

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Alfonso Llewellyn Ferguson-Haywood Awarded \$20,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



New York, NY—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Alfonso Llewellyn Ferguson-Haywood, of New York, New York, for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP). As an NBCC MFP Fellow, Ferguson-Haywood will receive funding and training to support his education and facilitate his service to underserved minority populations.

The NBCC MFP is made possible by a grant first awarded to NBCC by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in August 2012. The Foundation is contracted by NBCC to administer the NBCC MFP, 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 strengthen the infrastructure that engages diverse individuals in counseling and increases the number of professional counselors providing effective, culturally competent services to underserved populations.

The NBCC MFP will distribute \$20,000 to Ferguson-Haywood and the 22 other doctoral counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Ferguson-Haywood is a graduate of the University of South Florida, in Tampa, and is currently a doctoral student in the counseling program at Montclair State University, in New Jersey. Throughout Ferguson-Haywood's clinical career, he has worked with a variety of underserved and under-resourced communities, including immigrants, LGBTQ individuals, people of low socioeconomic status, and people of color. Specifically, Ferguson-Haywood has provided culturally relevant counseling and advocacy services to all clientele. As a recipient of the NBCC MFP fellowship, he intends to continue to advocate, uplift, and provide quality care to populations with intersecting marginalized identities such as race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and religion. Ferguson-Haywood is currently interested in conducting research on the intersecting lived experiences of gay African-Caribbean male immigrants living in the U.S. There is minimal research on this unique population and how they navigate the coming out process, intersecting identities, and sexual identity abroad and in the U.S. He intends for his research to further the counseling field by identifying unique skills that will support a clinician when working with gay African-Caribbean male immigrants and addressing client-identified goals.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 30 \$8,000 master's-level fellowships through the [MFP-Youth](#) (MFP-Y) and 34 master's-level fellowships of up to \$11,000 through the [MFP-Addictions Counselors](#) (MFP-AC). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP application period in fall 2018. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit 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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