

# **Living Ethics: A Cross-Cultural Perspective**

## **Program Description**

Amid the rapidly-shifting cultural demographic in the United States, it is important for helping professionals to be adequately prepared to address the accompanying needs such difference brings. Although cultural “competence” may not be an achievable goal, it remains vital that professionals continue to seek ways to better understand the contexts, which might not only influence help-seeking behaviors of clients, but also color our interactions with them. Using real-world examples and interactive discussion, participants will learn practical, relevant approaches to working with diverse populations through exploration of personal experiences, examination and evaluation of best practices for quality service provision, and discussion of intra-cultural diversity and its relevance to ethical practice. Participants should leave equipped to utilize a relevant decision-making model to ethically guide them in their work with diverse populations.

## **Learning Objectives**

Upon completion of this workshop, participants should be able to:

1. Explore assumptions, which might influence ethical treatment;
2. Examine the use of self-disclosure in work with diverse clients;
3. Discuss intra-cultural diversity and its relevance to ethical practice;
4. Evaluate best practices regarding boundaries and use of self.

## **Target Audience**

This presentation is intended for individuals in helping professions, including social workers, counselors, psychologists, and nurses who seek to increase their capacity to serve the ever more diverse population of clients seeking support.

## **Contact Hours**

4.0 credit hours

## **Program Agenda**

9 AM to 10:30 AM - Exploration of cultural elements which might influence ethical treatment; Experiential activity: the multifaceted impact of culture

10:30 AM to 10:45 PM – Break

10:45 AM to 12:15 PM – Discussion of intra-cultural diversity and its relevance to practice; Reflective activity and group discussion.

12:15 PM to 12:30 PM – Break or 12:15 PM to 12:45 PM - Lunch

12:30 PM to 1:30 PM - Engaging best practice for ethical work with clients: introduction of strategies and resources

1:30 PM – Adjourn or 1:45 PM Adjourn (if lunch break 30 minutes)

**Faculty** Originally from Los Angeles, CA, Karon F. Johnson, MSW, LCSW, earned a B.A. in Spanish from NCCU, focusing on education, advocacy, and fostering connections between communities of color through language. She received her M.S.W. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she currently serves as a clinical

instructor and member of the field faculty, supporting students in placements related to Adult Mental Health and Substance Use. She also maintains a private clinical practice in Durham, NC, focusing on trauma, grief and loss, and diverse life transitions. Both her direct work with individuals and her community and systems-level work include support of diverse populations, particularly the Latinx population, and individuals navigating issues related to intellectual/developmental disabilities. Karon utilizes a range of methods in her trainings and presentations including traditional didactic lecture, facilitated discussion, role-play, and multimedia.