



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 10, 2016

### **Ayanna Faith Groves Awarded \$8,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates**

Atlanta, GA—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Ayanna Faith Groves of Atlanta, Georgia, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Youth (MFP-Y). As an NBCC MFP-Y fellow, Groves will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her service to underserved minority populations, with a specific focus on transition-age youth (ages 16–25).



The NBCC MFP-Y 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-Y, 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 number of available culturally competent behavioral health professionals.

The NBCC MFP will distribute \$8,000 education awards to Groves and the 30 other master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Groves is a graduate of Emory University and is currently pursuing a master's degree in the clinical mental health counseling program at Georgia State University, both in Atlanta. Upon graduation, Groves intends to serve transition-age youth, particularly minority college students. She would also like to work with emerging adults who endure stress and anxiety. Earning this fellowship will allow Groves to acquire the skills and knowledge needed to effectively counsel underserved minorities, including individuals with disabilities, and to be a strong advocate for the rights and needs of this population. This fellowship will also allow her to obtain continued support during and after her master's program.

The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-Y application period in September 2016. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit [www.nbccf.org](http://www.nbccf.org).

#### **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 60,000 National 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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