

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chantelle R. James Awarded \$8,000 Counseling Fellowship From NBCC and Affiliates



Detroit, MI—The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), recently selected Chantelle R. James of Detroit, Michigan, for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program-Youth (MFP-Y). As an NBCC MFP-Y Fellow, James 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 James and the 29 other master's-level counseling students selected to receive the fellowship award. James is a graduate of the University of Windsor, in Ontario, Canada, and is currently pursuing a master's in the clinical mental health counseling program at Spring Arbor University, in Southfield, Michigan. Upon graduation, James plans to work with minority youth and adolescent populations within the Greater Detroit Area facing behavioral at-risk challenges in their community. These youth and adolescents are challenged each day with their own personal mental health barriers, traumatic crises, community safety concerns, and academic and family financial hardships. The community they reside in lacks access and availability to resources. Being selected for the fellowship will allow James to participate in annual NBCC counseling conferences and obtain mentorship support. This would grant her the ability to increase her growth as a professional clinical counselor in learning and becoming proficient in various therapeutic approaches, having a full understanding of ethical standards/practices, and competently servicing the underserved populations in her community.

The NBCC Foundation has also awarded 23 \$20,000 [doctoral fellowships](#) through the Minority Fellowship Program and 34 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-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.

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