



Pee Dee AHEC

Practical Principles for Establishing a Safe and Secure Connection in the Therapeutic Relationship

Wednesday, September 2, 2026

9:00am - 12:00pm

McLeod Medical Office Building South

1st Floor Small Conference Room

506 E. Cheves St. Florence, SC 29506



DESCRIPTION

Therapists and counselors consistently emphasize the importance of establishing a safe, secure, and trusting relationship with their clients. For many theorists, including Susan Johnson, Carl Rogers, and Irvin Yalom, this sense of connection is not just a helpful component of therapy—it is the primary goal. From this perspective, healing occurs through the relationship itself.

Other therapeutic approaches, such as cognitive behavioral therapy and family systems therapy, tend to view connection differently. In these models, the therapeutic relationship is important, but it serves more as a pathway to achieving specific goals rather than being the central focus. As a result, connection may receive less emphasis.

Even so, across all approaches, the presence of a strong therapeutic connection plays a crucial role in successful outcomes. Developing this kind of relationship is rarely simple; it often involves navigating challenges, uncertainties, and complexities.

This seminar is designed to introduce five key principles that are essential for understanding and managing the complexities of building meaningful therapeutic connections.

OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this program, I am able to:

- Define the meaning of a safe and secure connection.
- Describe the important characteristics of connection.
- Present five principles for creating a safe and secure connection.

INSTRUCTOR

Joe Baroody, D. Min, LPC

Dr. Baroody is an ordained minister, a former hospital chaplain at McLeod, and for the last thirty years, a Licensed Professional Counselor. He has a Master of Divinity and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, in Wake Forest, NC. He directs a nonprofit organization, Baroody Pastoral Counseling, that provides spiritual/psychological care regardless of a person's ability to pay. He is the author of numerous articles and two books: "Chronicles of an Irreverent Reverend: What Goes Wrong Can Make You Better" (2013) and "Second Chronicles: The Irreverent Reverend Rides Again" (2022).

TARGET AUDIENCE

Counselors/Therapists, Social Workers, and any other healthcare professional

FEES

Consortium Member: \$35

Non-consortium Member: \$70

Deadline to register: 9/1/26

CREDITS

Counselor/Therapist: This program is approved for 3.0 hours of continuing education by Pee Dee AHEC, a division of SC AHEC, under its accreditation by the South Carolina Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Psycho-Educational Specialists.

Social Worker: This program is approved for 3.0 non-social work hours of continuing education by Pee Dee AHEC, a part of the South Carolina AHEC system, as defined by the South Carolina Board of Social Work Examiners.

AHEC: This program provides 0.3 CEUs by Pee Dee AHEC and meets South Carolina AHEC Best Practice Standards.

[REGISTER HERE](#) or Scan the QR code



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