FOUNDATION.

PRESS RELEASE

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Tina Fitts Awarded \$20,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Miami Shores, FL—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Tina Fitts, of Coral Gables, Florida, for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP). As an NBCC MFP Fellow, Fitts will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved minority populations.



The NBCC MFP is made possible by a grant first awarded to NBCC by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in August 2012. The Foundation is contracted by NBCC to administer the NBCC MFP, as well as training and collaboration activities, such as <u>webinars</u>, that are open to all National Certified Counselors (NCCs). The goal of the program is to strengthen the infrastructure that engages diverse individuals in counseling and increases the number of professional counselors providing effective, culturally competent services to underserved populations.

The NBCC MFP will distribute \$20,000 to Fitts and the 22 other doctoral counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Fitts is a graduate of East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania and is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in counseling with a specialization in marriage and family therapy at Barry University in Miami Shores, Florida. Her research focuses on immigrant families and their challenges due to differences in acculturation. She would like to extend her services to multiculturally diverse families, especially those who are new to the country. Fitts would also like to serve individuals who cannot afford therapy, who often need it the most.

The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP application period in September 2015. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit www.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 55,000 National 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.