



# Minnesota Board of Marriage and Family Therapy

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## Biennial Report July 1, 1998 to June 30, 2000

### I. General Information

#### A. Board Mission and Major Functions

The mission of the Board of Marriage and Family Theory is to promote the public interest by ensuring that competent mental health services are provided throughout the state.

Board Functions:

- Adopt and enforce rules for marriage and family therapy licensing, which shall be designed to protect the public;
- Develop by rule appropriate techniques, including examinations and other methods, for determining whether applicants and licensees are qualified under sections 148B.29 to 148B.30;
- Issue licenses to individuals who are qualified under sections 148B.29 to 148B.39;
- Establish and implement procedures designed to assure that licensed marriage and family therapists will comply with the Board's rules;
- Study and investigate the practice of marriage and family therapy within the state in order to improve the standards imposed for the licensing of marriage and family therapists and to improve the procedures and methods used for enforcement of the Board's standards;
- Formulate and implement a code of ethics for all licensed marriage and family therapists; and
- Establish continuing education requirements for marriage and family therapists.

#### B. Major activities during the biennium:

The following major activities were accomplished during the biennium:

- Board rules were revised to delete obsolete provisions and to clarify others. A new licensee classification, Licensed Association Marriage and Family Therapist (LAMFT) was added, covering individuals who have passed the national examination and who are gaining their required two years of post degree supervised experience. Emeritus status was also provided for retired licensees. Methods by which licensees can meet continuing education requirements were also expanded.
- A web site was developed to serve the general public, applicants, and licensees. All of the Board's printed materials and forms may be down loaded from the site <http://www.bmft.state.mn.us>

- Research was conducted on the supervision process and on the portability of the marriage and family therapy license.
- This Board worked with marriage and family therapy licensing Board's nationally to develop a computerized version of the national licensing examination, which should be available in 2001. This effort should make the examination more readily available to applicants.

**C. Emerging issues regarding marriage and family therapists:**

During the biennium, at least six new graduate programs in marriage and family therapy have started in Minnesota. This should greatly increase the number seeking licensure. The impact of these numbers is already apparent. Prior to this biennium, an average of twelve Minnesota residents took the national examination at each offering. In the fall of 2000, 56 persons took the said examination and over 75 are anticipated for spring of 2001. The Board should have no problem coping with these increased numbers.

**II. Board's Members, Staff, and Budget**

**A. Board composition**

Statute requires the Board to have seven members who are appointed for four-year terms by the Governor. MS 148B.30 specifies that the Board consist of seven members. Of the seven, four must be Licensed Marriage & Family Therapists, one must be engaged in teaching marriage and family therapy and two must be public members who have no direct affiliation with the practice of marriage and family therapy. Members as of June 30, 2000 are as follows:

- Mary Hayes, Ph.D., LMFT, Chair (Minneapolis, Minnesota)
- Matthew Eastwood, Ph.D., LMFT, Vice Chair (Minneapolis, Minnesota)
- Shireen Lee, Secretary (Virginia, Minnesota)
- Nicky Bredeson, MSW, LMFT (Edina, Minnesota)
- Penny Johnson, BSW (Willmar, Minnesota)
- Brian Nystrom, MSW, LMFT (New Brighton, Minnesota)
- Marlene Reid, BS (Shoreview, Minnesota)

**B. Employees**

The Board has 1.5 equivalent positions. They are a half time executive director and a full time office manager.

**C. Receipts, disbursements, and major fees assessed by the Board**

Item	FY 1999	FY 2000
Receipts	\$117,000	125,000
Direct Disbursements	98,000	101,000

Fee	Amount
Application for written examination	200
Application for licensure	100
Annual Renewal (LMFT)	115

Annual LAMFT license	60
Licensure by reciprocity	300

### **III. Licensing Numbers**

#### **A. Persons licensed as of June 30, 2000:**

Licensed Marriage & Family Therapists:	663
Licensed Associate Marriage & Family Therapists:	86

#### **B. New licensed issued during the biennium:**

Licensed Marriage & Family Therapists	47
Licensed Associate Marriage & Family Therapists	86

### **IV. Complaints**

#### **A. Complaints received**

This data contains information on complaints which the Board felt there was a possible violation of statute or ethical code.

Item	FY 1999	FY 2000
Complaints received	4	13
<b>Complaints by type</b>		
A. Violation of confidentiality	2	6
B. Lack of professional competence	2	4
C. Sex with client, supervisee or student		1
D. Other dual relationship		2

#### **B. Open complaints on June 30, 2000**

Item	FY 1999	FY 2000
1. Complaints open	1	5
2. Open more than 3 months	1	2
3. Open more than 6 months	0	0

#### **C. Closed complaints on June 30, 2000**

Item	FY 1999	FY 2000
1. Number closed	3	8
2. Deposition by type		
a) Revocation		1
3. Agreement for corrective action	1	3
4. Dismissal or closure	2	4