

**Jesse G. Harris, Jr. Psychological Services Center  
University of Kentucky**

**INFORMED CONSENT FOR GROUP TELEPSYCHOLOGY SERVICES**

This form is a supplement to the Harris Center's *Informed Consent for Telepsychology Services* Document. This document provides specific information about conducting group therapy via Telehealth platforms.

**General Etiquette**

We ask that group members treat virtual sessions as if they were taking place in-person. Specifically, we ask that you attend telepsychology sessions in a space that is free of distractions so you can give your full attention to group leaders and fellow members. Please wear appropriate clothing as if you were coming in to the Harris Center.

**Risks for Confidentiality**

In particular, providing group services by videoconference introduces additional risks to your confidentiality. Although group leaders are bound by ethical guidelines and state licensing laws to protect client confidentiality, group members do not have this ethical/legal imperative. While this is always the case, video platforms introduce new risks. For example, group members may attend group in a non-secure location in which a non-member (e.g., partner, roommate) may hear or see the group. Additionally, while the Harris Center is using a security-enhanced version of Zoom to conduct our group sessions, we cannot control whether all group members have access to password-protected private connections, which may compromise security. Finally, it may be possible for a group member to record or take screenshots of other members.

In order to reduce these risks (to protect you and your fellow group members), we recommend several procedures. We ask that you respect the privacy of your fellow group members' contributions, just as you would if we were meeting face to face. Please sit in a room alone during group sessions; if this is not possible, we ask that you wear headphones and sit in a corner so no one else can see your computer screen. Additionally, we encourage you to access group using a secure personal internet connection. Finally, you may turn off our Zoom camera when sharing particularly sensitive information.

**Procedures for Technical Difficulties**

In the event that you do not join our virtual group sessions within a few minutes of its start, one of our group leaders will give you a call to troubleshoot technical difficulties. Similarly, if you are disconnected during session, we will also reach out by telephone.

Please provide the best number to reach you: \_\_\_\_\_

**Procedures for Crisis**

If you are experiencing an immediate, life-threatening emergency, please call 911 or go to your nearest emergency department.

*For clients that receive individual services at the Harris Center, your therapist can be reached for coaching calls via our after-hours phone (859-229-8970).*

*For clients that receive individuals services with external (non-Harris Center) therapists, we ask that you first contact your individual therapist for support in the event of a crisis. The Harris Center after-hours phone (859-229-8970) may be used as a secondary contact.*

If, during group (or a crisis call), we determine that you are at significant risk of harming yourself or others, we will reach out to the emergency contact that you provided when reviewing the general Harris Center Telepsychology Informed Consent document.

**Informed Consent**

This form is meant to serve as a supplement to the Harris Center Telepsychology Informed Consent document. By signing this form, or giving your verbal agreement, you acknowledge that you understand the risks and procedures specific to conducting group treatment virtually, and agree to move forward with group Telepsychology services.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Client print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Client Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date