Moving Forward Family Services Code of Ethical Conduct

# **Ethical Principles**

**Principle A: Beneficence and Nonmaleficence**

Counsellors strive to benefit those with whom they work and take care to do no harm. In their professional actions, counsellors seek to safeguard the welfare and rights of those with whom they interact professionally and other affected persons.

**Principle B: Fidelity and Responsibility**

Counsellors are aware of their professional responsibility to society and to the specific communities in which they work. They establish relationships of trust with those with whom they work and uphold professional standards of conduct, clarify their professional roles and obligations, accept appropriate responsibility for their behavior, and seek to manage conflicts of interest that could lead to exploitation or harm.

**Principle C: Integrity**

Psychologists seek to promote accuracy, honesty, and truthfulness in the counselling services they provide to clients. In these activities counsellors do not steal, cheat, or engage in fraud, subterfuge, or intentional misrepresentation of fact. Counsellors strive to keep them

promises and to avoid unwise or unclear commitments.

**Principle D: Justice**

Counsellors recognize that clients must be treated with fairness and justice, and benefit from the contributions of counselling and to equal quality in the processes, procedures, and services being conducted by Counsellors. This principle implies the exercise of reasonable judgment and take precautions to ensure that their potential biases, the boundaries of their competence, and the limitations of their expertise do not lead to or condone unjust practices.

**Principle E: Respect for People’s Rights and Dignity**

Counsellors respect the dignity and worth of all people, and the rights of individuals to privacy, confidentiality, and self-determination.

Counsellors are aware that special safeguards may be necessary to protect the rights and welfare of persons or communities whose vulnerabilities impair autonomous decision making. Counsellors are aware of and respect cultural, individual, and role differences, including those based on age, gender, gender identity, race, ethnicity, culture, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability, language, and socioeconomic status, and consider these factors when working with members of such groups. Counsellors try to eliminate the effect on their work of biases based on those factors, and they do not knowingly participate in or condone activities of others based upon such prejudices.

# **As an intern at Moving Forward Family Services I will:**

1. Respect the privacy and dignity of clients, peers, and supervisors.
2. Review and adhere to any MFFS policies, procedures, and guidelines.
3. Seek support and consultation from supervisors, staff, and peers.
4. Consult with supervisors on matters I am unsure about.
5. When sharing a client file with another counsellor, I will not review the notes of the other counsellor unless necessary and client provided written (or verbal) consent.
6. In the event of a conflict with another person within MFFS, I will approach a staff member, a supervisor, or a peer and will respectfully create a dialogue to resolve the conflict.
7. Engage in regular self-reflection and self-care.
8. Recognize the scope of my competency when I am asked to provide counselling to individuals with complex mental health issues and inform Gary Thandi immediately to transfer the client to another counsellor or other mental health services.
9. Obtain the consent from the client to provide counselling during the first session.
10. Maintain confidentiality. Counsellors have a primary obligation to take reasonable precautions to protect confidential information. All notes should be written on OWL and should never be kept on your devices. Do not keep any written signed document in your possession. Once you upload any document to OWL, shred it or delete it from your computer.
11. Recording sessions. Before recording sessions, it is my responsibility to obtain written consent from the client to record a session. Every time I record a session, I will ask for consent.

By signing this document, I commit to adhere to this code of ethics during my practicum with Moving Forward Family Services

Name of Intern: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Intern: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_