NBCC Launches New Job Board for NCCs

NBCC is pleased to announce a new resource for NCCs, a job board where talented and qualified counselors can connect with some of the best counseling jobs available. The board can be accessed at www.nbcc.org.

“We are very pleased to help connect the best counselors in the country with outstanding job opportunities, which is why we have created our job bank,” says NBCC President and CEO Dr. Thomas Clawson. “In the first three months since we launched the new service, we have had more than 23,000 job views, and we know it’s only the beginning. We are confident this resource will be a great benefit for NCCs and for employers looking for counselors who have outstanding talent and qualifications.”

Job seekers can access the newest jobs available or post a résumé for future opportunities. In addition, they can set up an e-mail job alert, so that new jobs matching search criteria will be e-mailed directly to them.

“A unique feature of NBCC’s job board is the aggregation of counseling jobs that can fall under many different titles,” says Shawn O’Brien, NBCC’s chief operating officer. “Anyone who has searched for a counseling position knows that professional counselors are qualified for many positions that may not have counseling in the title. Our approach makes it easier for counselors to find well-paying jobs.”

The job board is also designed to help employers seeking highly qualified counseling professionals, who they can confidently find by recruiting NCCs. Employers can post a job or browse the résumé bank to find the right candidate. Banner ads and other tools are available to help employers get maximum visibility. Regardless of a company’s staffing needs or budget, NBCC offers a variety of products through its new job board to help recruit the right people.

The job board is a benefit of holding the NCC certification, and there is no cost to search the job listings. The project also includes a board featuring internship opportunities for students.
The counseling profession has grown and evolved significantly over the past decade. The National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) has evolved with it to meet the demands of the profession, raise the standards for continuing education (CE), and help NCCs meet their educational goals to enhance their professional identity. The new NBCC Continuing Education Provider Policy is a result of this evolution.

While developing the new policy, NBCC continuing education staff members evaluated the most recent NCC job analysis, the standards for professional counselors set forth by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP), the policies of other mental health continuing education approval bodies, and feedback from NCCs.

The new CE policy has clearly defined content areas that speak to the work NCCs are actually doing in their professional lives and in their communities. This inspired the revamping of the approved continuing education content areas to reflect feedback from NCCs. The biggest change is the addition of Wellness and Prevention as an approved content area. Within this category, content that provides psychoeducational information for counselors to enhance their ability to promote optimal wellness related to client mental health, such as sex education, sleep hygiene and nutrition, can qualify for NBCC credit. The Professional Identity and Assessment categories were also revamped to better reflect the continuing education needs of counselors working in the field.

PBCC has simplified the home study delivery option by removing the different categories. This means that the home study delivery option is no longer divided into “online,” “traditional” and “subscription.” The clock hour conversion for home study has changed from 4,000 words per clock hour to 6,000 words per clock hour to move toward industry standards.

With the new CE policy, NBCC is taking a closer look at provider practices to ensure quality continuing education and service for NCCs. The standards for presenters for both live programs and home study activities have increased to ensure that the information in these programs is delivered by qualified experts in the field. NBCC has also added new requirements for CE providers so that NCCs can easily determine if a particular session or program qualifies for NBCC credit.

Provider status is not just for organizations. Individuals who offer qualifying programs can apply to be providers. The single program application is perfect for individuals who would like to offer NBCC credit for a specific training. You can find more information as well as the appropriate applications at www.nbcc.org/CEProviderResources/ApplyContinuingEducationApproval.

The new CE policy offers a significant opportunity for Approved Continuing Education Providers (ACEPs) and single program providers to demonstrate a commitment to the counseling profession and to NBCC’s high standards for continuing education and training.

NBCC at the 2015 ACA Conference: Come See Us at Booth 501

One of the things we at NBCC appreciate about our booth at the annual ACA conference is visiting with so many NCCs. We will share the latest information about ProCounselor, continuing education, our job board, NBCC International, The Professional Counselor journal and the NBCC Foundation.

Who will you meet at our booth?

Michelle Gross—Director of Certification Services

Ms. Gross coordinates all programming for the National Certified Counselor (NCC), Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor (CCMHC), Master Addictions Counselor (MAC) and National Certified School Counselor (NCSC) certifications. In addition...
to this, she oversees services for current certificants. Ms. Gross also manages the continuing education department at NBCC. Before she became the director of certification services, she served as the managing editor for *The Professional Counselor*, NBCC’s professional journal.

**Mona Olds—Senior Graduate Program Liaison**

Dr. Olds has served NBCC as the coordinator of the NCC application process for graduate students for 10 years. She has long-standing relationships with faculty from hundreds of schools. Dr. Olds will be available to answer questions from faculty and students regarding the NCC application process and how they can take advantage of the option for students to apply for national certification while still enrolled and take the NCE while the academic and practice information is fresh in their minds.

**Get Your Ribbon**

Make sure to come by our booth to get your NCC ribbon and one for any specialty certification you hold (NCSC, CCMHC, MAC, NCGC and NCCC). We will assist you in proudly displaying your national certification on your name badge. There now number more than 55,000 NCCs, so you will see a lot of other counselors with ribbons. We hope you will take part in this long-standing tradition.

**Enter Our Drawing**

NBCC partners with Lockton Affinity to offer NCCs and graduate students who have applied for the NCC professional liability insurance at a reduced rate. Lockton invites all NCCs to shop for the best rates in liability insurance and see what a great bargain Lockton offers. As a way of thanking NBCC and NCCs, Lockton offers a Nook Color as prize for the winner of this year’s drawing. Register at the NBCC booth and don’t miss your chance to win!

**NCC Profile: Tanairy Estevez**

Some people enter into the world of counseling not knowing where the journey may take them. For Tanairy Estevez, her career direction was solidified during an internship before she began graduate school. “Interning at Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center in the Bronx opened my eyes to the effects poverty has on children and adults psychologically,” she says. “With my first interaction working with children and adolescents, I knew that being a counselor could make a difference in helping children cope with life stressors.”

In addition to the prospect of connecting with and helping clients, Ms. Estevez was drawn to the counseling profession for its flexibility in career options. She graduated from St. John’s University in New York City in May of 2013 with an M.Ed. in clinical mental health counseling and has since worked as a counselor and project coordinator for an opportunity program called College Discovery, at LaGuardia Community College.

Although there are days when she finds herself juggling many different tasks, Ms. Estevez states that the most rewarding part of her career is being able to witness behavioral changes. “I have many students coming into college with the same negative habits they had in high school,” she says. “Providing psychoeducational group sessions and having students apply what they learned to their everyday life is rewarding. I am overwhelmed with joy when a student says ‘Tanairy, I tried using the coping skills we worked on, and it helped me stay calm.’”

For those who are considering becoming a counselor, Ms. Estevez suggests starting clinical experience as soon as possible, including through volunteer opportunities in a clinic, afterschool program, community counseling center, inpatient unit or research lab. “Don’t do the minimal work in graduate school,” she suggests. “Go above and beyond by being active on your campus. I find the more people network on campus and off campus, the more opportunities they have once they graduate.”
On December 16, 2014, President Obama signed H.R.83, the omnibus fiscal year (FY) 2015 appropriations act (P.L. 113-235). The bill funds the government through September 2015 and ended the standoff between Republicans and Democrats on federal spending for the fiscal year. However, Congress offered only a continuing resolution for the Department of Homeland Security because the parties disagreed on riders to limit the president’s executive action on immigration. The DHS funding was approved February 27, 2015.

The FY 2016 budget season commenced on February 2, when President Obama released his new spending plan. The budget was sent to Congress, which now has the responsibility to approve a budget resolution setting the revenue and spending targets for legislation. There has been no concurrent budget resolution from the House and Senate since 2010, but there is speculation that it may happen with Republican control of both chambers. The budget resolution is due by April 15, and appropriations subcommittees will begin work on their bills regardless of whether the resolution is adopted. The resolution sets spending targets for the appropriations subcommittees, and it does not need to be signed by the president. However, appropriations bills must be passed by their committees and signed by October 1 or a continuing resolution will be needed to keep the government running. The president’s budget includes many programs that are important to NBCC and the counseling profession.

Funding Priority Programs in the President’s Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>FY 2015 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2016 President’s Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minority Fellowship Program (MFP)</td>
<td>$10,669,000</td>
<td>$10,669,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Grant (BHWET)</td>
<td>$35,000,000</td>
<td>$56,000,000 (+21,000,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Behavioral Health Workforce Data and Development</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
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NBCC has been lobbying for expanded funding for counseling workforce programs, such as the MFP and BHWET. The MFP, which provides master’s and doctoral fellowships to minority counseling students, was doubled in the FY 2015 budget and maintained in the president’s FY 2016 proposal. The BHWET, which provides stipends to counseling students serving children and adolescents, was funded at $35 million in FY 2015 and the president is requesting a $21 million increase.
OPM Occupational Series
The FY 2015 budget bill also included language urging the creation of an occupational series for mental health counselors. The language was promoted by NBCC in follow-up to the language included in the Senate Financial Services and General Government Appropriations subcommittee report from July. The language states:

“OPM is directed to review the Department of Veterans Affairs request to consider the establishment of two new General Schedule occupational series to meet the hiring needs of the Department. OPM is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate within 90 days of enactment of this Act on its progress.”

NBCC will follow up with OPM to advocate for the congressional directive urging the creation of the occupational series.

Veterans
On December 2, NBCC and its coalition partners met with senior Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) leaders from the offices of mental health services, mental health operations and academic affairs. The meeting was a follow-up to the July meeting and the implementation of a plan to meet more regularly.

In the meeting, the VA provided more detail regarding its plans to provide paid internships at three VA facilities through the Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA) health professionals trainee program. The VA also highlighted its plans to adopt changes to the qualification standards recommended by NBCC to help facilitate the hiring of LPMHCs.

On November 19, the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee held a hearing on mental health and suicide. At NBCC’s urging, Sen. Jerry Moran (R-KS) asked questions of the VA staff about the pace and breadth of counselor hiring. Other senators also raised issues with the adequacy of mental health staffing.

Medicare
The five bills to provide Medicare reimbursement to counselors died when the 113th Congress adjourned in 2014. NBCC and its coalition allies are preparing for reintroduction of bipartisan Senate and House bills in the 114th Congress. It is anticipated that a health care vehicle may materialize this year, providing an opportunity to obtain passage of this important legislation. NBCC will work toward that goal and will seek NCC grassroots advocacy support as the process unfolds.

States
Georgia—NBCC is working with the Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia to kill legislation designed to dramatically curtail the testing authority of professional counselors. The bills are being promoted by the Georgia Psychological Association, which suggests that counselors are testing beyond their competence. The legislation would limit access to a range of tests used by licensed professional counselors, including the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory.

Kentucky—On December 17, 2014, Kentucky became the second state to require for licensure a degree from a program accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP). The new rules require any counselor who enrolls in a counseling program after January 15, 2015, to obtain a CACREP degree.

Montana—NBCC is opposing new regulations to restrict counselor testing authority in Montana. The Montana Board of Social Work Examiners and Professional Counselors (SWEPC) has been engaged in a multiyear effort to keep psychologists from forcing restrictive rules upon the counseling profession. The SWEPC adopted competency-based rules in 2011, but since that time, the psychology profession has been urging the governor to mandate new rules. The board has been resistant, but the pressure is relentless. NBCC submitted written testimony to the board in February in support of the existing regulations.

National Certified Counselors who are interested in advocating for the counseling profession and receiving more communications on government relations activities are encouraged to join the NBCC grassroots network. To sign up, send an e-mail to advocacy@nbcc.org with “Grassroots” in the subject line and your contact information with NCC ID in the text.
Newly Approved Continuing Education Providers

Access CEU; 6689; West Pittston, PA; http://accessceu.com

A Home Within; 6701; San Francisco, CA; www.ahomewithin.org

Blue Moon Mending; 6692; Coeur d’Alene, ID; www.bluemoonmending.com

The Chicago School of Professional Psychology Clinical Mental Health Counseling Department; 3036; Clayton, NC

Colorado Professional Development Center (CPDC); 6699; Colorado Springs, CO; www.weinholds.org

eCare Counseling, PLLC; 6703; Mooresville, NC; www.ecarecounseling.com

Expressive Media, Inc.; 6697; The Villages, FL; www.expressivemedia.org

FIRST at Blue Ridge; 6700; Leicester, NC; www.continuingeducationwnc.org

Georgia College Counseling Association; 2065; Mount Berry, GA; www.gacollegecounseling.org

Indiana College Counseling Association; 2066; Terre Haute, IN

Institute for Contemporary Psychotherapy; 6690; New York, NY; www.lcpnyc.org

International Bullying Prevention Association; 6687; Troy, MI; www.ibpaworld.org

Iowa Mental Health Counselors Association (IMHCA); #2060; Ankeny, IA; www.imhca.net

Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia (LPCA-GA); #2063; Norcross, GA; www.LPCAGA.com

Lock Haven University, Social Work and Clinical Mental Health Counseling Department; 3037; Lock Haven, PA; www.lhup.edu/colleges/business_information/cmhc

Maryland Art Therapy Association; 6691; Bel Air, MD; www.marylandarthrapy.com

Massachusetts Mental Health Counseling Association (MAMHCA); #2061; Foxboro, MA; www.mamhca.org

The Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute; 6686; Detroit, MI; www.mps.i.wayne.edu

Michigan Mental Health Counselors Association; 2064; Rochester Hills, MI; www.mmhca.org

New Mexico State University Counseling and Educational Psychology Department; 3035; Las Cruces, NM; www.cep.education.nmsu.edu

Noeticus Counseling Center and Training Institute; 6704; Denver, CO; www.noeticus.org

Optimum Performance Institute; 6702; Woodland Hill, CA; www.opiliving.com

Palmetto State School Counselor Association; #2062; Columbia, SC; www.psschoolcounselor.org

Philadelphia University Department of Community and Trauma Counseling; 3034; Philadelphia, PA; http://www.philau.edu/MSTraumaCounseling/index.html

Pine Street Sangha; 6694; Portland, OR; http://pinestreetsangha.org/for-therapists/

Raja Selvam; 6705; Glastonbury, CT

South University; 3032; Virginia Beach, VA; www.southuniversity.edu

Telehealth Certification Institute, LLC; 6693; Canandaigua, NY; www.telehealthcertificationinstitute.com

The Body Positive; 6698; San Rafael, CA; http://thebodypositive.org

The Forging Place, Inc.; 6695; Van Buren, AR; http://www.theforgingplace.com/

Therapy Training Boston; 6707; Watertown, MA; www.therapytrainingboston.com

T.W. Ponessa & Associates Counseling Services, Inc.; 6696; Lancaster, PA; http://www.twponessa.com

TypeFocus Internet, Inc.; 6706; Victoria, BC, Canada; www.typefocus.com

West Central Family and Counseling, LTD; 6688; West Springfield, Massachusetts; www.westcentralfamily.com

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The following organizations are no longer ACEPs and are not authorized to offer NBCC continuing education credit:

- ADD Resources
- AdvantEdge Success Coaching
- American Hospice Foundation
- Amrit Yoga Institute
- Arizona Counseling Association (AzCA)
- Assertive Community Treatment Association, Inc. (ACTA)
- Association for Humanistic Psychology (AHP)
- Association of Mormon Counselors and Psychotherapists (AMCAP)
- Behavioral Medicine Research and Training Foundation
- Bellevue University
- Center for Integrative Therapy, LLC
- Columbus State University
- Co-Occurring Disorders Institute, Inc.
- Counseling Centers of New York, Counseling and Psychological Services Center
- End Violence Against Women (EVAW) International
- Family Solutions, PLLC
- FinancialPsychologyCeus.com
- Four Directions
- Gottman Institute, Inc.
- GROW Training Institute, Inc.
- Heartland Initiative, Inc.
- Inquisit
- Institute for Natural Resources (INR)
- Integrative Life Center
- International Association of Marriage and Family Counselors (IAMFC)
- Kent State University
- Kripalu Center for Yoga & Health
- Louisiana Tech University Counseling Programs (within the Dept of Psychology and Behavioral Sciences)
- Love and Logic Institute, Inc.
- Middle Atlantic Career Counseling Association (MACCA)
- Minnesota Counseling Association (MnCA)
- Naropa University Somatic Counseling Psychology Department
- National Academic Advising Association (NACADA)
- New York Institute for Cognitive and Behavioral Therapies (NYICBT)
- North Shore Counseling, Ltd.
- The O.K. Corral Series
- PCBADCG (Professional Certification Board of Alcohol/Drug Counselors-Germany)
- Practical CE Seminars
- PSI Services, Inc./PSI e-College
- Puppet Therapy Institute
- Rancho Bosque
- Ready Minds/VOPX
- Renaissance Center
- Sheridan Patterson Center for Holistic Family, Inc.
- Southwest Association of Student Assistance Programs (SWASAP)
- Spiritual Care Services, LLC
- University of Alabama, College of Continuing Studies
- University of Arkansas
- University of Louisiana at Monroe
- University of Phoenix-Bay Area Campus
- Xavier University of Louisiana

NBCC congratulates these outstanding NCCs.

- Barton Bott—St. Cloud, FL
- Darrett Burr—Seattle, WA
- Marcia Grubbs-Weiss—Williamsburg, VA
- Penny Virchow—Mitchell, SD
- Wesley Wilkes—Pelham, AL
- Jennifer Young—Erie, PA

If you would like to submit an item for NCC Network, refer to the guidelines and deadlines on our Web site. Select Resources for NCCs then The National Certified Counselor Newsletter.
NCCs interested in serving the military and veteran population can learn more about military culture with a new, free course developed jointly by the Department of Defense (DoD) and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). “Military Culture: Core Competencies for Healthcare Professionals” is an online program designed to help healthcare professionals work more effectively with service members and veterans.

The program is intended as a comprehensive training for practitioners with any level of experience working with the military and veteran population. Professionals will learn about military ethos, organizational structure and life chapters, unique stressors and the impact on a patient’s health and assessment and treatment issues. The interactive course includes a self-assessment, a variety of vignettes and candid video testimonials to highlight the meaning of military cultural competence, and many additional resources and links to explore.

For more information, visit www.deploymentpsych.org/Military-Culture.

The Center for Credentialing & Education (CCE), an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), kicked off its 20th anniversary year with new branding of the organization’s logo and certificates.

“We are a service organization with a clear focus on safe and effective practice in every aspect of our work,” says Patricia Cates, vice president of CCE. “While we are proud of our history, our accomplishments and our growth, our focus is on the future and how CCE can support individuals and nonprofit organizations in having a positive impact on the world through their work helping others.”

CCE was incorporated on September 14, 1995, as an NBCC affiliate with a mission to advance professional excellence through credentialing, assessment and business services.

Anytime your contact information changes, be sure to update it through ProCounselor (https://procounselor.nbcc.org), NBCC’s new online application and certification services platform. If it is your first time logging in, click “request a password.”

For more information, contact the NBCC Foundation at 336-232-0376 or visit www.nbccf.org/symposium2015.
SCHOOL COUNSELING ARTICLES

Volume 4, Issue 5: Special Issue — School Counseling

1. “Addressing Mental Health Needs in Our Schools: Supporting the Role of School Counselors”
   Traci P. Collins

2. “Competing Professional Identity Models in School Counseling: A Historical Perspective and Commentary”
   Daniel Cinotti

   Gerta Bardhoshi, Amy Schweinle, Kelly Duncan

4. “Perceptions of the Importance and Utilization of Clinical Supervision Among Certified Rural School Counselors”
   Kelly Duncan, Kathleen Brown-Rice, Gerta Bardhoshi

   Ian Martin, John Carey

6. “Counseling Self-Efficacy, Quality of Services and Knowledge of Evidence-Based Practices in School Mental Health”
   Bryn E. Schiele, Mark D. Weist, Eric A. Youngstrom, Sharon H. Stephan, Nancy A. Lever

7. “School Counselors’ Perceptions of Competency in Career Counseling”
   Leann Wyrick Morgan, Mary Ellen Greenwaldt, Kevin P. Gosselin

   Rebekah F. Cole

9. “Group Counseling with South Asian Immigrant High School Girls: Reflections and Commentary of a Group Facilitator”
   Ulash Thakore-Dunlap, Patricia Van Velsor

10. “Students’ Perceptions of School Counselors: An Investigation of Two High Schools in Beijing, China”
    Qi Shi, Xi Liu, Wade Leuwerke

11. “Identifying Gender Differences in Male and Female Anger Among an Adolescent Population”
    Isaac Burt

12. “Convergent and Divergent Validity of the Student Engagement in School Success Skills Survey”
    Elizabeth Villares, Kimberly Colvin, John Carey, Linda Webb, Greg Brigman, Karen Harrington

LATEST BOOK AND VIDEO REVIEWS

Book Reviews:
- Advanced Acceptance and Commitment Therapy: The Experienced Practitioner’s Guide to Optimizing Delivery
- The Big Book of ACT Metaphors: A Practitioner’s Guide to Experiential Exercises and Metaphors in Acceptance & Commitment Therapy
- Counseling in the Family Law System: A Professional Counselor’s Guide
- Loving Someone with Anxiety: Understanding and Helping Your Partner
- Multiculturalism and Diversity in Clinical Supervision: A Competency-Based Approach
- Spiritual Competency in Psychotherapy

Video Reviews:
- Anger Management in Counseling & Psychotherapy
- Clinical Interviewing: Intake, Assessment, and Therapeutic Alliance
- Counseling and Psychotherapy Theories in Context and Practice: Skills, Strategies, and Techniques
- Empowering Adults with Developmental Disabilities: A Creative Arts Therapies Approach
- Multicultural Competence in Counseling and Psychotherapy

RECENTLY PUBLISHED

Winter 2015
Volume 5, Issue 1: Special Section — Counselor Education and Supervision

Spring 2015
Volume 5, Issue 2: Special Issue — Counseling Children with Special Needs and Circumstances

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Therapy Directory Offer Still Available!

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The following organizations are NBCC Approved Continuing Education Providers (ACEPs) and may offer NBCC-approved clock hours for events that meet NBCC requirements. The ACEP solely is responsible for all aspects of the program. Continuing education approval or advertisement does not imply NBCC endorsement of any product, method or theory of counseling.

APA INDEPENDENT STUDY PROGRAMS

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The APA Office of Continuing Education in Psychology is an NBCC Approved Continuing Education Provider (ACEP™) and may offer NBCC-approved clock hours for events that meet NBCC requirements. The ACEP solely is responsible for all aspects of the program.
The NBCC Foundation is pleased to announce the 2014 Colorado First, Fred Adair, Global Career Development Facilitator (GCDF), Human Services-Board Certified Practitioner (HS-BCP), Board Certified Coach (BCC) tuition assistance program and Center for Credentialing & Education (CCE) professional development award scholarship recipients.

The Colorado First scholarships were made possible as part of the Foundation’s Colorado First campaign (www.razoo.com/story/Colorado-First) with a grant from The Colorado Trust. The recent scholarship recipients are Marlon Funez, who is studying school counseling at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs; Carmen Gutierrez, who is studying clinical mental health counseling at Adams State University in Alamosa; and Autumn Sorensen, who is studying school counseling at Adams State University. These three scholars join Jennifer Miller, recipient of the initial Colorado scholarship awarded earlier in 2014. Ms. Miller is studying counseling at Regis University in Denver.

The Fred Adair scholarship was made possible as part of the Foundation’s Fred Adair scholarship campaign (www.razoo.com/story/Honor-Dr-Fred-Adair). The inaugural scholarship recipient is Maria Doran, who is currently enrolled in the counseling master’s program at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia.

The Fred Adair and Colorado First scholarships were available to students who are currently enrolled in a qualifying master’s-level counseling program in the states of Virginia and Colorado, respectively, and commit to serving underserved communities for at least two years upon graduation. The scholarship is designed to help ensure that the behavioral health needs of all individuals are met by providing financial support to counseling students who have substantial experience with the minority or rural community they commit to serve after graduation. The scholars each received $5,000 to support their counseling education and facilitate their service to underserved communities.

CCE, a platinum sponsor of the Foundation, provides the grant funding for the GCDF and HS-BCP scholarships, the BCC tuition assistance program, and the CCE professional development awards. The goals of these scholarships are to increase the number of available counselors providing quality career guidance and facilitation, to increase the number of available counselors committed to human services and counseling, to increase the number of available Board Certified Coaches, and to advance the professional identity and development of CCE credential holders.

GCDF scholarship recipients received $5,000 to support their counseling education and recognize their commitment to providing career counseling and guidance. Courtney Hartzog, of West Jefferson, North Carolina, is working toward her master’s degree in professional school counseling at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. Ahmed Mostafa Kamal, of Giza, Egypt, is pursuing his master’s degree in mental health counseling at Walden University.

In recognition of her commitment to human services and counseling, the HS-BCP scholarship recipient will receive $2,000 to support her education. The awardee, Teresa Somerlot, of Moores Hill, Indiana, is working toward her bachelor’s degree in social work at Northern Kentucky University in Highland Heights.

BCC tuition assistance program scholarship recipients will receive up to $3,000 each to cover the costs of an approved BCC training. The recipients are Lisa Connors, of Temple Hills, Maryland, and Lynn Ruffner, of Shaker Heights, Ohio.

CCE professional development award recipients will receive $500 each to advance their professional identities and development. The award recipients are Kim Allen, of Raleigh, North Carolina; Shoshana Kerewsky, of Eugene, Oregon; Edward Wahesh, of Villanova, Pennsylvania; and Sandra Strozier, of Hampton, Georgia.

Individual press releases with more information about each scholarship recipient can be found on the Foundation’s Newsroom Archive page, at www.nbccf.org/About/Archive. For more information about Foundation scholarships, please visit www.nbccf.org/Programs. More information about the GCDF, HS-BCP, BCC and other CCE credentials is available at www.cce-global.org.
The goal of the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP) 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 minority populations. The 2014 fellowship recipients for the NBCC MFP received their awards in May 2014, when the Foundation distributed $440,000 to the 22 NBCC MFP Fellows to support their education and facilitate their service.

These Fellows meet the eligibility requirements of the program, including holding the National Certified Counselor (NCC) certification, being enrolled in a doctoral program accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP), demonstrating knowledge of and experience with racially and ethnically diverse populations, and committing to provide mental health and substance abuse services to underserved minority populations. This second cohort of Fellows will work with Foundation staff, the MFPAC and mentors to achieve the goals of the program.

The 2014 Fellows are Earnest E. Airhia, Walden University; Susan Branco Alvarado, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; La Vera C. Brown, North Carolina State University; Shanita Brown, North Carolina State University; Kristy Christopher-Holloway, Argosy University, Atlanta; Tahani Dari, University of Toledo; Melissa Deroche, University of New Orleans; Avis Garcia, University of Wyoming; Jennifer Gess, Idaho State University; Carlos Golfetto, Duquesne University; Maria Haiyasoso, University of Texas at San Antonio; Kurtis Hooks, Old Dominion University; Shana Lewis, Sam Houston State University; Kashunda McGriff, Governors State University; Leslie Neyland, University of Toledo; Dannette Patterson, Argosy University, Atlanta; Beronica M. Salazar, Idaho State University; Megan Speciale, University of New Mexico; Stacy Speedlin, University of Texas at San Antonio; Vincent Tompkins, Walden University; Cory Viehl, Georgia State University; and George Walker, Barry University.

The NBCC Foundation convened the 2014 NBCC MFP fellows in December 2014 to discuss the impact of policy issues on professional practice in counseling during a preconference panel session held prior to the 2014 National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) Grantees’ Conference, which 19 of the 2014 MFP Fellows and several of the 2013 MFP Fellows attended. In keeping with the NIMHD conference theme, “Transdisciplinary Collaborations: Evolving Dimensions of U.S. and Global Health Equity,” the discussion panel explored the role the counseling profession can play in bringing about mental health equity and eliminating mental health disparities in the United States.

The NBCC MFP is made possible by a grant awarded to NBCC by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). NBCC contracted the Foundation to administer the MFP, including training and collaboration activities that are open to all NCCs. Individual press releases with more information about each Fellow can be found in the Foundation’s Newsroom Archive page (www.nbccf.org/About/Archive). For more information about the MFP fellowships, please visit www.nbccf.org/Programs.
The Foundation recently selected Fellows for the 2015 MFP doctoral fellowships along with the Fellows for two new master’s-level MFP programs, the Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC), and the Minority Fellowship Program-Youth (MFP-Y). The 2015, 2014 and several 2013 fellows will convene May 28–30, 2015, in Raleigh, North Carolina, for the first annual NBCC Foundation Symposium on Bridging the Gap in Mental Health Disparities.

The symposium will cover a variety of topics, including transition-age youth, substance use, suicide, interpersonal violence, the DSM-5, multiculturalism and ethics. The symposium will also feature more than 20 roundtable discussions on these topics, as well as distance counseling, minorities and mental health, social justice, and many others. Up to 12.5 NBCC continuing education credit hours are available. The symposium is open to NCCs, students and counselors.

Find out more at www.nbccf.org/Symposium2015.

The NBCC Foundation is an NBCC Approved Continuing Education Provider (ACEP) and may offer NBCC-approved clock hours for events that meet NBCC requirements. The ACEP solely is responsible for all aspects of the program.

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