

Greetings, my name is John Brakie, a Masters of Addiction Studies graduate student at Governors State University. I have chosen the field of addiction studies and the pursuit of a master's in health sciences in Addiction Studies for personal reasons. I wanted to learn the science and background behind people suffering from addictions. I didn't really understand a whole lot about addictions at first, but truly had a passion to learn more about what causes addiction. The field of addiction studies is a very fascinating topic, and I want to truly help people as a future counselor in the field. I know what it feels like first hand, when you have someone close to you who suffers from an addiction. Unfortunately, people who suffer from an addiction are often in denial, and don't know why they are addicted often until something tragic happens and they seek help. I'm a Christian person and have always felt the need to help people who can't help themselves. I felt the best way to learn about addictions and to eventually help as many people as I can was to become an addiction studies graduate student at GSU. I truly empathize and show compassion for anyone who wants to help get the sickness of addiction behind them and truly recover from this insidious disease.

The two major problems I would like to solve in this world is homelessness and addictions to alcohol and drugs. I feel as an addictions counselor I could hopefully help people change their behaviors, help them recognize how certain behaviors can be damaging to themselves and their lifestyle as well. What motivates and drives me is helping others who are in a bad place and are simply begging for a selfless person to step up, show compassion and help them out in terms of motivation, empathy, and concern. If I could just collaborate with an individual as a counselor, and help lead that person suffering from an addiction over the course of their life to a path of recovery would be gratifying to myself.

Best regards,

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