PRESS RELEASE

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



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Jasmine Victoria Idrogo Awarded \$15,000 Counseling Fellowship From the NBCC Foundation



San Antonio, TX—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Jasmine Victoria Idrogo, of San Antonio, Texas, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program for Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC Fellow, Idrogo 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 Idrogo and the other 39 master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Idrogo is a graduate of Texas A&M International University and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at The University of Texas at San Antonio. Upon graduation, Idrogo plans to work with individuals facing addiction and those who are incarcerated or are at risk for incarceration. These populations are also typically marginalized minorities, which is why Idrogo is also completing a bilingual counseling certificate also at The University of Texas at San Antonio. Earning this fellowship will allow her to focus on becoming the best counselor she can be and strengthen her professional identity as well as her theoretical orientation.

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.