

PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation
3 Terrace Way
Greensboro, NC 27403-3660
336-232-0376
nbccf.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 4, 2020

Fardowsa A. Hassan Awarded \$15,000 Counseling Fellowship From the NBCC Foundation



Minneapolis, MN—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Fardowsa A. Hassan, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program for Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC Fellow, Hassan will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her addictions counseling service to underserved populations.

The NBCC MFP-AC is made possible by a grant awarded to the NBCC Foundation in collaboration with the Association for Addiction Professionals (NAADAC) by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The NBCC Foundation administers the MFP-AC, 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 available number of culturally competent behavioral health professionals.

The NBCC Foundation will distribute \$15,000 to Hassan and the other 39 master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Hassan is both a graduate of and is currently a master's student in the integrated behavioral health program with an addiction counseling focus at the University of Minnesota. Upon graduation, Hassan intends to serve underrepresented groups, such as ethnic minorities and adolescents, by providing access to addiction counseling and mental health services. Hassan hopes to decrease the barriers of social stigma, especially for those who need services, such as adolescents. She plans to provide psychoeducation on the importance of seeking services, the role of family in the recovery process, and what recovery can look like for someone learning how to seek treatment, especially for an addiction. By minimizing the misconceptions about mental health and addiction, she hopes to increase the accessibility of services. This fellowship will provide the opportunity for Hassan to enhance her professional development skills, network with other professionals who share similar goals and aspirations, and expand her expertise by attending conferences in hopes of learning new ways to serve underrepresented groups.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 20 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the MFP and 30 \$10,000 [master's-level fellowships](#) through the MFP-Mental Health Counseling-Master's (MFP-MHC-M). The NBCC Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-AC application period in fall 2020. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit 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 more than 50 countries. The NBCC Foundation's mission is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change.

###