PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 9, 2019



Joshua M. LeVay Receives Military Scholarship From the NBCC Foundation



Colorado Springs, CO—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors, Inc. (NBCC), recently awarded an \$8,000 2019 NBCC Foundation military scholarship to Joshua M. LeVay, of Colorado Springs, Colorado. The military scholarship is awarded to service members, veterans, and their spouses who are pursuing a counseling education and commit to serving fellow military personnel, veterans, and families upon graduation.

The mission of the NBCC Foundation is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change. The military scholarship was created in 2009 to increase access to counselors for military personnel, veterans, and families suffering from a shortage of available mental health professionals. More than 50 students from across the country applied for the six 2019 military scholarships.

As a military scholarship recipient, LeVay will receive up to \$8,000 to support his counseling education and recognize his commitment to the underserved. LeVay is a graduate of Excelsior College, in Albany, New York, and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at the University of Colorado, in Colorado Springs. Upon graduation, LeVay intends to apply himself to addressing the mental and behavioral health needs of his beloved military community, whose increasing concerns are currently overwhelming the available veteran health care system nationwide. Recognizing the dire need to bolster the counseling profession with individuals who can closely identify with the experiences and culture inherent to military life, LeVay desires to continue to serve the nation in this way. In addition to his clinical practice, LeVay aspires to contribute to the current research literature striving to better understand how cultural differences affect the transition process between military and civilian lifestyles, how veterans maintain a sense of purpose, and what factors allow service members to adaptively return to the population they stalwartly defended.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded seven <u>rural scholarships</u> of up to \$8,000 to increase the number of counselors serving rural areas. The Foundation plans to continue offering scholarships to increase the number of counselors in the areas where they are needed most and will open the next application period in spring 2020. For more information or to make a gift to support scholars like these, please visit <u>www.nbccf.org</u>.

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 Foundation's mission is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change.