



Family Restoration

COUNSELING SERVICES

Informed Consent for In-Person Services

In light of the unique circumstances brought on by the COVID-19 public health crisis, we take the health and wellbeing of our clients and clinicians seriously. This document contains important information about in-person services during these times, the benefits and risks associated with it, and the responsibilities assumed by both you, the client, and clinicians at Family Restoration Counseling Services (FRCS). Please read this carefully and let us know if you have any questions. Signature of this document is an official agreement between you, the client, and clinicians at FRCS.

Decision to Meet In-Person: The decision to meet in-person is made mutually by you, the client, and your therapist. If there is a resurgence of the pandemic or if other health concerns arise, however, your therapist may require that you meet via online teletherapy. If you have concerns about meeting through online teletherapy, please discuss this with your therapist first and try to address any issues. If your therapist believes it is necessary, they may decide to switch to online teletherapy for everyone's well-being.

If you decide at any time that you would feel safer switching to online teletherapy services, your therapist will respect that decision, as long as it is feasible and clinically appropriate.

Risks of Meeting In-Person: You understand that by visiting our 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 ride-sharing service.

Your Responsibility to Minimize Your Exposure: To obtain services in person, you agree to take certain precautions which will help keep everyone (you, your therapist, our clinicians, other clients, and our families) safer from exposure, sickness and possible death. If you do not adhere to these safeguards, it may result in your starting and/or returning to an online teletherapy arrangement.

The following are a list of actions that you, the client, agree to adhere by in order to maintain in-person services:

- You will only keep your in-person appointment if you are symptom free.
- You will monitor your temperature before each in-person session. If it is elevated (100 Fahrenheit or more), or if you have other symptoms of the coronavirus, you agree to cancel the appointment or proceed using online teletherapy. If you wish to cancel for this reason, you will not be charged our normal cancellation fee.
- You understand waiting in public waiting rooms may pose additional risk of exposure.
- You will wash your hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when you enter the building.
- You will wear a mask in all public areas of the office.
- You will keep a distance of 6 feet and there will be no physical contact (e.g. no shaking hands) with your therapist.
- You will take steps between appointments to minimize your exposure to COVID.
- If you have a job that exposes you to other people who are infected, you will immediately let our staff know.
- If a resident of your home tests positive for the infection, you will immediately let your therapist know and will then begin and/or continue treatment via telehealth.

Our Commitment to Minimize Exposure: Our practice has taken steps to reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus within the office and we have posted our efforts on our website and in the office. Please let us 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, themselves, and all of our families safe from the spread of this virus. If you show up for an appointment and your therapist believes that you have a fever or other symptoms, or believe you have been exposed, we will have to require you to leave the office immediately. We can follow up with services by telehealth as appropriate. If your therapist tests positive for the coronavirus, you will be notified you so that you can take appropriate precautions.

Your Confidentiality in the Case of Infection: If you have tested positive for the coronavirus, your therapist may be required to notify local health authorities that you have been in the office. If your therapist has to report this, they will only provide the minimum information necessary for their data collection and will not go into any details about the reason(s) for our visits. By signing this form, you are agreeing that your therapist may do so without an additional signed release.

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.