

Memorandum of Understanding for Those Supporting Client Treatment

Thank you for your willingness to come to our offices at Southwest Counseling Associates to support the treatment of your friend/family member. To help ensure the quality of our services, it is important to us that we are clear about some items with those who come to our offices to support the treatment of others. Please review the following list of important items and feel free to ask any questions you may have.

1. Although you are attending a session or sessions with your friend/family member you are not considered to be a client of Southwest Counseling Associates in this case and the attending clinician is not to be considered your personal therapist.
2. Because you are not a client of Southwest Counseling Associates in this case, you will not have over the further sharing of any information you provide to Southwest Counseling Associates in this matter. The client(s) for this case may decide to release any of their clinical information to another party, including any information that you share.
3. Although you are not a client of Southwest Counseling Associates in this case, the attending clinician is required by state law and the policies of this agency to release information to governing authorities under particular circumstances without either yours or a client's consent This includes:
 - a. A therapist is required to report any suspected incident of child abuse or neglect to law enforcement
 - b. A therapist is required to report any serious threat of imminent physical violence against a specific person or persons, including those identifiable by their association with a specific location or entity
 - c. A therapist is required to initiate a mental health evaluation of a person who is imminently dangerous to self or to others, or who is gravely disabled as a result of a mental disorder
 - d. A therapist is required to report any suspected threat to national security to federal officials
 - e. A therapist may be required by Court Order to disclose treatment information;
 - f. A therapist is required to report suspected neglect, abuse, or exploitation of elderly individuals
 - g. Our organization considers it an ethical obligation to report mistreatment, neglect or exploitation of at-risk adults. This includes suspected and/or observed incidents that involve adults who are at risk due to physical or mental causes.
4. The conditions for the release of information described in this memorandum are permanent. This agreement will allow you to attend Southwest Counseling Associates with your friend/family member for up to three office visits or one year, whichever comes first.

Statement of Understanding

I have read this memorandum of understanding. I understand the conditions as stated above and agree to participate in support of the counseling of my friend/family member under these conditions. I understand that I am entitled to a copy of this signed form.

Printed Name

Signature

Date

Witness Signature

Date