5. Jurisdictional issues impacting the practice of MFT (practice across state lines)

- May an LMFT licensed in another jurisdiction provide electronic therapy to an individual located in Minnesota?

Not at this time; MN’s MFT Practice Act does not include a guest or general temporary licensure statute which allows the MN Board of MFT to authorize an individual not licensed in this state to engage in the practice of MFT in Minnesota. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is possible the MN Governor’s Office may issue an Executive Order authorizing such practice, but as of April 1, no such Order has been issued. Should an Order be issued in the future, this posting will be updated. Limited teletherapy (1-3 sessions) with a MN resident by a mental health professional licensed in another jurisdiction to assist the client in transitioning to a MN LMFT would likely not raise issues or cause for Board action; however, extended teletherapy with a MN resident, absent MN licensure, is not authorized unless a MN license is issued.

- May a MN LMFT provide electronic therapy to a client located in another state?

Perhaps; a growing number of states have issued emergency orders allowing the practice of telehealth by health professionals licensed in another jurisdiction or already had guest/temporary practice statutes in place. Each state may have different requirements to participate (such as registering with a specific office in that state prior to engaging in telehealth, etc.). As stated above, Minnesota is not yet one of those states, so individuals not licensed in MN cannot engage in telehealth services in Minnesota at this time. However, a MN LMFT may be able to provide services in another jurisdiction, absent licensure, if the state has an emergency order or statute authorizing such practice and the LMFT meets the Order’s requirements.