



PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Elizabeth Marie Hernandez Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Corpus Christi, TX—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Elizabeth Marie Hernandez, of Corpus Christi, Texas, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC fellow, Hernandez 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 Hernandez and the 29 other master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Hernandez is both a student and graduate of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi, where she is currently a master's student in the addictions counseling program. Upon graduation, Hernandez anticipates working with underserved minorities, particularly the youth population afflicted by drug or alcohol addiction. Hernandez would also like to actively work with ethnic minority populations within the community to bring awareness about the issues that drugs and alcohol create. Earning this fellowship will allow Hernandez to attend counseling conferences to establish a stronger professional identity as a counselor, learn evidence-based practices to better serve underserved populations, as well as advocate on behalf of the counseling profession.

The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-AC 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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