

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Laurie Works Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Colorado Springs, CO—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Laurie Works, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC Fellow, Works will receive funding and training to support their education and facilitate their 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 Works and the 33 other master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Works is both a student and graduate of the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, where they are currently pursuing a master's in clinical mental health counseling. Upon graduation, Works intends to create a pro bono woman and minority run therapist collective to serve marginalized young adults who struggle with addiction. They intend to particularly focus their services upon those in the gender and sexual/affective minority areas, with an emphasis on how trauma related to gender and sexual disparity affects the somatic system. Earning this fellowship will empower Works to further their professional identity as a counselor, seek continued education on evidence-based somatic trauma and addictions work, and engage in foundational learning on how to provide accessible counseling services to those often barred access to them.

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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