



Society of Refugee Healthcare Providers Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Committee Charter

Purpose:

The mission of the MHPSS Committee is to expand and integrate interventions, practices, and activities that promote the mental health and emotional wellbeing of both forcibly displaced individuals, families, and communities and the healthcare providers who serve them, within the Society of Refugee Healthcare Providers and the broader refugee health provider discipline.

Vision:

The MHPSS Committee aims to serve as a resource for its members, highlight best and promising practices, share relevant materials, and promote inclusive frameworks that improve access to mental health support for forcibly displaced communities and strengthen the wellbeing of the providers who serve them.

Goals and Responsibilities:

The MHPSS Committee will:

- Ensure community voices, including those of providers with lived experience, are included in all activities.
- Promote the inclusion of MHPSS topics in the annual Society conference, including participation in planning and abstract review, with attention to both client care and provider wellbeing, resilience, and sustainability.
- Share MHPSS resources, such as research, best practices, and educational materials, with committee members and the society at large, including resources on provider self-care, burnout prevention, and vicarious trauma management.
- Build capacity and provide training opportunities for Society members and forcibly displaced communities on both evidence-based interventions and strategies to support provider mental health and prevent compassion fatigue.
- Develop a framework for MHPSS work in refugee, asylum, and integration settings that addresses both client and provider wellbeing, complementing the existing IASC framework for emergency humanitarian settings.
- Foster peer support networks and create spaces for providers to share experiences, challenges, and strategies for strengthening practice and maintaining their own mental health and wellbeing while working with displaced populations.

Membership:

- Up to 25 committee member seats.
- At least five positions reserved for individuals with lived experience of forced displacement.
- Members must have relevant MHPSS experience/expertise, such as clinician or work as a peer or paraprofessional.
- Members serve a minimum of two years, with the option to extend.
- All members must be active members of the Society for Refugee Healthcare Providers.

Leadership Roles:

- The committee will have two Co-Chairs and one Vice-Chair.
- Leadership meets monthly.
- Co-Chairs and Vice-Chair serve for a minimum of two years.



- Committee members will elect new Co-Chairs and a Vice-Chair every two years.
- Co-Chairs: Responsible for outreach, scheduling meetings, developing agendas, and advancing the committee's mission and vision.
- Vice-Chair: Responsible for identifying and sharing MHPSS resources with committee members and the Society Executive Director.

Meetings:

- At least four all-member meetings per year, scheduled by leadership.
- A conference planning subcommittee may hold additional meetings related to the annual conference.