

## PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation  
3 Terrace Way  
Greensboro, NC 27403  
336-232-0376  
[nbccf.org](http://nbccf.org)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Ángela Vásquez Vásquez Awarded \$10,000 Counseling Fellowship From the NBCC Foundation



Hillsboro, OR—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Ángela Vásquez Vásquez of Hillsboro, Oregon, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Mental Health Counseling-Master's (MFP-MHC-M). As an NBCC MFP-MHC-M Fellow, Vásquez will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved populations.

The NBCC MFP-MHC-M is made possible by a grant awarded to the NBCC Foundation by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The NBCC Foundation administers the MFP-MHC-M, including training and collaboration activities, such as [webinars](#), that are open to all board certified counselors. 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 professional counselors providing effective, culturally competent services to underserved populations.

The NBCC Foundation will distribute \$10,000 to Vásquez and the other 29 master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Vásquez is both a graduate of and is currently enrolled at Portland State University, where she is pursuing a master's degree in the marriage, couple, and family counseling program. Upon graduation, Vásquez intends to contribute to the current efforts aimed at reducing mental health disparities in minoritized and Spanish communities of color. She specifically wants to serve individuals who hold multiple marginalized identities. She wants to serve children, adolescents, and families who deserve culturally responsive counseling services and an equal access to become the best version of themselves. As a Latinx mujxr of color, Vásquez is strongly committed to social justice and equity. In her role as the Cultural Chair for Chi Sigma Iota International Honor Society, she strives to bring awareness and provide culturally inclusive events for counselors-in-training, especially for counselors of color. Earning this fellowship will allow Vásquez to attend professional development conferences that will provide her with knowledge of evidence-based practices and strengthen her counseling identity in order to meet the unique needs of her comunidad.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 20 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the MFP and 40 [master's-level fellowships](#) of \$15,000 through the MFP for Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). The NBCC Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-MHC-M application period in fall 2020. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit [nbccf.org/Programs/Fellows](http://nbccf.org/Programs/Fellows).

\*Biographical information provided by the awardee.

#### 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 66,000 board certified counselors in the United States and over 50 countries. The NBCC Foundation's mission is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change.

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