Limits of Confidentiality Disclosure Form

Informed Consent

The purpose of this form is to establish a contractual agreement / understanding between you the client and your licensed marriage and family therapist regarding the limits of confidentiality within the counseling relationship. This policy is in keeping with the ethical standards set forth by state licensing boards and professional organizations as well as in keeping with our desire to provide you with quality health care services. For additional information regarding your privacy as a client, please refer to the Notice of Privacy Practices document date 4-14-2003 provided to you at the time of your intake.

Limits of Confidentiality

It is my desire to protect the privacy of your health data including your verbal report and any written documentation recorded during and/or following sessions with you. However, confidentiality will be breached as required by law and/or ethical standards. For example, a breach will occur in the event of a court order; child abuse or neglect; abuse of a vulnerable adult; potential suicide; homicide or threat of physical harm to a specific identified victim. In addition, licensed marriage and family therapists are ethically bound to report any known sexual contact which has occurred between another mental health provider and his/her current or former clients within two years following treatment and/or in some cases in which a health care provider has engaged in unethical behaviors requiring a mandated report in their given field’s code of ethics. Therapists are also mandated reporters of pregnant women using certain illegal drugs (i.e., cocaine, heroine, methamphetamine, amphetamines, and/or phencyclidine).

In the case of treatment with a minor client, confidentiality is also limited by a parent’s “need to know” specifically in those situations that a child is believed to be at risk of harm to self or others and/or in those cases in which a parent or legal guardian specifically requests information as to the child’s progress. However, state law and/or ethical standards or practice limit a parent’s rights to a minor’s mental health information under certain circumstances including a minor female who is pregnant, information pertaining to a student’s chemical use, and/or cases in which a minor has separated from their parents and/or legal guardian. Minnesota State law authorize that a minor has the right to request that private data about them be kept from their parents. This request will be honored if it is believed to protect a child from physical or psychological harm.

I have read and discussed the information contained in this document with my therapist and understand the aforementioned limits to confidentiality.

Client’s Signature________________________________________ Date__________________

Parent/Guardian’s Signature________________________________ Date__________________