



SAMHSA MFP/ANA TESTIMONIAL



MFP Doctoral Fellow Marie Smith-East (L) poses with her two mentors

Dear Janet, Samuel, Dr. Outlaw, Dr. Yarandi, and the MFP Board of Directors,

As I am on my last flight back to Daytona Beach, Florida, I am overwhelmed with feelings of gratitude as well as excitement for what is to come for my future in research. I am just so grateful for the opportunity that I had to attend as a new fellow at the SAMHSA MFP at ANA 2018 Conference and Training in Nashville, TN! The entire experience from day one was exceptional! All that I learned from experts in various areas including translating research into practice demonstrated to me that one day even as the only minority in my doctoral program, I can too. The presentations regarding current research in the field, strategies for how I could improve my research, translating research into practice through in-person community engagement activities and simply seeing the success of other minority doctoral fellow alumni showing us examples of how we can also do the same is remarkable. This year, I also was assigned a mentor

Most importantly, I am so very thankful for all the time, effort, and detailed planning that allowed for us to have such a great experience.

I just wanted to let you know that all of your efforts do not go unnoticed. I will never take for granted the opportunity that I have as being an MFP doctoral fellow and I look forward to what is to come!

Many blessings,

Marie Smith-East

Marie Smith-East
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Daytona Beach, FL