



# Balm of Gilead

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## Disclosure Statement

ALC BALM OF GILEAD holds to a firm conviction that people are responsible for their actions. The Balm of Gilead makes available an environment of love and acceptance, along with various teachings and experiences designed to provide tools for individual growth from sexual abuse. The application of these is the sole responsibility of the group member.

Due to the sensitive nature of topics presented and discussed in the Balm of Gilead support group, people with a background of emotional, psychological, or spiritual trauma may experience varying degrees of distress. The Balm of Gilead is not responsible for group member reactions to their experiences.

Balm is committed to providing reasonable confidentiality for its group members. Three exceptions may apply:

1. Balm of Gilead staff and leadership may discuss matters of concern with staff and leadership, if it seems necessary and is in the best interest of the group member(s).
2. If a group member discloses that she is currently abusing a child or an elderly person, that member will be encouraged to disclose that information to the proper authorities. If this is not done, the Balm of Gilead will do so.
3. If a group member makes threats to do bodily harm to herself or to another person, that member will be encouraged to seek intervention through a private counselor, social services, or the local police department. If the group member does not disclose this information to such agencies, the Balm of Gilead will do so.

Because the Balm of Gilead is a ministry devoted to helping those whose life has been altered by sexual abuse, group members can take on relationships of a personal nature. These relationships can be helpful in the healing process, and are therefore encouraged. If there is any confusion regarding the appropriateness of a relationship, please feel free to contact a Balm of Gilead team member or your group leader.

In the event that a dispute should arise between a group member and a Balm of Gilead team member(s), it is agreed by both parties that such dispute will be settled by the presentation of the facts in the matter to a mutually agreed upon mediator for consideration and judgment. The conclusions of this mediator shall be considered binding and no further civil action will be taken.

When you have read this document carefully, please sign and return one copy to the Balm leadership. Your signature below indicates that you have received, read, understood, and are in agreement with the contents of this document.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Print Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)