# CODE OF ETHICS

Transcendence School of the Healing Arts is dedicated to providing a safe and ethical environment for students to learn the art of massage therapy. To ensure this we have created a code of Ethics to let students know what is and what not is acceptable in the profession of massage therapy.

## 1. Commitment to High-Quality Care

Students are expected to keep the best interests of their clients in mind at all times, while providing the highest quality of bodywork and service possible. Students recognize that the obligation for building and maintaining an effective, healthy, and safe therapeutic relationship with my clients is their responsibility.

### 2. Commitment to Do No Harm

Students will conduct a thorough health history intake process for each client and evaluate the health history to rule out contraindications or determine appropriate session adaptations. They will provide services within the scope of practice for massage therapists and bodywork professionals only when there is a logical expectation that the service(s) will be beneficial to the client. Students must acknowledge the contraindications and limitations for massage therapy and refer clients to other health-care professionals when indicated.

### 3. Commitment to Honest Representation of Qualifications

Students will not work outside the commonly accepted scope of practice for massage therapists and bodywork professionals. They will adhere to my state or local jurisdiction's scope of practice guidelines (when applicable). Students will only provide treatments and techniques for which they are fully trained and hold appropriate credentials. Students will carefully evaluate the needs of each client and refer the client to another provider if the client requires work beyond their capabilities, or beyond the capacity of massage and bodywork. Students will not use the trademarks and symbols associated with a particular system or group without authentic affiliation. Students will acknowledge the limitations of massage and bodywork by refraining from exaggerating the benefits of massage therapy and related services throughout their marketing

### 4. Commitment to Uphold the Inherent Worth of All Individuals

Students will demonstrate compassion and respect for others. Students will seek to decrease discrimination, misunderstandings, and prejudice. Students will not refuse service to any client based on disability, ethnicity, gender identity, marital status, physical build, or sexual orientation; religious, national, or political affiliation; or social or economic status.

# 5. Commitment to Respect Client Dignity and Basic Rights

Students will demonstrate their respect for the dignity and rights of all individuals by providing a clean, comfortable, and safe environment for sessions, using appropriate and skilled draping procedures, giving clients recourse in the event of dissatisfaction with treatment, and upholding the integrity of the therapeutic relationship.

### 6. Commitment to Informed Consent

Students will recognize a client's right to determine what happens to their body. Students understand that a client may suffer emotional and physical harm if a therapist fails to listen to the client and imposes their own priorities in a session. Students will fully inform their clients of choices related to the client's care and will disclose policies and limitations that may affect the client's care. Students will not provide massage without obtaining a client's informed consent (or that of the guardian or advocate for the client) to the session plan. Students will respect the client's right to decline, modify, or stop the massage/bodywork session regardless of any prior consent they've given.

# 7. Commitment to Confidentiality

Students will keep client communication and information confidential and will not share client information without the client's written consent, or unless it is medically necessary or required by law. Students will ensure every effort is made to respect a client's right to privacy and provide an environment where personal health-related details cannot be overheard or seen by others.

#### 8. Commitment to Personal and Professional Boundaries

Students will refrain from and prevent behaviors that may be considered sexual in their massage practice and uphold the highest professional standards in order to desexualize massage. Students will not date a client, engage in sexual intercourse with a client, or allow any level of sexual impropriety (behavior or language) from clients or myself, whether consensual or otherwise. Students understand that sexual impropriety may lead to sexual harassment charges, the loss of my massage credentials, lawsuits for personal damages, criminal charges, fines, attorney's fees, court costs, and jail time.

#### 9. Commitment to Honesty in Business

Students will know and follow good business practices with regard to record keeping, regulation compliance, and tax law. Students will set fair fees and practice honesty throughout their marketing materials. Students will not accept gifts, compensation, or other benefits intended to influence a decision related to a client. Students will not use logos without the consent of the owner of the logo.

#### 10. Commitment to Professionalism

Students will maintain clear and honest communication with clients and colleagues. Students will not use recreational drugs or alcohol before or during massage sessions. Students will project a professional image with respect to their behavior and personal appearance in keeping with the highest standards of the massage profession. Students will not actively seek to take someone else's clients, or disrespect a client, colleague, or other allied professional. Students will actively strive to positively promote the massage and bodywork profession by committing to self-development and continually building their professional skills.