

Community Psychoanalysis Certificate Program (CPCP)

What can psychoanalysis offer beyond the consulting room?

Apply now to join our incoming class and explore together

Expand and enrich your clinical work by engaging in a two-year, scholarship supported, certificate program that melds didactic learning, experiential reflective groups, and opportunities for hands-on placements in community agencies or nonprofits.

Fridays
12:00 pm – 1:15 pm
Via Zoom
September 4, 2026 – May 7, 2027
(20 CME/CE total credits)

The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis (WBCP) is now accepting applications for the 2026-2028 Community Psychoanalysis Certificate Program (CPCP).

Applications must be received by June 30, 2026. Acceptance will be no later than July 24, 2026.

Who should apply:

The CPCP is a program for licensed social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, counselors, advanced practice registered nurses and all mental health/health care professionals who have an interest in understanding how to utilize psychoanalytic/psychodynamic principles to inform work in community settings. This is a unique opportunity to bridge clinical practice, community engagement and social justice.

The Program: Year 1

Year 1 of the CPCP will be held on two Fridays per month from 12:00 – 1:15 pm, totaling 16 sessions (see calendar below for specific dates). Each month, one session will be a didactic class and the other will consist of community case presentations within an experiential Balint group. The program also includes direct community engagement. For those not yet involved in community work, a limited number of placements are available, with a time commitment of 1-2 hours/month, excluding commuting time. Some placements will be conducted via Zoom.

Calendar

2026 – 8/28 (Orientation), 9/4, 9/18, 10/2, 10/16, 11/6, 11/20, 12/4, 12/18

2027 – 1/15, 1/29, 2/19, 3/5, 3/19, 4/2, 4/16, 5/7

Didactic Classes (8 Sessions) - Classes will be facilitated by local, national, and international faculty who will share their experiences and insights on applying psychoanalytic concepts beyond the consulting room in community settings, with a strong focus on reflective group work.

A list of faculty can be found on the WBCP website:

<https://www.wbcp.org/community-psychoanalysis-certificate-program/>

- **Reflective Groups (8 Sessions)** - Reflective Balint-style experiential groups with program participants are designed to create a safe space for empathic support of each other. These experiential groups help to develop creative ways of thinking about challenging situations both in a community and in private practice settings; help to identify emotional factors evoked in the complex relationships involved in the issue being presented; and fosters a bonding experience between the group members. Finally, being part of a Balint-style group helps develop an important skill set in this group methodology that can be applied to work in a myriad of community settings. In addition to immersion in a Balint-style group, the didactic classes will expose students to examples of other methods that are used in community settings.
- **Community Placements** - Working in a community setting is an important way of putting into practice the concepts taught in the program. Upon completion of Year 1, arrangements can be made, depending on availability, for a community placement for those not already involved in a community setting. At these placements, participants will both observe and lead a group using either the Balint modality or another reflective approach with care providers, staff, teachers or other community mental health/health care professionals.

Program: Year 2

The second year will include 8 didactic classes, with 4 faculty members each leading two consecutive sessions to facilitate a more in-depth exploration of their community work. Additionally, participants will continue Balint-style experiential groups, co-led by a senior Balint leader from the American Balint Society and, on an alternating basis, a CPCP participant from the group. This experience will enhance group leadership skills applicable to various community settings. It is expected that each participant's community engagement will continue throughout the second year.

Completion of Year 2 also qualifies participants for potential supervisory and teaching roles within CPCP.

Calendar for Year 2, '27-'28, will be posted Spring 2027.

Application Process for the Community Psychoanalysis Certificate Program:

Application Fee: \$75

Applications must be received by June 30, 2026.

Please submit the following application materials through the online portal. We only accept completed applications that include all the required written materials.

- A short personal essay (two pages maximum) describing the development of your interest and/or experience working in the community and what you hope to gain from this 2-year program.
Please note: This is not a psychoanalytic training program that leads to a certification to practice psychoanalysis; rather this is a program that teaches the application of psychoanalytic and/or psychodynamic principles to work in community settings.
- Your current curriculum vitae, including name, physical address, email address, and phone number.
- Two letters of recommendation from professionals who have direct knowledge of your clinical work inside and/or outside the consulting room. Please address letters of recommendation to:
 - Address letters to:
Joseph Chirico, Executive Director, WBCP
Email: joe@wbcp.org
 - Or
 - Please ask your references to upload their letters confidentially and securely to our portal using this link: <https://washingtoncenter.sharefile.com/r-r764d357595e54e4383ffdd74015f424d>

To Apply: https://wbcpc.memberclicks.net/application_cpcp_2026-2028

Tuition/Scholarship:

Thanks to the generous underwriting and financial scholarships provided by WBCP in support of this program, the cost to enroll in this program is \$375 per year.

For more information about the CPCP, please email the Program Co-Chairs:

Joy Kasset, PhD - jakassett@gmail.com

Deborah Feldheim, MD - drfeldheim@feldheim.net

Learning Objectives

1. Describe the different reflective approaches utilized in various community settings.
2. Demonstrate the Balint group approach and its applicability in community work.
3. List the key psychoanalytic principles and practices that have broad and important applications for working with all professionals in various settings.
4. List the guiding Balint principles and their interface with psychoanalytic principles and practices.

References

1. Bermudez, G. (2019). Community Psychoanalysis: A Contribution to an Emerging Paradigm. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, vol. 39 (5), 297-304
2. González, F.J. & Peltz, R. (2021). Community psychoanalysis: Collaborative practice as intervention. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, vol. 31 (4), 409-427
3. *Anna Freud and The Conscience of Society* by Elizabeth Ann Danto and Alexandra Steiner-Strauss
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=46g6VM9FSFQ&t=808s>

CVs Available Upon Request

There is no known commercial support for this program.

Continuing Education Information

Continuing Medical Education – This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of American Psychoanalytic Association and The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis. The American Psychoanalytic Association is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The American Psychoanalytic Association designates this live activity for a maximum of 20.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT: The APsA CE Committee has reviewed the materials for accredited continuing education and has determined that this activity is not related to the product line of ineligible companies and therefore, the activity meets the exception outlined in Standard 3: ACCME's identification, mitigation and disclosure of relevant financial relationship. This activity does not have any known commercial support.

Continuing Education – Social Workers – The programs of The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis, Inc. meet the criteria for continuing education as defined by the District of Columbia and Virginia Boards of Social Work, and the American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work. The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis, Inc. designates this program as a continuing education activity for social work for 1 credit hour per hour for this activity.

The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis, Inc. is authorized by the Board of Social Work Examiners in Maryland to sponsor social work continuing education learning activities and maintains full responsibility for this program. This training qualifies for Category 1 continuing education units.

Continuing Education – Psychologists – The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis, Inc. is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis, Inc. maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

Continuing Education – Licensed Professional Counselors – The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis, Inc. continuing education credits meet the criteria and may be submitted for re-licensure of LPCs in Maryland, DC, and Virginia. This program/activity has been approved by the Maryland State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists to satisfy Category A continuing education requirements.

Continuing Education Units are not issued for partial attendance