



THE NATIONAL CERTIFIED COUNSELOR

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR CERTIFIED COUNSELORS

NBCC Foundation Scholarships a Huge Success

The new NBCC Foundation (NBCCF) Military and Rural Scholarships are a huge success! Nearly 100 students from across the country applied for 10 scholarships, and the NBCCF Board of Trustees was delighted with the response and the overall qualifications of the applicants.

“We assumed that the challenging economic climate would increase interest in the scholarships, but were surprised nonetheless by the number of students who met the stringent eligibility requirements and extremely impressed with their credentials and experience,” stated Dr. Wayne Lanning, the Board’s Chair. “We would like to congratulate the recipients of the 2009 scholarships and encourage those who were not selected to apply for one of this year’s scholarships.”



The NBCC Foundation was established by NBCC in 2005.

NBCCF created the Rural Scholarship Program to encourage students from rural and underserved areas to embark on a career in counseling. Last year, five \$3,000 scholarships

were available to students who enrolled in a CACREP-accredited counseling program and committed to serving in these communities after graduation.

Similarly, the Military Scholarship Program offered five \$3,000 scholarships to servicemembers and veterans who enrolled in a CACREP-accredited counseling program during or after military service, and committed to serving these populations after graduation. NBCCF plans to continue offering scholarships to increase numbers of counselors in needed areas.

A complete list of the 2009 scholarship recipients will be available at www.nbccf.org.

Students interested in the 2010 scholarships are encouraged to read the quarterly online NCC newsletter and monitor the Foundation Web site. NCCs who would like to support the scholarships or other Foundation programs are encouraged to consider a gift. More information about the Foundation and a link to donate can be found at www.nbccf.org.

Other Foundation News:

In October 2009, the NBCC Foundation financed mental health training in one of the poorest countries in the world—Bhutan. NBCCF sent master trainers to Bhutan to implement the Mental Health Facilitator (MHF) Program and train local professionals to help provide much needed assistance to the country’s largely underserved population, as well as to carry the program into the future.

The Foundation also increased fundraising in 2009, raising more than \$37,000 in individual contributions, compared to \$30,800 in 2008. There were more than 60 donations in excess of \$100 and three in excess of \$1,000. More than 800 individuals donated to the Foundation in 2009.

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Two NBCC credentials—the NCC and the MAC—are accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies.

NBCC FOUNDATION UPDATE

NBCC would like to thank the following individuals for generously supporting the NBCC Foundation through honorary donations.

NBCC Foundation: Honorary Donors

October 7, 2009 – January 5, 2010

<u>Donor</u>	<u>In Honor of:</u>
Lindsey Adams McGrew	Madeline, my grandmother
Lenora Angelone	Dr. Gloria Brusoski
Julene M. Coston	Dr. Thomas Edgar
Julie M. Hutchins-Wilson	Dr. Sylvia Fernandez
Roselle D. Kalosieh	Carmine Acerno
Barbara D. Kelley	Dr. Cora Haskins
Robert H. Pate Jr.	Dr. Carl D. Swanson, for his leadership in helping to obtain the first state licensure of professional counselors
Carolyn H. Ruiz	MaKenna Elenes
Ahmed Shamshad	My father
Sofia C. Stone	Active duty military and veterans
Melanie J. Wallace	Dr. Allen Wilcoxon
Shirley Ann Warin	Past and present Woodbridge Township, NJ, counselors for their dedication and commitment
Taylor K. Williams	Dr. Mary Ann Williams

NBCC would like to thank the following individuals for generously supporting the NBCC Foundation through memorial donations.

NBCC Foundation: Memorial Donors

October 7, 2009 – January 5, 2010

<u>Donor</u>	<u>In Memory of:</u>
Anonymous	Rochelle McCreedy
Anonymous	Elaine Siver
Anonymous	“Butch” Orand
Mavel A Armijo	Elena Castaneda
Efstasia H. Bakas	Tom Hamberis
Geralyn Beaty	Alice Jones
Carmen O. Carpenter	Dr. Jessie James/Dr. Jerusha James
David J. Checcino	Dr. Linda Seligman
Rosalie Craft	Jack Cloud
Robert C. Craig	Virginia Craig
Jennifer L. Elf	Jeffrey, Jacqui and Joe Elf
Wanda L. Enns	Jess G. Enns
Melinda E.F. Franz	Dr. Oscar Christensen
M. Derene Frazier	Victor Cheatham
Melinda E. Harnish	Robert A. Harnish III, civil engineer, killed by a drunk driver
Barbara L. Jackson-Hicks	Eldridge Catledge, retired teacher
Lisa H. Kornberg	Monica Baruch
Joan M. Kreisberg	Ruth Press
Willa Kay Lavamaki	Joyce Elaine Rosenall
Gabrielle G. Martinez	Jose Luis Martinez
Kathryn Ann Mitchell	Helen and James Comparo
Mary Ann O’Connor	Zeke O’Connor
Elizabeth A. O’Donnell	Kevin James O’Donnell
Maria Elana Otero	Alfredo S. Martinez
Shirley J. Pinkney	Dorothy Henderson, my mother
Carole Carter Ranta	Dixie Lee Carter
Katherine N. Saltz	Bernice Nemeth
Maureen Sue Selfon	Stephen S. Selfon, D.V.M.
Jo Ellen Stewart	Lena Iris Barefoot
Latricia D. Taylor	Donna Faye Furby
Lisetta F. Thomas	Ruby Opal Hall & Joseph G. Thomas
Linda R. Torda	Michael Torda
Allyson A. Villars	Brett Norris
George L. Wheeler	Viola T. Wheeler
Lisa D. Wooldridge	Marcella Booth

The NBCC Foundation is dedicated to promoting mental health through the advancement of professional counseling and credentialing.

To support the Foundation’s work with a donation, please contact David Bergman at:

NBCC Foundation
3 Terrace Way
Greensboro, NC 27403
TEL: 336-547-0607
E-mail: foundation@nbcc.org

NBCC FOUNDATION UPDATE

NBCC would like to thank the following individuals for generously supporting the NBCC Foundation through their donations.

NBCC Foundation: Individual Donors

October 7, 2009 – January 5, 2010

Gloria Ysmael Adams	Karen O. Ellis	Andre Lipkins	Karen N. Ripley
Vincent F. Ahrens	Vincenza Linda Fabber	Hilda L.M. Lo	Cynthia L. Ruberg
Anne M. Bekker	Leta Fennell	Pamela A. Mannix	Tina Saunders
Janine M. Bernard	Judy Ferrill	Doty L. Mauney	Christy A. Schmitt
Shirley B. Birenbaum	Karen M. Fleming	Saada M. Mayhak	Marile Y. Shack
John Frederic Bitters Jr.	Betty Foufou	Andrew Scott McGowan	Peter A.D. Sherrard
Jeanne M. Blum	Donna Galpin	Diana C. McGraw	Ben G. Shriver
Grace Bohr	Jeannine K. Goethe	Joanna F. McPherson	Patrick C. Slay
Theresa O. Bowen	Elaine Wells Goins	Phyllis Helen Mettlin	Brian J. Strasnick
Geraldine Brady-Holmes	Dena Guthrie	Susan W. Miller	Cathy P. Thompson
Joyce Coleman Breland	Harold Hackney	Kevin P. Moore	Kathryn Beam Troxler
M. Dorsey Cartwright	Patricia A. Hawkins	Mimi Moyer	David J. Van LANDINGHAM
Deborah Jane Chrabolowski	Molly B. Hayes	Neal Curtis Newell Jr.	LoAnn Kay Twedt
Susan Lee Chritton	Richard J. Hayes	Jean M. Noble	Carol L. Veizer
Edward A. Colozzi	Lauren R. Hayes	Jamie M. Norton	Monica Von Eggers
Jane S. Connelly	Joyce Lafazia Heimbecker	Beverly L. Nugent	Barbara Spark Wachs
Susan L. Crowe	Mary G. Holdcroft	Laxmi Parmeswar	Jerina V. Wainwright
Laurene A. D'Amico	Guy K. Hutt	Marlene K. Paskel	Joy S. Wassel
Shonda Davis	Sarita Johnson	Donna S. Penrose	Tamela J. Wasson
Phyllis D. Deitch	Lynn M. Keber	Barbara Joyce Peters	Mary Ruth Therese Williams
Linda D. Dowden	Jenny L. Kirtley-Pierce	Ronald P. Pollaro	Sarah V. Wilson
Judith C. Durham	Abbey H. Knox	Margaret Reit	Sandra E. Woznicki
Charles O. Ekenta	William J. Kubat	Donna J. Rigby	April J. Young

2010 Mental Health Observances

March

- National Nutrition Month
- 7-13 National Problem Gambling Awareness Week
- 8-12 National School Breakfast Week

April

- Counseling Awareness Month
- Alcohol Awareness Month
- National Autism Awareness Month
- National Child Abuse Prevention Month
- National Minority Health Awareness Month
- 5-11 National Public Health Week
- 8 National Alcohol Screening Day
- 20 Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- Day of Action

May

- Mental Health Month
- National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month
- Older Americans Month
- 2-8 Children's Mental Health Awareness Week
- 3-7 National Mental Health Counseling Week
- 10-16 National Stuttering Awareness Week
- 31 World No Tobacco Day

June

- 6 National Cancer Survivors Day
- 6-12 National Headache Awareness Week
- 14-22 National Men's Health Week

Source: National Health Information Center

Medicare

Health care reform has been in a constant state of change since the end of last year. On November 7, 2009, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a historic health care reform bill (H.R. 3962) that included language adding professional counselors to the list of eligible Medicare providers. Similar language was not included in the Senate health care reform bill (H.R. 3950), which passed on Christmas Eve, 2009. Approval of some compromise version of these bills seemed inevitable until the January 19, 2010, election where Republicans gained control of the Massachusetts Senate seat. Since that time, the Democratic-controlled Congress and President Obama have struggled to create a plan for passage of comprehensive legislation.

Health care reform is a top priority for Congress and the Obama administration and was on the fast track to passage. NBCC, in coalition with the American Counseling Association (ACA), the American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA), the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) and the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT), was pushing aggressively to include Medicare recognition of counselors and marriage and family therapists (MFTs) in House and Senate legislation. The coalition was successful in getting this language added to the House reform

legislation (H.R. 3200) that passed three separate House committees—Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, and Education and Labor—in July 2009. These bills were merged to create H.R. 3962, which also included the language and passed the House in November, 2009.

The coalition was not as successful in getting the Medicare provisions included in the Senate package. The intense politics surrounding the health reform legislation frustrated efforts to include the language in the chairman's mark, as an amendment in Senate Finance Committee, and on the Senate floor. The bill barely passed the Senate along a party line vote with the minimum 60 votes needed to avoid a filibuster.

With passage secured in both chambers, the plan was to forego a formal conference committee in favor of small-group negotiations among House and Senate Democratic leaders and the White House. The president and Congress wanted quick action on the bill so it could be signed before it succumbed to election year politics. However, this plan hit a major speed bump when Republican Scott Brown defeated Democrat Martha Coakley in the special election for the Massachusetts Senate seat held for decades by the late Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA). The public backlash against the Democrats, and against the health care reform legislation, stalled legislative momentum.

Once the dust settled, the Democrats began crafting a new path for success. The Republicans now possess the votes to filibuster the legislation if it is referred back to the Senate. The Democrats have only one major option for avoiding the filibuster and that is for the House to pass the Senate bill and the Senate to approve amendments to the bill through "reconciliation." Reconciliation is a legislative procedure used for passing budget bills and requires only 50 votes. However, it is a very contentious step that is referred to as the "nuclear option" and has the potential to create intense turmoil between the parties in the Senate. The president has met with Democratic leaders and put out a compromise bill that is based on the Senate bill but addresses House concerns. Unfortunately, the package does not include language adding counselors as Medicare providers.

The fate of health care reform is unclear, and even if reconciliation is used, Democrats must still muster the votes to pass the Senate bill in the House. The Republicans are unanimous in their opposition and have promised to make this legislation an issue in the 2010 congressional elections. Moderate Democrats are concerned and the votes are unclear. NBCC will continue to work with our coalition partners to take advantage of every opportunity to add our language to any bill that has a chance for success.

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Mental Health Facilitator Program Continues to Grow

NBCC-I continues to work with training partners in different parts of the world to develop and update the Mental Health Facilitator (MHF) program. As interest in the program continues to grow, NBCC-I staff is constantly evaluating the MHF curriculum and the program administration in order to ensure that the MHF program remains dynamic and responsive to the needs of those it is meant to serve.

In December 2009, the Tanzania Network of Community Health Funds and the Guidance, Counselling and Youth Development Centre for Africa (GCYDCA), located in Malawi, partnered to hold a training of trainers in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. The



A recent Mental Health Facilitator training session

20 participants—representing a national mental health center and a mental health organization, among others—became MHF trainers with the knowledge and skills necessary to carry the MHF program into the future. GCYDCA continues to be a leader in working with NBCC-I to develop this program in Africa.

In January 2010, NBCC-I conducted the first Master Training of Trainers in order to begin to build a cadre of master trainers who can assist NBCC-I in program development. NBCC/NBCC-I staff members—Dr. Scott Hinkle, Dr. Wendi Schweiger, Ms. Kristi McCaskill and Dr. Thomas Clawson—facilitated the training of nine participants who were invited because of their commitment to the MHF program. Dr. Jane Campbell, Mr. John Conteh, Dr. Judi Durham, Dr. LaVerne Hanes Stevens, Dr. Richard Percy, Dr. Atsuko Seto, Mr. Chris Townsend and the Rev. Gwendolyn Young took part in the training, which was held at NBCC headquarters, and became registered as MHF master trainers. NBCC-I staff was pleased to be able to work with these individuals to take this program further in its progression.

Organizations and universities in countries such as Botswana, Israel, Liberia and Romania have been discussing MHF program possibilities with NBCC-I, and staff will continue to dialogue with international colleagues interested in establishing the MHF program within their own countries.

Haitian Relief Effort

NBCC and NBCC-I are assisting the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the World Health Organization (WHO) office for the Americas, in response to the mental health crisis caused by the recent earthquake in Haiti.

We continue to compile a list of counselors who speak French and/or Creole and who may be able to assist in the mental health relief effort in Haiti. This is not a volunteer forum, but an effort to organize possible trauma experts and volunteers. As we do this, PAHO is developing its strategy to address the mental health needs of individuals in Haiti.

If you would like to be included on the list, send an e-mail to Dr. Wendi Schweiger, associate vice president of NBCC-I, at schweiger@nbcc.org. Please include your name, ID number, telephone number, mailing address and e-mail address, and be sure to mention any involvement you have with current relief efforts or any plans you have to travel to the affected areas. Also mention if you have responded previously to international or national crises. This information will enable us to avoid duplicating efforts that may already be in place. We will be sharing the contact information we gather with PAHO and its affiliates as needed.

Please forward this e-newsletter to other NCCs who may be able to assist. Questions or inquiries should be directed to Dr. Schweiger at schweiger@nbcc.org.

ACROM Formed in Romania

Asociației Consilierilor Romani (ACROM) is a recently founded professional association intended to represent and support all Romanian counselors.

ACROM stands for:

- Supporting the transition from counseling as an occupation to counseling as a profession;
- Establishing a legal framework for all counselors;
- Developing and implementing an ethical code and quality standards; and
- Supporting the development of a national certification in counseling.

An initiative group headed by Dr. Andreea Szilagyi recognized the need for a dedicated association within the Romanian counseling community with the ability to support the development of all types of counseling activities. With the support of NBCC Romania (www.nbcc.ro), the group formed ACROM.

The first ACROM conference (www.asociatiaconsilierilor.ro) took place February 14, 2010, in Bucharest. The purpose of this event was to introduce the association to all Romanian counselors, counseling educators and counseling students, and to facilitate the enrollment of those interested in becoming members. Admission to the conference was free, thanks to the special financial support of NBCC International (www.nbccinternational.org).

Association of Psychological and Educational Counselors of Asia Pacific (APECA) announces its 18th Conference-Workshop 2010 to be held August 5-7 at the Hotel Royal in Penang, Malaysia.



The theme of the conference is “Counseling for a Sustainable Future.” Subthemes are:

- Effective techniques and strategies in counseling;
- Multicultural counseling;
- Counseling special populations;
- Career counseling;
- Supervision and training of counselors;
- Mental health counseling;
- Research findings in the field of counseling; and
- Challenges and future of counseling.

More information about this conference can be found at www.apeca-asia.com and at www.usm.my/education/APECA.

ACA 2010 Conference & Exposition

Mark your calendar! The ACA 2010 Conference & Exposition is March 18 – 22 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh.

You're invited to visit the NBCC



and CCE booths during the exposition March 19-21. We'll be in the exhibit hall, right next to the ACA bookstore. Stop by and talk with staff, learn more about the credentials we offer, pick up your ribbon(s) for your name badge, and register for a special drawing.

Counselor educators are especially welcome. Be sure to ask about the special NCC program just for counselor educators.

See you at ACA!

What Counts as Continuing Education?

Wondering if a particular workshop, seminar, training or learning experience will count toward the 100 clock hours of continuing education (CE) you need to recertify? Not sure which content areas to focus on? The NBCC Continuing Education File folder that we sent to you when you became certified, or were recertified, contains the information you need to answer these questions and more. You can also go to www.nbcc.org and click on “Services for NCCs” and then “Recertification.” There you will see the “NBCC-Approved CE Content Areas” and the “8 Methods for Earning CE Credit,” as well as other information, such as the different terms used to award CE credit.

CEUs, CE Credits, CEs, CE Credit Hours, CE Clock Hours: How to Make Sense of the Terms

As an NCC, you are required to earn 100 clock hours of continuing education experiences by the end of each five-year certification cycle. In order to make sure that you’ve met this requirement, it is important to know how to record the credit. Let’s start with the most basic and most common measure of time—the clock hour (50 to 60 minutes). If you attend a workshop that lasts from noon until 3:00 p.m. (with not more than one 10 minute break), you have attended three clock hours of continuing education, or three CE clock hours. You need 97 more to recertify your NCC credential. Hopefully, your certificate of attendance will say three CE clock hours, but it might say three CEs or three CE credit hours. Those all mean the same thing—three clock hours.

The term that is different and that confuses many NCCs is the CEU (continuing education unit). CEU is often used as if it means the same as an hour. The trouble is it doesn’t. Used correctly, the CEU is actually worth 10 clock hours. Let’s say you go to a four-day conference and attend 24 clock hours of training and workshops. If the sponsor uses CEUs to award the credit, your certificate would read 2.4 CEUs. However, when you record it in your NBCC folder, you would record 24 clock hours because that is the actual number of clock hours of training you attended at that conference.

If you have questions about how to record CE credits, please do not hesitate to contact the NBCC Recertification Department.

Leadership Roles in the Counseling Profession May Earn 20 CE Clock Hours

Just as in other professions, we often see the same group of counselors run for various offices in the state and national organizations that support and serve the counseling profession. Why not volunteer some of your time and energy to your profession and earn CE credit at the same time? If you are elected to or volunteer for an office or committee in a counseling organization or association, you may be able to claim 20 CE clock hours of credit toward your recertification. To claim the credit, you’ll need to document your office or committee participation with a letter from the organization or a mention in the organization’s newsletter. Then simply record “20” in the space provided in your NBCC CE File folder. These 20 hours are not awarded by the organization or by NBCC. Instead, the leadership experience is accepted or not by NBCC in lieu of the 20 hours. The details of what is accepted for leadership experience can be found on the “Recertification” page at www.nbcc.org under “Services for NCCs.” If you are not sure your office, committee or organization would be accepted for the credit, please feel free to contact the NBCC Recertification Department.

Newly Approved CE Providers

American Psychological Assn (APA) Office of Continuing Ed, #6404, Washington, DC

Integrated Mind Body Therapy, Inc., #6436, Boulder, CO

Little Hands Family Services, LLC, #6435, Blackwood, NJ

Michael Kahn, LPC, JD, #6437, Charlotte, NC

Milwaukee Area Technical College, #6440, Milwaukee, WI

Moneyceus.com, #6428, Atlanta, GA

NJ Center for the Healing Arts, #6422, Fairhaven, NJ

Nyack College-Alliance Grad School of Counseling, #4547, New York, NY

Practical CE Seminars, #6433, Northridge, CA

State University of New York at New Paltz, #4545, New Paltz, NY

Walden University MH Counseling Program, #4546, Cleveland, MS

Exciting Opportunities for NCCs

NBCC is always looking for innovative ways to promote the counseling profession and counselors. One of our newest efforts—a collaboration with *Psychology Today*—features an online counselor directory and the opportunity to earn continuing education credits.

You may remember *Psychology Today* as a magazine that emerged from the discipline of psychology. It has, however, become a resource for both professional counselors and the public, providing accessible and timely information about relationship and family issues, as well as more serious emotional conditions, and actively promoting emotional well-being. Given that counseling works from a wellness model, the magazine's focus and content are a good fit with our profession.

As part of our collaboration, *Psychology Today* is offering NCCs a six-month free trial listing in The Therapy Directory.

The benefits of being listed in The Therapy Directory include:

- Referrals from *Psychology Today*;
- Optimized Google search results for your practice;
- An online profile with your picture, personal statement and the very details that make your practice unique;
- Real-time profile updates; and
- A record of the new clients who have found you online.

Click here [<https://secure.sussexdirectories.com/therapist/nbcc.php>] to sign up for your six-month free trial. No promotional code is needed; however, offer applies only to first-time members of The Therapy Directory.

To view sample profiles, follow these links:

- http://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_detail.php?profid=44979
- http://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_detail.php?profid=54513

You can also request a free trial issue of *Psychology Today* by going to <https://secure.sussexdirectories.com/therapist/nbcc-subscribe.php>.

If you like what you read—and we think you will—you can get a one-year subscription for the special rate of \$15.97.

As an added benefit, you'll have the opportunity to earn continuing education hours for reading relevant articles. Visit <http://www.nbcc.org/pt/> for details.

Voluntary Audits

The NCCs listed below have completed and documented a minimum of 130 clock hours of continuing education in a single certification cycle. By doing so, they have demonstrated a dedication to excellence and professionalism. NBCC congratulates these outstanding NCCs.

Jody E. Housker
Atlanta, GA

Allison M. Ray
Marcellus, NY

Wesley C. Wilkes
Pelham, AL

NBCC Government Affairs Update

continued from page 4

TRICARE/Defense

On February 12, 2010, the Institute of Medicine's Committee on the Qualifications of Professionals



Providing
Mental
Health
Counseling
Services

released its report recommending removal of the physician referral and supervision requirements for counselors in TRICARE. The report, entitled the *Provision of Mental Health Counseling Services under TRICARE*, was an extensive review of the counseling profession that concluded independent practice rights were appropriate.

The committee was tasked by Congress in the FY2008 Defense Authorization with evaluating the role and responsibilities of counselors within TRICARE and the Department of Defense and had been working on the report for over a year. The committee held public and private meetings to gather information and educate committee members. NBCC, along with ACA and Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), presented to the panel on the counseling profession.

In addition to recommending independent practice rights for counselors, the committee also recommends instituting a comprehensive quality management system for all mental health professionals. The report includes

an exhaustive study of these two issues and the facts and conclusions supporting their recommendations. It is important to understand that the Institute of Medicine report is merely advisory to Congress and the Department of Defense and has no binding legal authority. In fact, Congress must still pass legislation to remove the physician referral and supervision requirements from the U.S. Code before that change could occur.

To accomplish this goal, on October 15, 2009, Reps. Tom Rooney (R-FL) and Michael McMahon (D-NY) introduced the Counselor Accessibility Reform and Expansion for Soldiers Act (also known as the CARES Act). This bill, H.R. 3839, removes the referral and supervision requirements from statute and allows for the hiring and contracting of the profession within the military health system. Representatives Rooney and McMahon are strong advocates for improving the quality of mental health care to servicemembers and their families. They were compelled by the shortage of qualified mental health professionals within the Department of Defense and the impropriety of unnecessarily restricting qualified counselors. NBCC is working with ACA and AMHCA to add cosponsors to H.R. 3839 and to identify a Senate sponsor for companion legislation.

Veterans



NBCC continues to work with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and congressional

staff to obtain implementation of the law recognizing counselors and MFTs in the VA as provided by P.L. 109-461. While there was little movement for almost two years, the pace and activity has accelerated since the September 2009 meeting with Assistant Secretary Sepulveda and progress is discernable.

The VA has created an internal committee that is presently researching the profession and developing criteria that will be used for VA qualification standards. The VA has also indicated a willingness to obtain a separate Occupational Series for counselors and MFTs once the qualification standards are complete. The VA has committed to doing this by September 2010, barring unforeseen circumstances. While the potential for delay or derailment remains real, the VA has recently shown a good faith effort to meet its deadline and include the counseling and MFT professions. NBCC and our coalition partners will continue to monitor and influence the implementation process until counselors and MFTs are fully integrated into the VA system.

Online Continuing Education—As Easy As...

1. **Log on** (create your own username and password)
2. **Read the course material** (it's FREE!)
3. **Take the quiz** (for a nominal fee, you can earn NBCC-approved continuing education credit!)

Current Courses Offered:

Clinical Supervision: An Overview	<i>Psychology Today:</i> Who Has a Difficult Mom?
Clinical Supervision I and II	<i>Psychology Today:</i> Hypochondria, the Impossible Illness
Divorce Mediation	<i>Psychology Today:</i> The Expectations Trap
Family Counseling in Today's Schools	<i>Psychology Today:</i> Portrait of a Hunger Artist
Managed Care	Refugee Mental Health
Psychiatric Epidemiology	Rural Mental Health
Psychodiagnosis I and II	Working With Divorcing Spouses



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CONFIRMED SPEAKERS

William Bengston, Roger and Joanne Callahan, Norman Doidge, Donna Eden, David Feinstein, Tapas Fleming, Debbie Ford, Fred Gallo, Anodea Judith, Maggie Phillips, Dean Radin

54 WORKSHOPS IN 9 TRACKS

- Fundamentals of Energy Psychology
- Spirituality & Consciousness • Special Populations
- Specific Approaches • Integrated Approaches
- EP Throughout the Life Cycle • Therapist Development
- EP and Culture • Potpourri

11 ONE DAY PRE-CONFERENCE SEMINARS

SPECIAL POST CONFERENCE EVENTS

- June 7 • Energy Medicine with Donna Eden
- June 7-8 • The Bengston Energy Method of Healing
- June 7-9 • ACEP Certification Workshop

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SIGN UP TODAY FOR A DCC TRAINING WORKSHOP!

Upcoming 2010 Training Dates & Sites

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
3/4 & 3/5	Lafayette, LA
3/25 & 3/26	Lyndhurst, NJ
4/15 & 4/16	Smyrna, GA
4/29 & 4/30	Greensboro, NC
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Download an application at www.cce-global.org/credentials-offered/hsbcp.



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NCC NETWORK

Sally Gelardin, NCC, DCC, CDF eLearning Instructor and GCDF, of Corte Madera, CA, recently authored *Career & Caregiving: Empowering the Shadow Workforce of Family Caregivers* (National Career Development Association). Discover how counselors and other career professionals have handled caregiving responsibilities, balancing the needs of family members with their own needs and work responsibilities. The book can be ordered through the National Career Development Association (www.ncda.org).

Meg Selig, NCC, LPC, of St. Louis, MO, recently announced the publication of her self-help book *Changepower! 37 Secrets to Habit Change Success* (Routledge, 2009). “Changepower” refers to the synergy that is generated by combining willpower and other inner resources with outside resources such as support groups, helpful people and places, and temptation-free environments. Based on stages-of-change research, as well as research on motivation and relapse prevention, *Changepower* presents a readable and entertaining look at the best “secrets” research has to offer. *Changepower* is organized by the stages of change and helps readers power their way from precontemplation to maintenance or termination. “Try this” activities in each chapter encourage readers to apply what they’ve

learned to their personal habit change goals. This book is available at www.rouledgementalhealth.com, www.amazon.com and other online outlets, and can be ordered at bookstores everywhere. For more information, visit www.changepower.net.

Eric A. Sleith III, NCC, ACS, LPCC, of Louisville, KY, recently published a new book called *That’s How the Fortune Cookie Crumbles*. In the book, the author presents actual fortunes that he has collected from numerous Chinese restaurants over the past 20 years. But don’t be fooled by the title. This book illuminates many profound existential and spiritual concerns—such as ultimate meaning and responsibility—as well as every day matters—like money, career and child-rearing—yet reads like a daily devotional or book of inspirational quotes. The book may be previewed and ordered directly from the publisher at: <http://www.lulu.com/> (ISBN # 978-0-557-10133-7), or www.amazon.com, etc.

GOT NEWS?

If you would like to submit an item for NCC Network, refer to the guidelines and deadlines on our Web site: www.nbcc.org/newsletter/guidelines.

CCE UPDATE

Human Services-Board Certified Practitioner (HS-BCP) – The HS-BCP credential is still in the initial phase; however, the response from individuals at all levels of the human services profession has been overwhelmingly positive. For this reason, CCE, in consultation with the National Organization for Human Services, made the decision to extend the deadline until April 1, 2010. Applications must be postmarked by April 1, 2010, to qualify under this provision. Applicants approved to test during this time will take the norming exam, which will be offered in May, June and July of this year.

Global Career Development Facilitator (GCDF) – The GCDF credential continues to grow, especially internationally. In 2009, the total for international applications was 1,639, up from 1,111 the year before. This increase is due mainly to the large volume of new GCDFs in China. The GCDF-China program added more than 900 new

GCDFs in 2009. GCDF-Germany also saw a notable increase in applications last year. In addition, GCDF-Greece certified its first 11 credential holders in October 2009.

CCE was an exhibitor at the Center on Education and Work annual conference, which was held January 25-27, 2010, in Madison, Wisconsin. Staff members provided information about the GCDF, HS-BCP and Thinking for a Change (T4C) credentials.

Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE) – The CPCE is now used by 271 counseling programs. In 2009, 7,069 students sat for the exam, and more than 42,000 CPCEs have been administered since 2000. There are now only seven U.S. states that do not have at least one institution using the CPCE.

For more information about CCE’s programs and services, visit www.cce-global.org or call 336-482-2856.

DCC

Distance Credentialed Counselor™

The first group of Distance Credentialed Counselors are currently recertifying their credentials, having reached the end of the five-year certification cycle.

For detailed information regarding the DCC and its recertification requirements, visit the CCE Web site at www.cce-global.org/credentials-offered/dccrecert.

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NCC PROFILE

How does a federal law enforcement officer with the National Park Service become an elementary school counselor? Well, for Penny Deakin, it started with a question.



Penny Deakin

“I spent many years working for the Department of the Interior as a federal law enforcement officer with the National Park Service. While working in law enforcement, I was a D.A.R.E. officer and taught this program in elementary schools where I was stationed,” Deakin explains. “During my teaching, a principal I was working with asked me if I had ever thought of going into education, because he thought I worked really well with students. I kind of kept that in the back of my mind, and later I decided to look into becoming a school counselor.”

With a master’s degree in hand, Ms. Deakin went on to become a licensed professional counselor in Wisconsin. After that, she decided to get her NCC and NCSC credentials because, in her own words, “I wanted to pursue more education and training in my field. I have always considered myself a lifelong learner. In counseling, things are always changing and I want to be current on practices in my field.”

Ms. Deakin earned her NCC/NCSC certification in 2004 and has more than 15 years of experience as an elementary school counselor. She’s found her passion working with elementary students and their families, and the knowledge she gains by being an NCSC helps her to provide the best possible care to those students and families, and the school staff.

Her NCC certification helps her to help individuals and families outside of school, too.

“I do volunteer work for the St. Croix Valley Red Cross as a disaster mental health worker. I have also, for the past three years, worked on a mobile crisis team with St. Croix County Mental Health through Northwest Guidance and Counseling Services. On this mobile team, I am the mental health worker who goes out to the scene to help law enforcement officers assess suicidal and homicidal clients who may be experiencing some emotional distress,” explains Deakin. “I help develop safety plans with individuals and families, help hook people up with counseling services and, when needed, help law enforcement chapter people for 72-hour hold at hospitals, in order to help keep them safe.

“My NCC certification has helped me with both of these jobs. I enjoy helping others and giving back to my community. Being a part of the Red Cross and on the Mobile Crisis Teams allows me the opportunity to do that.”

If you’d like to share your NCC story,
send an e-mail to editor@nbcc.org.