

## LIMITS OF CONFIDENTIALITY

Contents of all therapy sessions are considered to be confidential. Both verbal information and written records about a client cannot be shared with another party without the written consent of the client or the client's legal guardian. Noted exceptions are as follows:

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### Duty to Warn and Protect

When a client discloses intentions or a plan to harm another person, the mental health professional is required toward the intended victim and report the information to legal authorities. In cases in which the client discloses or implies a plan for suicide, the health care professional is required to notify legal authorities and make reasonable attempts to notify the family of the client.

### Abuse of Children and Vulnerable Adults

If a client states or suggests that he or she is abusing a child (or vulnerable adult) or has recently abused a child (or vulnerable adult) is in danger of abuse, the mental health professional is required to report this information to the appropriate social service and/or legal authorities.

### Prenatal Exposure to Controlled Substances

Mental health care professionals are required to report admitted prenatal exposure to controlled substances that are potentially harmful.

### Minor/ Guardianship

Parents or legal guardians of non-emancipated minor children have the right to access the clients' records.

### Insurance Providers (when applicable)

Insurance companies and other third party payers are given information that they request services to clients.

### Legal Proceedings

If you are involved in a court proceeding and a request is made for information concerning professional services that are provided to you, such information is protected by the therapist-client privilege. Information cannot be provided without your written permission, or a court order.

Information that may be requested includes, but is not limited to: types of service, dates/times of service, diagnosis, treatment plan, and description of impairment, progress of therapy, case notes, and summaries.