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PRESS RELEASE

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Kimberly M. Childers Awarded \$20,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Rochester, MI—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Kimberly M. Childers, of Eastpointe, Michigan, for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP). As an NBCC MFP Fellow, Childers 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 Childers and the 22 other doctoral counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Childers is a graduate of Spring Arbor University in Michigan and is both a student and graduate of Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan, where she is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in counselor education and supervision. Her current areas of interest are supervision and multicultural issues. She has been working as a counselor with individuals with disabilities since 2007, and many of her current clients are part of diverse populations including underserved and low-income. She has found her work to be very rewarding and one of the catalysts to her pursuit of doctoral studies. This fellowship will allow her to fully immerse herself academically. Her goals as a Fellow are to be a better resource for her clients and future students. She plans to work with faculty and staff on research projects that are influenced by social justice and multicultural issues. To heighten her sensitivity, she would like to study abroad and learn about the mental health systems in other countries.

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 <u>www.nbccf.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 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.