PRESS RELEASE

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Loo Gen (Genii) Seah-McCrea Awarded \$8,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Saline, MI—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Loo Gen (Genii) Seah-McCrea of Saline, Michigan, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Youth (MFP-Y). As an NBCC MFP-Y Fellow, Seah-McCrea 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 Seah-McCrea and the 29 other master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. Seah-McCrea is a graduate of the University of Leeds, in the United Kingdom, and is currently pursuing a master's in the clinical mental health counseling program at Grace College & Theological Seminary, in Winona Lake, Indiana. Upon graduation, Seah-McCrea intends to work with older adolescents from underserved minority groups in inner city or urban communities. She also hopes to assist young women from marginalized minority groups by helping them gain access to affordable mental health services and reducing any systemic or social barriers to the same. Being part of the fellowship program will provide Seah-McCrea with an opportunity to learn from and work alongside more experienced and like-minded counseling professionals who are using their talents and resources to champion some of the pressing mental health issues of overlooked minority groups across the nation today.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 23 \$20,000 <u>doctoral fellowships</u> through the Minority Fellowship Program and 34 master's-level fellowships of up to \$11,000 through the <u>MFP-Addictions Counselors</u> (MFP-AC). The Foundation plans to open the next NBCC MFP-Y application period in fall 2018. To learn more about the NBCC MFP and its fellows, please visit http://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 64,000 board-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.