

Santa Clara Valley Chapter of California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists
POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

P&P310-A SUPPORT GROUP PARTICIPANT RIGHTS

Subject: Support Group Criteria	Initial Date: 03/27/07
Responsibility: Director of Newly and Pre-Licensed Members	Date Revised: 04/28/20
Approved by: SCV-CAMFT Board of Directors	Revision Approved

Dear Participant,

The board of directors and group leader(s) want to welcome you to this SCV-CAMFT-sponsored support group. Our pre-licensed and newly licensed support groups provide professional and personal support and direction to our members where they can meet for networking, camaraderie, and to share their experiences. The support may take the form of providing relevant information about yourself and your practice, questions and suggestions about marketing, building a practice, treatment, and other matters relating to personal and professional experiences; as well as, to provide sympathetic understanding and establishing social and referral networks.

The support groups are led by volunteer licensed chapter members who want to share their expertise and give back to their profession.

Furthermore, where our online support group meetings are concerned, we have confirmed with CAMFT that since we do not discuss or provide any PHI during our group sessions, then a HIPAA compliant platform is not essential.

The following information outlines your rights as a participant. Please read it carefully.

Participant Rights:

1. You have the right to receive a copy of this document.
2. You have the right to know that there is no monetary fee paid to support group facilitators and that you are not required to pay a fee to attend an SCV-CAMFT support group.
3. You have the right to stop attending the group at any time, as your participation is voluntary.
4. You have the right to contact the board about your experience with this group and its facilitator and we encourage you to do so.

Please contact Rossana Rivellini, LMFT
Director of Newly and Pre-Licensed Support Groups
RRivellini.mft@gmail.com or 408-444-7116.

Additional Information:

1. Since participation in an SCV-CAMFT-sponsored support group requires chapter membership, the board allows you the opportunity to participate in a group up to two (2) times before joining the chapter.
2. In the past, there was confusion about MFT associates receiving 3:1 BBS credit for support groups. The BBS's position is that "support" is NOT "psychotherapy." Since this is the case, MFT associates may NOT receive credit for their hours at the 3:1 rate from the BBS, specifically because the chapter does not have psychotherapy liability insurance; therefore, support groups are not psychotherapy and do not qualify.
3. Our support groups are not consultation groups - if you need to discuss difficult cases, ethical dilemmas, or client-specific situations please seek professional consultation.
4. Our support groups are not supervision groups - supervision aims to provide accountability for both the supervisor and supervisee exploring professional practice and performance. Our support group leaders are not acting in a supervisory role.

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