PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 25, 2017



Torri Montrice Johnson Awarded \$11,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Greensboro, NC—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Torri Montrice Johnson, of Greensboro, North Carolina, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Addictions Counselors (MFP-AC). As an NBCC MFP-AC fellow, Johnson will receive funding and training to support her education and facilitate her 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 Johnson and the 30 other master's-level addictions counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Johnson is a graduate of Guilford College, in Greensboro, North Carolina, and is currently a master's student in the clinical mental health counseling program at Georgia State University, in Atlanta. Johnson is passionate about mental health awareness, particularly eradicating the stigma attached to receiving mental health services in the African-American community. Upon graduation, she intends to promote mental health awareness, education and healing to her local communities and communities across the United States. She is committed to serving transition-age youth and emerging adults to help them work through trans-generational trauma, delinquency, family violence, substance abuse, depression and resiliency. This fellowship will offer Johnson the unique opportunity to learn from many diverse professionals and experts in the field and attend counseling conferences to help prepare her to work purposefully as a licensed professional counselor.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 23 \$20,000 <u>doctoral fellowships</u> through the Minority Fellowship Program and 30 \$8,000 master's-level fellowships through the <u>MFP-Youth</u> (MFP-Y). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC Minority Fellowship Program application period in September 2017. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit <u>www.nbccf.org/programs/scholarships</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 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.