

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 8, 2015

## NBCC Foundation Awards 2015 Scholarship to Dr. Naveeda Athar

Carol Stream, IL—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors, Inc. (NBCC), recently awarded one of the 2015 NBCC Foundation <u>Board Certified Coach</u> (BCC) tuition assistance program scholarships to Dr. Naveeda Athar, of Carol Stream, Illinois. The goal of this scholarship program is to increase the number of available Board Certified Coaches. Athar will receive up to \$3,000 to cover the costs of an approved BCC training.



Athar was drawn to a service career after observing a need for better communication in the United States. "I come from a minority background, and English is not my first language," she says. "I thought it would be a great idea to become a service provider as

a counselor for people whose first language is not English. This was the best decision of my life, and I have been working in human services since 1997." Athar works full-time at Concordia University, teaching graduate courses in the Counselor Education Department. Due to her clinical background, she is also the program leader and training director of the mental health clinic at Concordia. Athar hopes her students learn about themselves before they start treating and counseling others. "This is the most important lesson that I would like to convey to each one of my students," she says. "The drive to achieve higher education inspires me. It is a great value for me, and I am always driven to gain more knowledge through research and through general interactions with others." Athar has learned from great teachers throughout her life and hopes her students remember her with high regard. Aside from teaching graduate courses, Athar has over 20 years' experience as a domestic violence advocate for minority women. Her goal as a Board Certified Coach is to promote empowerment among survivors of domestic violence. She plans to help survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking to find their own purpose in life and have a better future.

For more information or to make a donation, visit <u>www.nbccf.org</u>. CCE, a platinum sponsor of the Foundation, provides the grant funding for this award. More information about the BCC and other CCE credentials is available at <u>www.cce-global.org</u>.

## 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 60,000 National Certified Counselors (NCCs) 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.