC MFP-AC 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-AC, 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 available number of culturally competent behavioral health professionals.

The NBCC MFP will distribute up to \$11,000 to Hiralien and the 30 other master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Hiralien is a graduate of the College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, Massachusetts, and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at the University of Saint Joseph, in West Hartford, Connecticut. Upon graduation, Hiralien intends to work with underserved youth in urban communities. This passion was sparked after recent experiences working with youth with different mental disabilities. She also hopes to work with young adults and is interested in focusing her studies in substance abuse and addiction. This fellowship will allow Hiralien to network in her field, gain more knowledge from conferences and workshops, and collaborate with other individuals in the profession. The Minority Fellowship Program gives Hiralien the chance to be recognized for the difference she will make in the world, with the help of her cohort and those in other cohorts. This fellowship gives Hiralien a voice and also acknowledges her efforts in the advancement she will contribute to this field. She accepts this fellowship on behalf of her family, friends and those who helped her along the way.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 23 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the Minority Fellowship Program and 30 \$8,000 master's-level fellowships through the [MFP-Youth](#) (MFP-Y). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC Minority Fellowship Program application period in September 2017. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit [www.nbccf.org/programs/scholarships](http://www.nbccf.org/programs/scholarships).

#### 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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