

## PRESS RELEASE

*NBCC Foundation*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Sian McNeary Awarded \$5,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Louisville, KY—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Sian McNeary of Louisville, Kentucky, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Youth (MFP-Y). As an NBCC MFP-Y Fellow, McNeary 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 available number of culturally competent behavioral health professionals.

The NBCC MFP will distribute \$5,000 to McNeary and the 39 other master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. McNeary is both a student and graduate of the University of Louisville in Kentucky, where she is currently pursuing a master's degree in clinical mental health counseling. Upon graduation, McNeary intends to serve minority and low-income populations in the Louisville metro area, as those populations are plagued by substance use and other mental health issues. The Minority Fellowship Program will provide her with the resources and opportunities necessary to become an effective counselor and agent of change in her community.

The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-Y application period in September 2015. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit [www.nbccf.org](http://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.

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