

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Monique Barber Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Meridian, ID—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Monique Barber, of Meridian, Idaho, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC Fellow, Barber 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 Barber and the 33 other master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Barber is a graduate of Boise State University, in Idaho, and is currently a master's student in the marriage and family counseling program at Northwest Nazarene University, in Nampa, Idaho. Barber's long-term goal is to be a part of the transformation and advocacy of addiction treatment in Idaho. She plans to specialize in addiction treatment counseling among transition-age individuals and couples. Barber believes that addiction is a systemic issue that goes beyond the individual. She envisions a community that supports, rather than shames, families who have chosen a path toward recovery. This opportunity will help Barber connect local and national best practices within addiction counseling treatment. The fellowship will offer Barber the chance to attend counseling conferences, learn evidence-based practices, and advocate for the counseling profession. Barber believes that individuals can repair, rebuild, and restore loving relationships that have been wounded by addiction, and she wants to strengthen and uplift young people who struggle with addiction by offering evidence-based treatment services, hope, emotional warmth, education, and advocacy in a safe setting.

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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