

PRESS RELEASE

NBCC Foundation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Haleigh Scherma Awarded \$5,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates

Greensboro, NC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Haleigh Scherma of Greensboro, North Carolina, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Youth (MFP-Y). As an NBCC MFP-Y Fellow, Scherma 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 Scherma and the 39 other master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Scherma is a graduate of Ohio University in Athens and is currently a master's student in the couple and family counseling program at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Upon graduation, Scherma intends to serve the LGBTQIA transition-age youth population. With this fellowship, she can help aid those who have faced not only societal oppression but also familial rejection due to their sexual orientation. She truly believes that the monetary help from this fellowship will put her in a position where she will have the funds enough to expand her knowledge in this subject matter and hone her skills as a counselor to best serve this minority population and make a difference in their lives individually as well as improve their situation communally.

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.

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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