



PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation

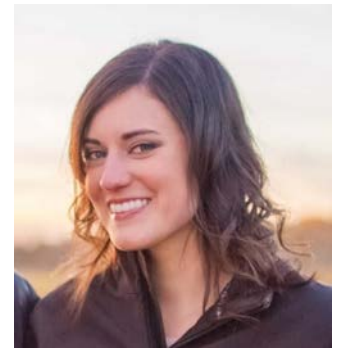
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 10, 2016

Valerie L. Platt Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Meridian, ID—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Valerie L. Platt, of Meridian, Idaho, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC fellow, Platt 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 Platt and the 29 other master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Platt is a graduate of San Jose State University, in California, and is currently a master's student in the addictions specialization in the counseling program at Boise State University, in Idaho. Upon graduation, Platt aspires to work with transition-age minority youth through the juvenile justice system and other underserved populations within the Treasure Valley. Platt intends to focus on adolescent substance abuse and trauma while improving how minority populations interface with mental health services. Being granted this fellowship will allow Platt the opportunity to intern at two sites, the Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections and Outreach Community Counseling.

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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