

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Marjorie Marie Brown Awarded \$8,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Dallas, TX—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Marjorie Marie Brown of Dallas, Texas, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Youth (MFP-Y). As an NBCC MFP-Y Fellow, Brown will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved minority populations, with a specific focus on transition-age youth (ages 16–25).

The NBCC MFP-Y is made possible by a grant awarded to NBCC by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in September 2014. The Foundation is contracted by NBCC to administer the NBCC MFP-Y, as well as 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 MFP will distribute \$8,000 education awards to Brown and the 29 other master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Brown is both a student and graduate of the University of North Texas, in Denton, where she is pursuing a master's in clinical mental health counseling. Upon graduation, Brown plans to work with racial and ethnic minority transition-age youth, particularly those from a low-income background. Brown plans to work to close the gap between minority communities and mental health access by providing culturally appropriate interventions to marginalized groups that are often overlooked and underserved. Brown also intends to serve as a mentor, volunteer at high-minority schools, and conduct outreach in at-risk communities to break down the stigma surrounding mental health. She believes that by creating a space where counseling is normalized, we can begin to change the negative statistics associated with minorities in relation to mental health and create a truly inclusive community. This fellowship will allow Brown to attend counseling conferences to establish a stronger professional identity as a counselor, learn evidence-based practices to better serve her intended population, and help to create a counseling environment that is accessible and welcoming of underserved and diverse clients.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 23 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the Minority Fellowship Program and 34 master's-level fellowships of up to \$11,000 through the [MFP-Addictions Counselors](#) (MFP-AC). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-Y application period in fall 2018. 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 64,000 board-certified counselors in the United States and more than 50 countries. The Foundation's mission is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change.

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