



Code of Ethics

Preamble

The mission of IABH members is to enhance the well-being of individuals, family members, and communities preventing and treating mental health and addiction issues. IABH and its members believe and endorse the scientifically-proven precept that mental health and addiction disorders are complex family illnesses impairing health, job performance, family welfare, interpersonal relations and community stability.

Recognizing the imperative for personal responsibility and accountability in treatment and recovery process, IABH members demonstrate responsibility and accountability in their provision of treatment, prevention and recovery services, in their management practices, in their staff relationships, and in their relationships with other publics. Further, IABH providers, individual, and associate members will engage and do business only with partners and organizations who themselves also abide by these basic ethical practices and standards.

To demonstrate to all who interact and conduct business with IABH members, the Association members have developed, agreed upon ethical practices. Upon confirmation of membership in the Association, all members agree to uphold these principles and actively engage in the assurance that all members support these principles.

The IABH Code of Ethics is based on the following values:

- Accountability
- Fairness and Ethnic Diversity
- Professionalism
- Community
- Quality
- Human Dignity
- Integrity

Accountability

IABH members value accountability in all service provisions and business interactions. Members are accountable to each other, the State of Illinois, and to their clients. Fee structures and payment requirements are available to the public and easily identifiable. To ensure accountability, agency governing authority clearly states organizational goals and objectives. All applicable local, state and federal life safety, occupational safety, health and fire codes are met.

Fairness and Ethnic Diversity

IABH members value fairness and recognize the importance of cultural diversity and dignity in all activities. Agencies and their staff do not discriminate against any person for any services provided on the basis of race, creed, sex or national origin. IABH members do not practice, condone, facilitate, or collaborate with any form of discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, national

origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, marital status, political belief, religion, immigration status, or mental or physical disability.

Professionalism

IABH members recognize the importance of professionalism and the need for the delivery of professionally certified/licensed services. Agencies support and encourage staff members to enhance and develop their professional credentials with continuing education and professional development. Agencies subscribe to the professional standards of their respective fields and provide interdisciplinary and team-based services.

Community

IABH members recognize that as non-profit providers, they are stewards of the community trust. In this role, IABH members collaborate and develop relationships with community members, community leaders, members of the health care services delivery system, and others to ensure they are an integral part of a community's integrated health care services system. Positive community relationships are developed and nurtured through ongoing interaction and community support. There is cultivation of good relationships and communications with related public and private agencies, associations and institutions.

Quality

IABH members support a culture of quality that is rooted in evidenced-based practices, scientifically proven principles, and continuing quality improvement strategies. Quality services are provided that appropriately meet the physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of the client and family. Specific admission and referral criteria are developed and adhered to for every level of service provided and are clearly articulated to staff, clients and the community. Continuing quality of care is ensured through ongoing internal and external evaluation.

Human Dignity

IABH members recognize the inherent dignity of every person. Agency leaders imbue organizations with the belief and expectation that each person is treated in a caring and respectful fashion, mindful of individual differences and cultural and ethnic diversity. Providers promote clients' socially responsible self-determination and seek to enhance clients' capacity and opportunity to change and to address their own needs. Providers are cognizant of their dual responsibility to clients and to the broader society. All programs and services enhance the dignity and protect the human and legal rights of the patient and family.

Integrity

IABH members are always aware of the mission, values, ethical principles, and ethical standards of the field and practice in a manner consistent with them. IABH agency members act honestly and responsibly and promote ethical practices on the part of the organizations with which they are affiliated. Members do not engage in misleading practices, including service provision, business operations, fiscal operations, etc. Treatment providers will not engage in deceptive or misleading advertising or marketing practices. Providers will not exploit their clients' rights to privacy for the purpose of promoting or marketing their programs or services. IABH members will not accept financial or other remuneration for client referrals or other benefits outside the bounds of legal and ethical interactions, including "patient brokering"