

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Marisa B. Wallace Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Cleveland, OH—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Marisa B. Wallace, of Cleveland, Ohio, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC fellow, Wallace 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 Wallace and the 17 other master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Wallace is a graduate of Clark Atlanta University, in Georgia, and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at John Carroll University, in University Heights, Ohio. Upon graduation, Wallace anticipates working with transition-age youth, primarily dealing with substance use disorders and specifically focusing on the impact of trauma and grief in relation to addiction. In addition to this, Wallace would like to destroy barriers surrounding mental health services in low-income communities. Wallace is passionate about working with minorities and underprivileged youth to unearth their full potential, and she intends on helping these clients find their purpose and meaning in life. By earning this fellowship, Wallace will gain access to a supportive network and trainings that will enhance her professional development and effectiveness in working with underserved populations.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 23 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the Minority Fellowship Program, 30 \$8,000 master's-level fellowships through the [MFP-Youth](#) (MFP-Y) program, and 31 additional [MFP-AC](#) fellowships this year. The Foundation will 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.

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 63,000 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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