

Legal and Ethical Issues - Developing Tools for Telemental Health and Consent, Privacy, and Mandatory Reporting

with Rachel Michaelsen, LCSW

Thursday, October 29th, 2026, 9am-4pm

A FREE training presented by Alameda County Behavioral Health and A Better Way

Course Objectives

- 1) Explain at least two ways to maintain confidentiality when obtaining consent while using technology (AI, telehealth, electronic records, communication) in work with clients.
- 2) Explain when and who can consent for a client's mental health treatment.
- 3) Obtain at least three skills for maintaining client privacy while using technology.
- 4) Explain when they are required to make mandatory reports, who to contact when making at least two types of mandatory reports, and at least two ways to make mandatory reports.
- 5) Describe at least two types of unethical dual relationships.
- 6) Identify two reasons why connecting with clients on social media could have a negative impact on treatment outcomes.

There are numerous legal and ethical issues which mental health providers must integrate into their care planning and clinical interventions to continuously provide quality services to clients. Through case vignettes, discussions and lecture, participants will explore:

- 1) California telehealth legal codes and telehealth professional codes of ethics including informed consent, privacy, working with people out of state, preparing for crisis, and handling technology failure;
- 2) Research on telemental health;
- 3) Best practices when providing online health and mental services;
- 4) General consent for treatment requirements;
- 5) Privacy issues including in the use of technology and dual relationships; and
- 6) Required mandatory reporting.

This workshop meets the 3-hour, one time requirement for a telemental health course for all registrants and licensed mental health providers, the biennial 6-hour law and ethics requirement for licensed mental health professionals, and the annual 3-hour law and ethics requirement for registrants.

Audience: Alameda County Behavioral Health (ACBH) clinical staff and contracted CBO providers are welcome. Capacity is limited. Open until filled.

Rachel Michaelsen, LCSW, is a clinical social worker who has worked in HMOs, public agencies, and private practice as both a mental-health provider and a supervisor for over thirty years. She has taught courses in DSM-5, clinical supervision, law and ethics, childhood psychopathology, time management, vicarious traumatization and energy psychology at universities, conferences, and mental-health agencies. She has a private practice and was also the Chair of the Humanitarian Committee for the Association for Comprehensive Energy Psychology for 6 years.



Private code to register:

e2qxvl

Thursday, October 29th | Presented on Zoom

9:00am-4:00pm | Online Waiting Room Opens at 8:45am

Online Course | Zoom link sent 2 days before course

6 CEs available for: LCSW, LMFT, LEP, LPCC. Other licenses are pending approval.

TO REGISTER

Click below to sign up & register:

<https://training.abetterwayinc.net/courses/8905>

A Better Way is approved by the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT) to sponsor 6 Continuing Education for LCSW, LMFT, LPCC, LEP (62361). The California Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) recognizes CAMFT Continuing Education credit for license renewal. A Better Way maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Attendees must attend entire course for CE credit. Credit for other licenses by Alameda County Behavioral Health Department (ACBHD) are pending approval.

For accommodations or grievances, contact: Trainings@abetterwayinc.net | (510) 913-1326