

## **Part 1: The Law & Ethics of Online Therapy, August 25, 2018 (10:00am – 1:00pm)**

Online therapy, telehealth, video therapy, teletherapy are all terms used to describe synchronous client sessions via computer video. This way of conducting sessions is becoming more and more common, but is still relatively new. There have been research findings showing online therapy to be as effective as face to face.

Legislation and ethics are changing as online therapy becomes more common. Technology has advanced rapidly and legal and ethical best practices are catching up. Although it may not always seem to be the best clinical decision, the legal and HIPAA requirements do need to be understood and followed – it's not ok to SKYPE or FaceTime. HIPAA compliant platforms will be discussed.

This 3 hour workshop is designed to provide you with the basic information you need to start a HIPAA compliant online psychotherapy practice. There will be a presentation, an exercise and plenty of discussion. The workshop is designed for the participants to get answers to their questions, so that they can successfully launch their online practice.

**Kathie Adams, LMFT (#41403)**, holds a California license initially issued in 2004. She is influenced by Narrative Therapy ideas. She enjoys working with clients who identify as gender nonconforming, gender queer, transgender. She really likes talking about gender. She provides online and in-person therapy. Currently about 50% of her practice is with online clients. Kathie and others founded the LAPoMo group in 2014 and really values community, both with colleagues, neighbors and other like minded folks. She is an AAMFT supervisor and is available for supervision & consultations.

[www.kathieadams.com](http://www.kathieadams.com)

## **PART 2: Understanding Clinical Risk Management in Private Practice, August 25, 2018 (2:00pm – 5:00pm)**

No one wants to imagine they could have a professional negligence claim waged against them, but it is something clinicians face. Risk management starts with appropriate medical malpractice insurance and understanding what your policy covers, and extends through informed consent, note taking, releases, and appropriate reporting. There are also predictable phases when a claim has been initiated – understanding how to interact with your insurance company, attorney and other parties involved is often a mystery or misunderstood.

This 3-hour workshop will serve to provide an overview of malpractice insurance, limits of liability and coverages, what types of claims might be made and practices that help reduce exposure by demonstrating standard of care. A discussion of California Medical Malpractice under Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act (MICRA) will offer understanding of some of the case law supporting Tarasoff reporting and other legal decisions that influence our practice and lead into a conversation around the most common route a claim takes in California.

**Kimberlee J. Smith, LMFT (#104918)**, holds a California license issued in 2018. She is also strongly influenced by Narrative Therapy ideas. Along with her clinical practice, Kim is a licensed Life and Health Insurance Agent (CA License #0B18509) having spent 30 years as a consultant in the personal injury field, and having participated in thousands of medical malpractice settlements - from negotiations, mediations, court proceedings and post-verdict hearings. It is the overlap of these two careers that positions Kim to lead a conversation providing insider knowledge into the risks exposing clinicians to malpractice claims.