

PRESS RELEASE

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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Marissa R. Cano Awarded \$10,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Portland, OR—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Marissa R. Cano of Portland, Oregon, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program Mental Health Counseling-Master’s (MFP-MHC-M). As an NBCC MFP-MHC-M Fellow, Cano will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved minority 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 Foundation administers the MFP, including 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 number of available culturally

competent behavioral health professionals.

The NBCC Foundation MFP will distribute up to \$10,000 to Cano and the other 29 master’s-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Cano is a graduate of The University of New Mexico, in Albuquerque, and is currently a master’s student in the clinical mental health counseling program at Portland State University, in Oregon. After graduating from her master’s program, Cano intends to conduct trauma-focused therapy with children and people of color. She would like to take a social justice and trauma-informed approach to addressing the difficulties that often come from being in a vulnerable position. There are gaps in mental health services for children and people of color, and Cano is dedicated to providing for the needs of these communities. Being awarded the fellowship will help support Cano in her career goals and will help relieve the financial costs of graduate school and provide valuable trainings. Through the award, Cano will further her counseling goal of supporting and empowering marginalized populations with treatment that is specific to their cultural background, development, and values.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 20 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the Minority Fellowship Program and 40 [master’s-level fellowships](#) of \$15,000 through the MFP-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MHC-M application period in fall 2019. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit <http://www.nbccf.org/Programs/Fellows>.

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 Foundation’s mission is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change.

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