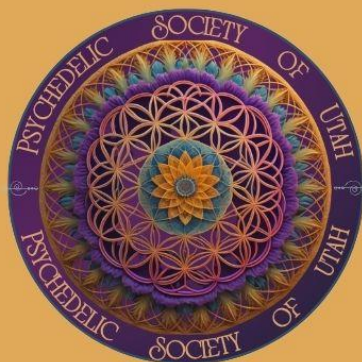


2023

PSU Code of Ethics



Psychedelic
Society of Utah
Wellness | Community | Joy

Psychedelic Society of Utah

Code of Ethics

Ethical Priorities

For Psychedelic - Assisted Wellness Facilitators

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Created by the Psychedelic Society of Utah (PSU) Ethics Board, the Psychedelic Society of Utah Code of Ethics focuses on the minimum requirements for harm reduction in psychedelic-assisted care. Many psychedelic-assisted wellness facilitators (PAWF) have ethical standards as license and certification holders. In these cases, the PSU code of ethics acts as supplementary ethics, not as a substitute for other ethical standards.

Psychedelic-Assisted Wellness Facilitator (PAWF) is used to refer to all those working with psychedelic substances with the purpose of facilitating another person or persons in a journey. This includes and is not limited to doctors, therapists, shamans, spiritual guides, coaches, space holders, and sitters.

The PSU Ethics Board strives to keep the PSU Code of Ethics updated to meet the needs of changing circumstances and cultural diversity while working to implement standards of safety for all those involved in the psychedelic wellness space.

As part of this ongoing process, the PSU Ethics Board reviews, revises, and adds to the PAWF Code of Ethics solicits feedback from facilitators, governing bodies, research, and medical personnel. The PSU Ethics Board is available for questions, guidance, and training as changes occur.

The PSU Code of Ethics offers guidelines for value-directed conduct. While ethical guidance for PAWF is its primary purpose, it is also intended to prompt pondering about ethical thinking and practice, which is an ongoing self and community deliberation.

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Professional Responsibility

1. PAWFs do not operate without appropriate training.
2. PAWFs operate within their scope of practice and within their local legal limits.
3. PAWFs accurately represent their qualifications including licenses, certifications, apprenticeships, internships, and experience in all circumstances including marketing, social media, websites, and other public materials.
4. When unsure about client facilitation, PAWF seek training, consultation, and/or supervision.
5. PAWFs seek personal support to seek wellness as they facilitate wellness experiences for others.
6. PAWFs continually strive for multicultural competency in their practice and do not engage in facilitation activities or techniques that discriminate against or show hostility towards individuals or groups based on gender, ethnicity, race, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, religion, or any other bias.
7. When PAWFs become aware of unethical behavior in the psychedelic-facilitation space, they seek first to resolve the issue through peer education except when state regulations require immediate reporting. In the event it cannot be resolved, PAWFs report the matter to the appropriate regulatory boards including but not limited to the Psychedelic Society of Utah Ethics Board.
8. PAWFs who make public statements inconsistent with this Code shall state that their opinions represent their personal views. No statements shall be made on behalf of PSU unless official authorization has been given.
9. PAWFs providing education and presentations will ensure the content is consistent with this Code of Ethics.
10. PAWFs in good standing complete a psychedelic-facilitation ethics training no less than once annually.

Client – Facilitator Relationship

1. A PAWFs primary responsibility is to the client. A facilitator's role is to support the client in their autonomy and self-determination. Barring cases of imminent harm to self or others, a facilitator does not impede an individual's right to make informed choices for themselves.
2. PAWFs communicate their qualifications and scope of practice, education, certifications, values, techniques, experience, emergency procedures, and business practices clearly with clients prior to beginning any facilitation process.
3. PAWFs will only work with psychedelics they are specifically trained to work with and that are legal in their region.
4. PAWFs inform clients of the purpose, goals, procedures, limitations, and potential risks and benefits of services. PAWFs also provide information about the client's rights and responsibilities including billing arrangements, collection procedures, confidentiality and its limitations, service termination policies, and any other procedures relevant to the process.
5. PAWFs do not misuse their influence to meet their own needs at the expense of a client's welfare.
6. PAWFs understand the power differential unique to psychedelic-assisted facilitation and seek to decrease the power differential where possible. PAWF consistently seek peer consultation and

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supervision to ensure the power differential that remains is not intentionally or unintentionally being taken advantage of.

7. PAWFs do not impose their personal value system, religious or other belief system onto clients.
8. PAWFs respect client's privacy and do not solicit information that is not pertinent to the facilitation process.
9. PAWFs maintain healthy boundaries with clients.
10. PAWFs make every effort to avoid dual/multiple relationships with clients that could impede the facilitation process, increase the risk of harm, and/or impair judgment.
11. When dual/multiple relationship cannot be avoided, PAWFs take appropriate precautions such as informed consent, consultation, and supervision.
12. PAWFs will not engage in any form of sexual or romantic contact with a client or former client for at least five (5) years following the date of service termination.
13. PAWFs will not engage in any type of harassing behavior towards clients or any behavior that is unwelcome and at a severity that would reasonably be perceived as harassment.
14. If there is reasonable doubt that a client will not benefit from services, PAWFs will discuss other types of facilitation and offer referrals to the client.
15. PAWFs will do their best to offer accessible facilitation, offering outside resources and referrals to clients when sliding scale and otherwise discounted services are not possible.
16. PAWFs will be available for their client(s) throughout psychedelic facilitation. In the event that the facilitator leaves the room for pre-agreed upon therapeutic purposes, the appropriate monitoring and communication systems will be in place and the PAWF will be available to the client without any barrier when the client is ready for them to re-enter the space.
17. PAWFs will discuss the role of therapeutic touch prior to facilitation with psychedelic-assistance, discuss consent and ongoing methods for giving and withdrawing consent in an altered state, and ensure therapeutic touch is safe and nonsexual.
18. PAWFs will ensure clients understand the importance of preparation and integration and will provide these services when possible. When these services are outside of the facilitator's scope of practice, they will refer the client out for preparation and integration.

Confidentiality

19. PAWFs have an obligation to safeguard information about individuals obtained in the course of facilitation, teaching, and research. Personal information is communicated only with the client's consent, preferably written, or in circumstances dictated by state and federal laws and in cases where the safety of the client and/or those around them is in question. In these cases, disclosure of a client's information is restricted to what is necessary and relevant and the client is informed.
20. Interactions with clients may be taped or otherwise recorded only with written permission of the client or legal guardian. These recordings should be destroyed after the timeframe specified by state regulations and only utilized for purposes consented to by the client or their legal guardian. If the client's legal guardian consents without the client's permission, the PAWF will honor the client's wishes.
21. The primary client owns the rights to confidentiality. When the primary client is a minor or adult been legally determined to be incompetent, legal guardians have legal access to client information. Facilitators take measures to safeguard client confidentiality within legal limits.

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22. When working with families or groups, the rights to confidentiality of each member should be safeguarded. PAWFs should make clear that each member of the group has rights to confidentiality within the limitations to confidentiality.
23. PAWFs take precautions to safeguard client confidentiality of electronically transmitted information.
24. PAWFs protect the confidentiality of deceased clients.
25. PAWFs are aware of their influential position with respect to clients and do not exploit their trust, nor do they foster client dependency.

Cultural Responsibilities

26. PAWFs will make a consistent effort to understand and honor the cultural history of the psychedelic(s) they are working with.
27. PAWFs shall incorporate indigenous wisdom in psychedelics whenever it is appropriate to do so with proper respect and acknowledgment.
28. PAWFs consider their guardianship roles when making decisions, advocating, and engaging in facilitation. Guardianship includes and is not limited to guardianship responsibilities in regard to the client, the psychedelic, and the facilitation space.
29. PAWFs honor and give back to indigenous communities and amplify indigenous voices.

Research and Data Collection

30. PAWF will use scope appropriate tools to track client progress.
31. PAWFs will take measures to protect the confidentiality and security of client related reports, data, and any transmission of client-related information in any form.
32. The welfare of the client is to be safeguarded by the PAWF during any research participation.
33. PAWFs provide appropriate disclosures to research participants and appropriately report to and debrief participants regarding the subject and features of the study and assist them in reaching a determination about participation.
34. PAWFs shall accurately report results of research, including limitations and variables that may have impacted the findings.

PAWF Educators

35. PAWF educators shall stay current with and be well informed about related professional issues and developments.
36. PAWF educators will teach the impact and influence of indigenous and shamanistic cultures and ensure these practices are addressed as foundational and with respect and not diminish the value of nonwestern medical sources.
37. PAWF educators will accurately represent their qualifications and what the training they offer will provide to the students, i.e. certification, increased legal rights to facilitate, etc.
38. PAWF educators shall not engage in romantic or sexual relationships with current students or individuals who were students within the past five (5) years. Prohibited sexual and/or romantic intimacy includes physical contact and electronic interactions.
39. PAWF educators serve as gatekeepers and assume responsibility related to their student's conduct, dispositions, and motivations.

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40. Educators advocate for PAWF students to address programmatic barriers and obstacles that hinder student academic growth and development.
41. PAWF educators practice cultural responsiveness in their teaching and training, respecting the cultural identity, values, sexual orientation, and gender identity of their students.