

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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Sara J. Stone Receives Rural Scholarship From the NBCC Foundation



Bigfork, MT—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors, Inc. (NBCC), recently awarded an \$8,000 2019 NBCC Foundation rural scholarship to Sara J. Stone, of Bigfork, Montana. The rural scholarship is awarded to counseling students who are from rural communities and commit to practicing in rural areas upon graduation.

The mission of the NBCC Foundation is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change. The Foundation created the rural scholarship in 2009 to improve access to counseling services in rural communities, which suffer disproportionately from a lack of mental health care. More than 50 students from across the country applied for the five 2019 rural scholarships.

As a rural scholarship recipient, Stone will receive \$8,000 to support her counseling education and recognize her commitment to the underserved. Stone is a graduate of Montana State University in Bozeman and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at Capella University in Minneapolis, Minnesota. After graduation, Stone intends to offer trauma-informed counseling in Bigfork, a rural Montana community that has a severe deficit of outpatient mental health services available. This scholarship will help Stone acquire intensive specialty training and supervision in healing wounds created by trauma and attachment disruption. After receiving this training, Stone will work in conjunction with local entities to offer full spectrum, evidence-based family mental health care. The addition of trauma and attachment services, which are not readily available to the Flathead Valley, will be a welcome addition to the community of Bigfork, Montana. Stone will be practicing with Mind Over Matter Bigfork, which is set to open in the fall of 2021.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded five \$8,000 [military scholarships](#) to increase the number of counselors serving fellow military personnel, veterans, and their families. The Foundation plans to continue offering scholarships to increase the number of counselors in the areas where they are needed most and will open the next application period in spring 2020. For more information or to make a gift in support of scholars like these, please visit 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 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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