

Subject: Support Group Criteria	Initial Date: 02-16-07	
Responsibility: President, President Elect	Date Reviewed: 02-24-07	
Approved by: SCV-CAMFT Board of Directors	Date Revised: 03-23-07	P&P 117

117 -- SCV-CAMFT SUPPORT GROUP LEADER AND ATTENDEE CRITERIA

I. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide policies and procedures for SCV-CAMFT sponsored support groups.

II. Policy

It is the policy of the chapter to encourage the use of SCV-CAMFT chapter support groups and provide leaders with policies and expectations and to provide rights and expectations to participants.

III. Procedures

General Information:

1. New groups may be formed by following the guidelines of P&P 103 – Approval of Activities.
2. The SCV-CAMFT board shall designate a board member as the contact person for all support group leaders.
3. The Board may vote to dissolve a group and/or change a group leader at its discretion. Areas to be considered for such a decision will include issues such as: lack of participant interest, negative feedback from participants, leader's failure to follow this policy, leader's failure to pay dues, leader's withdrawal or dismissal from the chapter, etc.
4. State CAMFT holds the position that if a fee is charged for a group, that the revenue should not go to the group facilitator(s), but to the chapter, since receiving compensation goes against the principle of a not-for-profit volunteer.

Goals and Expectations of Leaders:

1. Group leaders shall be SCV-CAMFT chapter members in good standing, and be current on SCV-CAMFT and State CAMFT dues.
2. Group leaders shall obtain group participant names and telephone numbers from all group participants at the time of the group, using Appendix 117-A.
3. Group leaders shall send appendix 117-A to the Chapter Coordinator within 2 (two) business days of the completion of a group, either by US mail to:

Chapter Coordinator
SCV-CAMFT
Po Box 60814
Palo Alto, CA 94306
or by fax: (650) 625-1536

4. Group leaders shall give the SCV-CAMFT board at least 60 days written notice of their intention to stop facilitating a group.
5. Group leaders shall give group participants as much warning as possible that they intend to stop facilitating a group.
6. Group leaders shall commit to a year of service and shall maintain consistent meeting times/locations that agree with what has been advertised in the chapter newsletter. Changes may be made if enough time is allowed for proper advertising of a given time/location change.
7. Group leaders shall inform group participants of their Rights by presenting them with Appendix 117-B at their first group appearance.

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117-B -- Support Group Participant Rights

Dear participant,

The board and group leader(s) want to welcome you to this SCV-CAMFT sponsored support group.

The following information outlines your rights as a participant. Please read it and have a great group.

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. For 2009, the board contact person is:

Maureen Ross
1885 The Alameda Ste 130
San Jose, CA 95126

Tel: 408-425-7457

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 2 (two) times before deciding to join the chapter.
2. In the past, there was confusion about Interns receiving 3:1 BBS credit for support groups. The BBS's position is that "support" is not "psychotherapy." Since this is the case, MFT interns 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.

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