

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Letitia Browne-James Awarded \$20,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Orlando, FL— The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Letitia Browne-James, originally from Saint Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands and currently residing in Orlando, Florida, for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP). As an NBCC MFP fellow, Browne-James will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her 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 Browne-James and the 22 other doctoral counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Browne-James is a graduate of Bethune-Cookman University, in Daytona Beach, Florida, and of the University of Central Florida, in Orlando, and is currently a doctoral student in the counselor education and supervision program at Walden University, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Browne-James has a qualitative research interest in persons of Black descent who have lived experiences with racial microaggressions and learning about mental health implications and culturally appropriate treatment of them. She is currently in the third year of her doctoral program, in an internship phase where she works with persons from underserved and marginalized populations in clinical and academic settings. She is currently a clinical manager at Aspire Health Partners, Inc. in Orlando, Florida, where she oversees staff in two programs serving youth and families primarily in underserved communities. She is also the current president-elect of the Florida Association for Multi-Cultural Counseling and Development, a division of the Florida Counseling Association dedicated to multiculturalism in counseling. This fellowship will help Browne-James to become more involved in her research area through direct service, supervision, social justice advocacy for underserved minority populations, education and training. This fellowship will also help her to broaden her network of like-minded professionals so that she will continue to learn and develop her skill set as a leader and social justice advocate for persons from underserved minority populations and facilitate positive social change.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 30 \$8,000 master's-level fellowships through the [MFP-Youth](#) (MFP-Y) and 31 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 September 2017. 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 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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