

Mandatory Disclosure Statement (please review and sign)

Risks and Benefits

Counseling (also referred to as psychotherapy or therapy) can have both risks and benefits. The therapy process may include discussions of your personal challenges and difficulties, which can elicit uncomfortable feelings such as sadness, guilt, anger and frustration. However, therapy has been shown to have many benefits. It can often lead to better interpersonal relationships, improved work or academic performance, solutions to specific problems, and an increased capacity to manage intense feelings. But, there is no assurance of these benefits. Therapy requires active involvement from both the client and counselor in order to work towards growth.

Client Commitment

As a client of Touchbase Counseling Services, I understand that I must be dedicated to attend sessions on a consistent basis in order to receive the greatest benefit from counseling services. If my therapist believes that I can receive more effective treatment elsewhere, I will be given a referral or referrals. I understand that I may not attend a session if I am under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or if I am in possession of a weapon of any kind. My signature below indicates my desire and consent to receive mental health services from Ric Taylor, MA, owner of Touchbase Counseling Services.

General Information about Information Privacy

The law protects the relationship between a client and a psychotherapist. Information disclosed in sessions cannot be disclosed without written permission. There are three exceptions:

1. Suspected child abuse or dependant adult or elder abuse. Therapists are required by law to report this to the appropriate authorities immediately.
2. If a client is threatening bodily harm to another person or persons, the therapist must notify the police and inform the intended victim.
3. If a client intends to harm him or herself, the therapist must work to enlist their cooperation to ensure their safety. If they do not cooperate, the law requires that the therapist take further measures with or *without* the client's permission to ensure the client's safety.

In accordance with Colorado State Law, the following information is provided to all persons entering or considering entering psychotherapy.

I am a Psychotherapist registered with the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies. I received my Masters Degree in Psychology from Regis University, Denver, CO in 2012. For ten years I facilitated deep emotional work with individuals and groups through the Mankind Project organization starting in 2000. As part of this experience I obtained training in facilitation, leadership, conflict resolution, group work, and have also designed and led trainings.

Client's Rights and Responsibilities

The practice of licensed or registered persons in the field of psychotherapy is regulated by the Mental Health Licensing Section of the Division of Registrations. The Board of Registered Psychotherapist Examiners can be reached at 1560 Broadway, Suite 1350, Denver, Colorado 80202, (303) 894-7800. As to the regulatory requirements applicable to mental health professionals:

1. Registered psychotherapist is a psychotherapist listed in the State's database and is authorized by law to practice psychotherapy in Colorado but is not licensed by the state and is not required to satisfy any standardized educational or testing requirements to obtain a registration from the state.
2. Certified Addiction Counselor I (CAC I) must be a high school graduate, complete required training hours and 1,000 hours of supervised experience.

3. Certified Addiction Counselor II (CAC II) must complete additional required training hours and 2,000 hours of supervised experience.
4. Certified Addiction Counselor III (CAC III) must have a bachelor's degree in behavioral health, complete additional required training hours and 2,000 hours of supervised experience.
5. Licensed Addiction Counselor must have a clinical master's degree and meet the CAC III requirements.
6. Licensed Social Worker must hold a master's degree in social work.
7. Psychologist Candidate, a Marriage and Family Therapist Candidate, and a Licensed Professional Counselor Candidate must hold the necessary licensing degree and be in the process of completing the required supervision for licensure.
8. Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, and a Licensed Professional Counselor must hold a master's degree in their profession and have two years of post-masters supervision.
9. A Licensed Psychologist must hold a doctorate degree in psychology and have one year of post-doctoral supervision.
10. In a professional relationship, sexual intimacy is never appropriate and should be reported to the board that licenses, registers, or certifies the licensee, registrant or certificate holder.
11. You are entitled to receive information from your therapist about the methods of therapy, the techniques used, the duration of your therapy (if known), and the fee structure. You can seek a second opinion from another therapist or terminate therapy at any time.
12. Generally speaking, the information provided by and to the client during therapy sessions is legally confidential and cannot be released without the client's consent. There are exceptions to this confidentiality, some of which are listed in section 12-43-218 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, as well as other exceptions in Colorado and Federal law. For example, mental health professionals are required to report suspected child abuse to authorities. If a legal exception arises during therapy, if feasible, you will be informed accordingly. The Mental Health Practice Act (CRS 12-43-101, et seq.) is available at: <http://www.dora.state.co.us/mental-health/Statute.pdf>.

I have read the preceding information, it has also been provided verbally, and I understand my rights as a client or as the client's responsible party.

Signature of Client

Printed Name of Client

Signature of Client

Printed Name of Client

Today's Date