

**Local nonprofit the Institute for Rural Psychedelic Care seeks participants
for ketamine-assisted therapy program**

McLean Foundation-funded program aims to provide community care and healing to Eel River Valley
law enforcement officers and first responders

For Immediate Release

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Arcata, CA (Sept. 16, 2024)—Local nonprofit the Institute for Rural Psychedelic Care seeks frontline workers living or working in the Eel River Valley to participate in a new ketamine-assisted therapy program.

Created in response to the challenges faced by public servants in their work, the program is open to six law enforcement officers and first responders at no cost, thanks to a \$10,000 grant from the McLean Foundation, with an additional \$10,000 from the Saudade Institute. "Supporting our law enforcement officers and first responders in the Eel River Valley fits our call to empower our community partners in making our home all that it can be," says Denise Marshall, Executive Director of the McLean Foundation.

The program, which is slated to begin early 2025, will provide participants with several rounds of ketamine-assisted therapy, with individual sessions and group integration experiences to support the process. Modeled after affinity peer group support models, the program aims to provide local officers and first responders a space to process their healing of past traumas with others who understand the experience of working on the frontlines as they too go through the program.

"We are so grateful to be living in a community that recognizes the importance of supporting our law enforcement officers and first responders. This gift of healing to these critical members of our community is groundbreaking and in the best interest of all of us who depend on them," says Dr. Michael Fratkin, who will be heading the program. With almost thirty years experience of supporting individuals through traumatic life events, Fratkin sees the Eel River Valley program as providing essential healing care to those who often face the deepest struggles resulting from their roles in keeping the community safe.

Those interested in learning about participating in the program can reach out confidentially by contacting Michael Fratkin at (707) 496-6846 or support@ruralpsychedeliccare.org.

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The Institute for Rural Psychedelic Care is a Northern California-based non-profit founded by a team of seven local physicians, nurses and therapists with the two-fold mission of increasing access to ketamine-assisted therapy in Humboldt, Del Norte and Trinity counties and supporting psychedelic therapy research.