

Boundaries and Ethics Vignettes

Room 1

Anna has worked with Franco for a year as a Peer Supporter. She has seen Franco make tremendous strides in his recovery and recently attended his graduation with an AA degree from Community College. She attended the reception for all graduates following the reception.

At your next appointment, Franco tells her, "I want to thank you for all you've done for me. I think you are a beautiful, loving person. And I have to tell you that I'm in love with you—I want to be more than your client. And I think you have feelings for me, too."

How would you respond, and which factor would guide the response?

Room 2

You have been the primary staff working with Lupita since she came to your program five years ago. Lupita is blossoming and now has a job in the community and has become an inspiration to other clients at the agency. Lupita is very grateful for all that you've done and one day she brings in a gift, it is a silver charm bracelet with charms that have selected specifically for you, and she also brought in a tray of snacks for the whole staff.

How would you respond, and which factor would guide the response?

Room 3

Maya is an outgoing staff and loves getting to know every client that comes into your agency. One of the clients asked about her religious beliefs, specifically they wanted to know if she believes in God and participates in a church. Maya freely talked about her religious beliefs and how important it is for her to go to church each week. She explained how spirituality plays a big role in her recovery.

How would you respond, and which factor would guide the response?

Room 4

Steve, a newer client to your agency; he is a single father of a five-year-old child and is homeless. Steve refuses to take psychiatric medication because of the side effects and instead uses marijuana on a daily basis because he states that it helps him with his mental health diagnoses. The team is concerned that his marijuana use may be creating a neglectful situation for his five-year-old child.

How would you respond, and which factor would guide the response?

Room 5

Staff and members organized a group community integration activity at the beach. During the event one of the members approaches a staff requesting assistance with applying suntan lotion to their back because they are on a medication that specifically states that direct sunlight is a major contraindication.

How would you respond, and which factor would guide the response?