

Hope and Restoration Pathways Christian Counseling, In

INFORMED CONSENT FOR IN-PERSON SERVICES DURING COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

This document contains important information about our decision (yours and mine) to resume in-person services in light of the COVID-19 public health crisis. Please read this carefully and let me know if you have any questions. When you sign this document, it will be an official agreement between us.

Decision to Meet Face-to-Face

We have agreed to meet in person for some or all future sessions. If there is a resurgence of the pandemic or if other health concerns arise, however, I may require that we meet via telehealth. If you have concerns about meeting through telehealth, we will talk about it first and try to address any issues. You understand that, if I believe it is necessary, I may determine that we return to telehealth for everyone's well-being.

If you decide at any time that you would feel safer staying with, or returning to, telehealth services, I will respect that decision, as long as it is feasible and clinically appropriate. Reimbursement for telehealth services, however, is also determined by the insurance companies and applicable law, so that is an issue we may also need to discuss.

Risks of Opting for In-Person Services

You understand that by coming to the office, you are assuming the risk of exposure to the coronavirus (or other public health risk). This risk may increase if you travel by public transportation, cab, or ridesharing service.

Your Responsibility to Minimize Your Exposure

To obtain services in person, you agree to take certain precautions which will help keep everyone (you, me, and our families, [my other staff] and other patients) safer from exposure, sickness and possible death. If you do not adhere to these safeguards, you may place yourself or others needlessly at risk. These are understood as a condition of office based visits:

- You will only keep your in-person appointment if you are symptom free.
- You will take your temperature before coming to each appointment. If it is elevated (100 Fahrenheit or more), or if you have other symptoms of the coronavirus, you agree to cancel the appointment or consent to using telehealth.
- You will wait in your vehicle or outside until no earlier than 5 minutes before our appointment time.
- You will wash your hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when you enter the building.
- You will adhere to the safe distancing precautions we have set up in the waiting room and therapy room.
- You will keep a distance of 6 feet and there will be no physical contact (e.g. no shaking hands).
- If you are bringing your child, you will make sure that your child follows all of these sanitation and distancing protocols. After the therapist takes your child to the therapy room, parent will wait in their vehicle.

- If a resident of your home tests positive for the infection, you will resume treatment via telehealth and cancel office-based sessions.

My Commitment to Minimize Exposure

HARP Christian Counseling staff have taken steps to reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus. We are using a hospital grade, nontoxic disinfectant called ProKure V, along with other cleaning products to regularly clean the office. ProKure V is an EPA approved disinfectant known to kill COVID-19. Please let staff know if you have questions about these efforts.

If You or Your Therapist Are Sick

You understand that your therapist is committed to keeping you and all of our families safe from the spread of this virus. If you show up for an appointment office staff believe that you have a fever or other symptoms, or believe that you have been exposed, you will be asked to reschedule your session or to utilize telehealth.

Informed Consent

This agreement supplements the general informed consent/business agreement that we agreed to at the start of our work together.

Your signature below shows that you agree to these terms and conditions.

Client or parent

Date

Therapist

Date

Office Safety Precautions in Effect During the Pandemic

HARP Christian Counseling's office is taking the following precautions to protect our client and help slow the spread of the coronavirus.

- Office seating in the waiting room and in therapy/testing rooms has been arranged for appropriate physical distancing.
- HARP's staff will maintain safe distancing.
- We suggest phone check-in rather than contact at the front desk as you are arriving for a session. Call 919-793-6445 if you need to speak with either your clinician or an administrative staff member. Informing your clinician that your credit card on file can be charged at each session, unless notified otherwise, can be noted in your chart and simplify check in, making check in at the front desk less necessary.
- Restroom soap dispensers are maintained and everyone is encouraged to wash their hands.
- Hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol is available in several locations in the office.
- We are minimizing the number of clients in the waiting room, and individuals not receiving services are asked to wait in their car during their family member's session.
- We ask that clients wait outside in their vehicle until no earlier than 5 minutes before their appointment time.
- Clipboards, pens and other areas or items that are commonly touched are thoroughly sanitized after each use.
- Physical contact, such as hand shaking or hugging, will be deferred during this time.
- Tissues and trash bins are easily accessed. Trash is disposed of on daily frequent basis.
- Common areas are thoroughly disinfected intermittently during the day and at the end of each day.