## PRESS RELEASE

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## Aimee R. Christensen Awarded \$10,000 Counseling Fellowship From the NBCC Foundation



Nampa, ID—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Aimee R. Christensen of Nampa, Idaho, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Mental Health Counseling-Master's (MFP-MHC-M). As an NBCC MFP-MHC-M Fellow, Christensen will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved populations.

The NBCC MFP-MHC-M is made possible by a grant awarded to the NBCC Foundation by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The NBCC Foundation administers the MFP-MHC-M, including training and collaboration activities, such as webinars, that are open to all board certified counselors. 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 number of professional counselors providing effective, culturally competent services to underserved populations.

The NBCC Foundation will distribute \$10,000 to Christensen and the other 29 master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Christensen is a graduate of Brigham Young University—Idaho and is currently enrolled at Northwest Nazarene University, where she is pursuing a master's degree in the clinical mental health counseling program. Christensen will be working with youth in the state of Idaho who identify as LGBTQ. She plans to help LGBTQ youth learn healthy ways to represent themselves, establish relationships in the community, and overcome possible religious trauma. This fellowship will grant Christensen opportunities for professional growth to serve LGBTQ individuals in Idaho.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 20 \$20,000 doctoral fellowships through the MFP and 40 master's-level fellowships of \$15,000 through the MFP for Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). The NBCC Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-MHC-M application period in fall 2020. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit nbccf.org/Programs/Fellows.

\*Biographical information provided by the awardee.

## 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 66,000 board certified counselors in the United States and over 50 countries. The NBCC Foundation's mission is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change.