

CONTACT & GENERAL INFORMATION

Name Katharine (Katie) Vernoy Relevant degree(s) MS, Clinical Psychology

Home Address

Bus. Address

Phone: (Day) (Evening)

Email Address
(All Board and Committee Members shall be e-mail accessible.)

Occupation Therapist, Coach, Consultant

Number of years as a CAMFT Member 5

EDUCATION & LICENSE INFORMATION

List all licenses which you hold and the date each license was issued. (Note: You are considered to be licensed if you hold an active, inactive, delinquent or retired license.)

<u>License:</u> LMFT 42604	<u>Date Issued:</u> 12/06/05
<u>License:</u>	<u>Date Issued:</u>
<u>License:</u>	<u>Date Issued:</u>

From what school did you graduate that qualified you for each license?
California State University, Fullerton

DISCLOSURE OF ADVERSE ACTION

Are you a party to any litigation, or are you or have you been involved in any other legal proceeding that may adversely affect the Association or the profession, should you be elected to serve on the Board?

Yes No

If yes, please explain on a separate page.

Has any licensing board, regulatory body, or ethics/peer review committee of a professional association ever taken any disciplinary action against you or a license/registration/certification held by you?

Yes No

If yes and action was taken by a licensing board or regulatory body or an ethics/peer review committee of a professional association OTHER THAN CAMFT, please attach a detailed explanation.

If yes and the matter involves an action taken by the CAMFT Ethics Committee, please indicate below and provide your consent, below, acknowledging that your application will be forwarded to the CAMFT Ethics Committee to provide a recommendation regarding your application. In providing its recommendation, the Ethics Committee would not divulge information regarding the nature of your case.

_____ I consent to my application being forwarded to the CAMFT Ethics Committee to provide a recommendation.

BOARD POSITION

Choose the position for which you wish to run. Click on each title to view a detailed job description.

- President-Elect
- Chief Financial Officer
- Clinical Board Director-At-Large (Elected by Clinical Membership)

BACKGROUND & EXPERIENCE

Describe your past and current activities within CAMFT or CAMFT Chapter.

Currently: Clinical Board Director-At-Large for CAMFT (appointed to 2016-2018 term). I have served on the following CAMFT committees and tasks forces: Purview, PAC, Educational Foundation Scholarship Committee, Grass Roots Advocacy, CAMFT Connects, and Special Interest Group. Previously: During my 3-year tenure in the president cycle for LB/SB CAMFT board, I supported infrastructure (updating policies and procedures, bylaws, chapter incorporation). I presented on membership efforts in a 2015 CLC breakout session. Since 2013, I volunteer annually for the LB/SB CAMFT Job Fair (and last year for the OC CAMFT Practicum and Internship Faire). I regularly attend and participate in local chapter meetings and support chapters (LA, OC, SFV, SGV, and LBSB) and their members in whatever way I can.

Describe any community activities you are involved in or have been involved in, including the offices held.

I am the sponsorship chair of the South Bay Business Women's Association, an organization that provides scholarships for women. I have participated in The Exchange Los Angeles and Business Network International (both community networking organizations). I held the following offices while in BNI: Vice President, President, and Education Coordinator. In community mental health, I represented my agency in the Association of Community Health Service Agencies, a group supporting communication and advocacy on relevant policy. I also regularly met with the fellow heads of clinical programs in LA County discussing government contract mandates and identifying options for implementation as well as the need for advocacy and change.

List the special interest(s) in your clinical practice or internship.

In addition to a clinical practice focused on helping women heal from complex childhood trauma, I am a consultant for therapists at all stages in their careers: applying for their first clinical jobs, launching a practice, and managing employees. I teach resume writing, interview, and job skills, so clinicians can obtain paid work and position themselves for advancement. I hold workshops for practice building. I also provide management consultation for group practice owners and mental health executives who want to expand their agencies or large group practices, improve their leadership and management skills, and further develop their infrastructure and procedures. I also will support leaders with recruiting and training on how to hire clinicians.

Describe your education, training and/or experience which has qualified you for MFT licensure:

After earning a bachelor's in psychology from Occidental College, I worked in community mental health as a paraprofessional. In 2003, I obtained my masters of science in Clinical Psychology at CSUF. When I completed my practicum, I was hired as a fee split clinician and counselor at their dual-diagnosis treatment facility. A year later, I moved to LA and moved full-time into community mental health as a clinician. I gained most of my pre-licensed hours at Masada Homes and Los Angeles Child Guidance Clinic. I worked in a number of mental health programs (outpatient, day treatment, and intensive services).

What are the reasons you would like to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of CAMFT?

In community mental health, I held roles ranging from paraprofessional to Division Director in a broad array of programs such as outpatient, day treatment, group home, CalWORKs, Full Service Partnerships, Therapeutic Behavioral Services, and Wraparound. I have also worked in private practice since 2010 and as a recruiter and consultant since 2013. Throughout my varied career, I have seen that MFTs are not often given the same opportunities as social workers and psychologists. In addition, mental health stigma continues to impede decisions related to seeking treatment as well as policy-making. I would like to continue to have a real impact on how mental health services are perceived, how they are accessed, and how those who provide them are viewed and compensated.

What strengths do you have in your background and/or experience that are relevant to your candidacy?

My first management position was for an ailing mental health program within a larger organization. I was tasked to fix a number of problems. At each step of the way, I collaborated with my team, encouraging creative ideas and engaging buy-in for selected solutions. By the end of my first year, the program won an award from LA County for innovative best practices and received a near perfect review. In my management roles, I was also frequently the representative for my agency at Los Angeles County meetings. Representing my agency at these larger meetings required balancing advocacy with compromise and relationship building. I want to share these leadership and management skills through my continued State CAMFT Board service.

What aspect of being a Board member will help you meet your personal goals?

My passion is helping mental health professionals obtain the opportunities and support they need to create careers that are meaningful and sustainable. Therapists are vitally important to the self-awareness and mindfulness that lead to more peaceful relations, to the recovery and wellness that support health, and to the growth that provides space for creativity and innovation. When the mental health community works effectively, people feel better and society as a whole flourishes. Being a Board member with the infrastructure and support of CAMFT, I am able to serve mental health professionals more effectively. I can add my voice to the advocacy. I can share my ideas for the visibility and growth of the profession. I can know that I'm doing my part to further our profession and the field of mental health.

What CAMFT programs/activities interest you and why?

My skills as a manager and consultant lend themselves well to Strategic Planning, as I have the ability to see both the big picture and the small details required to reach larger goals. I am passionate about having a well-thought-out plan. I know that Advocacy is a big function of CAMFT's mission and I feel one of the most important. I would like to continue my involvement in Grass Roots Advocacy. I love so many of the new initiatives and activities of CAMFT that I cannot list them all here. I am happy to be of service in whatever way I can.

What new programs/activities would you like to see CAMFT embark upon? What do you think would make CAMFT more effective?

The most recent strategic plan has goals for increasing leadership and engagement of the members as well as increasing the diversity of membership. I believe that there are many new committees and programs designed to do just that. We must also reach out to MFTs in all different settings to explore what they want from their professional organization and what would inspire their participation in the community. We need our unengaged members, and those who have chosen not to join our organization, to inform decisions about new resources, activities and programs. With a new Executive Director on the near horizon, it is important that we have a diversity of voices (especially MFT voices) helping to shape the next iteration of CAMFT.

What aspects of the office you seek are most and least attractive to you?

The opportunity to serve all California MFTs is a very attractive way to pursue my personal mission to support helping professionals. The members of our profession need CAMFT's strong advocates, teachers, and mentors to increase our opportunities for employment, improve the efficacy of our clinical work, and enhance the outcomes for our clients. I am motivated to take part in steering this powerful organization that so greatly benefits our members. This work naturally involves a large time commitment. If I can help to provide more therapists with the opportunities to comfortably support their families, feel empowered and respected in their profession, and have time to spend with their families, I am willing to make this time commitment for my term of service to CAMFT.

What is your five-year vision for CAMFT?

I believe that CAMFT must continue to provide the hallmark benefits to its members (advocacy and legal advice) while also creating new resources in response to members' and other stake holders' feedback. We need to look at expanding offerings based on the clinical, business, and career needs of MFTs as well as the legal needs that we are already so adept at managing. Further, Marriage and Family Therapists are the primary consumers of the professional resources, so we are best able to identify what resources are needed. We need specific plans to increase the power of the MFT voice within CAMFT to support our new Executive Director.

What is your one-year vision for CAMFT?

CAMFT is undergoing major change over the next year. A new Executive Director (ED) promises to bring new ideas to support the evolving mission for CAMFT. I think the most important focus for the next year will be a smooth transition for the new ED, helping him or her to learn what we have done well to this point and where we can improve. This year can really be dedicated to assessment and evaluation, with time spent in planning the next stages. This assessment and evaluation can also be balanced with nurturing some newer initiatives during this critical time. Our newly formed Grass Roots Advocacy team is an exciting example. Growing the team while supporting other efforts (email and phone campaigns from all members) should continue as we support the new ED in taking the reins. It is important to set clear priorities related to all the new initiatives, so that they are not lost in the transition.