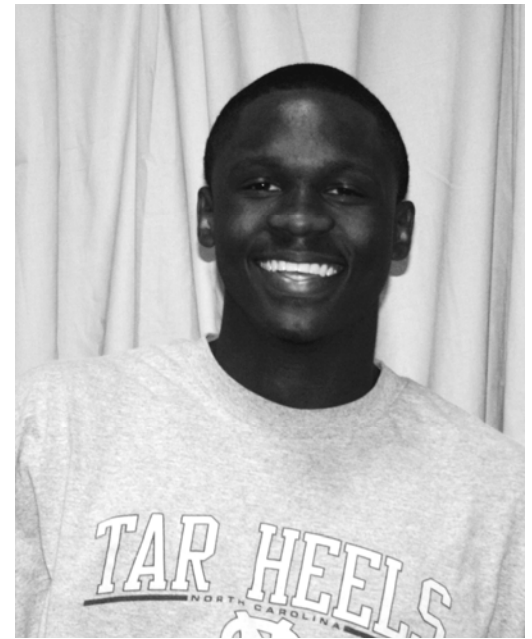


## Meet Dorian Brown . . .

Growing up, Dorian Brown saw increasing numbers of his family and community members being affected by obesity, heart disease and diabetes. He also saw that there was not adequate access to health care in his community. Dorian decided to pursue a health career, to help people like those who had suffered around him as a child. Dorian entered the University of North Carolina (UNC) not knowing which health career he would pursue. At UNC, he became involved with the Science Enrichment Preparation (SEP) Program, the signature undergraduate program of the North Carolina Health Careers Access Program (NC-HCAP). This program involved four rigorous science-based courses, and the opportunity for Dorian to explore different health career possibilities. After much research and several shadowing experiences, Dorian decided to pursue a career in pharmacy, in part because he was amazed and attracted by the many opportunities that would be available to him as a pharmacist. The SEP Program helped him to become a qualified candidate for the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy, where he is currently a first year student in their Doctor of Pharmacy program.



*“Without the SEP Program, the goal of bringing more disadvantaged students into the health care professions and actually providing them with the openings through which they can do so will be lost.”*

### About the Program

- HCOP is authorized under Title VII of the Public Health Service Act. Together with the Centers of Excellence (COE), HCOPs function to increase the representation of minority and disadvantaged students in the health professions.
- NC-HCAP offers a variety of programs for pre-college and college students. These programs work to increase the number of disadvantaged and underrepresented minority students educated, trained and employed in the health professions.
- Since its inception in 1979, almost 900 students have completed the SEP Program. Eighty-six percent of them either have completed or are completing health professions training programs.
- For more information about NC-HCAP, please visit: <http://nc-hcap.unc.edu/>

### The Effect of Funding Cuts . . .

- If funding for NC-HCAP was cut, the number of minority and disadvantaged students entering health professions programs would likely decrease. Since the minority community already suffers from a lack of access to care, and they are generally treated by minority health professionals, this will exacerbate the problem in underserved communities.
- NC-HCAP has programs that focus on pre-college students. Without the early opportunity to get involved and learn about possibilities in the health professions, many young minorities might not choose a health professions career. This would negatively impact the health professions pipeline.



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