



MAINSTREAM MENTAL HEALTH

September 2022/ Issue 30

ETHICS

Mental health ethics help provide quality of services to clients. MMHS took a survey for examples of how its employees practice ethics.

ON ETHICS: Mike Morris, CEO and President, says, “To me, ethics are what you do and have when nobody is looking over your shoulder, whether it is treating a client, entering a note, logging your time, billing, payroll, or making any decision, we are only as good as the ethics we practice every day. Audits occur, mistakes are made, that is part of doing business and that’s ok. We correct it, and we move forward. Our company has an excellent reputation in our area and beyond. Our reputation relies on all of us to have ethics in everything that we do. I appreciate your strong ethical performance in everything you do for us.”

ON BOUNDARIES: Ashley Hupp, LCSW Field Relations Manager and Outpatient Counselor, says, “When working with my clients, I have found the upfront communication regarding professional ethical boundaries is the most effective and best received. My clients recognize that certain actions have an impact on my license and because they are

invested in receiving counseling, they are more willing to ‘stay within the lines.’ Because of this transparency they are more accepting of my ‘no,’ even if they don’t like it, and it has limited negative effect on the therapeutic relationship. A fantastic example is that many of my clients know each other because they receive multiple services together and talk about their counselors. Sometimes they will ask me questions about each other because they know that I may have more information; these questions come from a genuine place of caring for each other and they often just want to know how they can better help each other. If those questions come up, my clients are used to me responding in a neutral manner and/or reminding them that if I know anything, I’m not allowed to say. My clients are very accepting of this response and will often make comments such as ‘that’s right’ or ‘just like you would do for me.’ Because I explained that to them early on, as well as respond without escalation, these type of conversations are very, very brief and we are able to ‘bounce back’ easily.”

ON CONSULTATION: Cheryl Thompson, LPC Outpatient Coordinator, says, “For example, in our company, the people that have the experience with trauma and do the EMDR we tend to go to them when we are dealing with cases of extreme trauma that we need assistance with because they have a specific training that other counselors may not have had.”

“Human dignity can be achieved only in the field of ethics, and ethical achievement is measured by the degree in which our actions are governed by compassion and love, not by greed and aggressiveness.”

~Arnold J. Toynbee

ON CONTINUITY OF SERVICES: Autumn Smith, LMHP-E Roanoke Clinical Lead, says, “So for making sure that we continue care in services for clients we have to coordinate not just in the initial meeting with the client themselves but we coordinate with the other providers that are also working with the client and also the clinician or the QMHP together with enough information to support continuation of services and to ensure that they continue to receive the care that they need. Without that team effort, in gathering that information, we would not be able to supply the adequate information. It really takes working together to make sure we submit adequate information to get that approval moving forward.”

ON SELF-DETERMINATION: Cami Johnson, LMHP-E, says, “I tend to stay client-centered and solution-focused where I am holding the space for our clients to develop solutions or reasons to try a solution on their own because I believe that they are the experts of their lives and that we are there as guidance or support in their journey.”

ON CLIENT RECORDS: Amy Burns, Admin, says, “The records are maintained according to relevant laws and agency policies. It includes information relevant to the delivery of services and is protected with strict adherence to privacy guidelines.”

BIRTHDAYS

Cristina M. 9/1
Sandra Ritter 9/3
Rachel L. 9/3

Jaquel A. 9/14
Amy B. 9/22

Claudia 9/22
Kaitlin C. 9/30

September

2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Stress Management Intern Group- Goal Setting	2 Library Talent Show Practice	3
4	5 PROGRAM CLOSED	6 Bowling Money Management	7 Coping Skills MALO Peer to Peer- MS	8 Nutrition Trashcan Tournament	9 Autism Talent Show Practice	10
11	12 Bipolar Disorder DUTH Peer to Peer- 9/11	13 Dollar Tree Outing Karaoke	14 Gossiping SHDU Peer to Peer- ASL	15 Personality Disorders Intern Group- Problem Solving	16 Healthy Relationships Talent Show Practice	17
18	19 Mental Health Jeopardy Show & Tell/ Dance Competition	20 Roses Outing Cookout/ Icebreakers	21 Intermittent Explosive Disorder RODA Peer to Peer Music	22 Dishonesty Music Therapy	23 Second Day of Fall Pizza Party Talent Show Practice	24
25	26 Conflict Resolution JASP Peer to Peer- Racial Injustice	27 Bowling September Birthday Party	28 MAINSTREAM TALENT SHOW 11am-1pm	29 Men/Women's Day Pass The Ball	30 Arts & Crafts Trivia Hot Seat	