College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario

Type of Policy: Operational	**Approved By: Registrar & CEO**
Date Approved: September 14, 2026	**Next Review Date: September 2027**
Amendment Dates:	

Policy on Primary Support Person Funding for Allegations of Sexual Abuse

PURPOSE

To establish a process for the administration of the College's Primary Support Person Therapy and Counselling Fund.

SCOPE

This policy applies to the administration of the Primary Support Person Therapy and Counselling Fund.

DEFINITIONS

Client: For the purpose of sexual abuse allegations, an individual is a client of a registrant if there is direct interaction between the registrant and the individual, and any of the following conditions are satisfied:

- The registrant has, in respect of a health care service provided by the registrant to the individual, charged or received payment from the individual or a third party on behalf of the individual.
- The registrant has contributed to a health record or file for the individual.
- The individual has consented to the health care service recommended by the registrant.

For the purposes of sexual abuse allegations, an individual remains a client for five years following the termination of the professional relationship.

Primary Support Person: The individual providing direct support to a client who has alleged sexual abuse in a report or complaint to the College. The primary support person is the parent or legal guardian of a client who has been sexually abused and /or the individual providing direct support to the client. The primary support person may be a family member, friend, or any individual with a personal relationship with the client.

Primary Support Person Therapy and Counselling Fund: A supplementary fund offered by the College to provide funding for counselling or therapy to the primary support person of a client who has alleged, in a complaint or report, that they were sexually abused by a registrant.

Policy

The College will offer a Primary Support Person Therapy and Counselling Fund to provide financial assistance for access to counselling or therapy for the support person of a client who has alleged sexual abuse by a registrant.

CRPO will provide $600.00 in a dedicated fund for the primary support person of a client who has alleged sexual abuse to access for the purposes of seeking related therapy or counselling. The funds will be paid directly to the therapist or counsellor unless otherwise authorized.

Only one primary support person is eligible for fund access in each case.

The primary support person will have access to the funds for five years.

Primary Support Person Eligibility
A support person is eligible to access the fund provided a complaint or report has been made to the College alleging sexual abuse of a client by a registrant.

Provider Eligibility
Providers are eligible to provide services provided they are not a member of the client's family or a member of the primary support person's family, and have never been found guilty of sexual abuse in any jurisdiction.

Fund Use Verification
The College may require therapists and counsellors who are providing therapy or counselling funded through the program and support persons who are receiving such therapy or counselling to provide a written statement, signed in each case by the therapist or counsellor and by the person, which statement shall contain:

1. details of the therapist or counsellor's training and experience;
2. confirmation that the therapy or counselling is being provided to the support person; and
3. confirmation that the funds received will be devoted only to therapy or counselling that is related in whole or in part to the sexual abuse by the Registrant.

PROCESS

Applications for funding are to be sent directly to the College. The College can be reached through either of the following:
Email: clientrelations@crpo.ca
Mail: College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario (CRPO)
375 University Avenue, Suite 800
Toronto, ON M5G 2J5

POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually, following the release of the OHIP Schedule of Benefits.