

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Amie J. Begg Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates**



Charlotte, NC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Amie J. Begg, of Charlotte, North Carolina, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC Fellow, Begg will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her addictions counseling service to underserved minority transition-age youth (ages 16–25).

The NBCC MFP-AC 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-AC, 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 up to \$11,000 to Begg and the 33 other master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Begg is a graduate of Sacred Heart University, in Fairfield, Connecticut, and is currently a master's student in the counseling program at The University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Upon graduation, Begg will continue working with minority youth who are in varying stages of substance use. She would like to extend her work exposing urban youth to outdoor recreation, integrating experiential therapeutic practices. She would also like to focus on marginalized adolescents who typically are not afforded the opportunity to experience adventure sports, in hopes of diverting them from substances. Her focus on adolescents has been a passion of hers and this fellowship will allow for Begg to continue her efforts in substance abuse treatment with them. Being awarded this fellowship will also provide Begg the opportunity to further build her professional identity and advocate for the counseling profession and underserved populations.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 23 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the Minority Fellowship Program and 30 \$8,000 master's-level fellowships through the [MFP-Youth](#) (MFP-Y). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-AC application period in fall 2018. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit <http://www.nbccf.org/Programs/Fellows>.

#### 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 64,000 board-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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