

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sydney Rogers Woodward Awarded \$10,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Santa Cruz, CA—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Sydney Rogers Woodward of Santa Cruz, California, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program Mental Health Counseling-Master’s (MFP-MHC-M). As an NBCC MFP-MHC-M Fellow, Woodward 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 Woodward and the other 29 master’s-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Woodward is a graduate of the University of California, in Santa Cruz, and is currently a master’s student in the marriage, family, and child counseling program at San Francisco State University, in California. After graduation, Woodward plans to work with underrepresented client populations, specifically African-American and undocumented individuals. Earning this fellowship will allow Woodward to receive counseling mentorship, grow in her professional counseling identity, and learn additional skills to best serve underrepresented clients. Through use of these skills, Woodward plans to be a bridge to mental health services for clients who may not be able to receive them. Woodward intends to be an advocate for these populations who are often at a disadvantage when seeking mental health resources.

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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