
Positive Change Counseling Center

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INFORMED CONSENT & NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

Welcome to our practice. This packet contains important information about our professional services and business policies. We believe that a person who understands and participates in his or her care can achieve better and quicker results. Please read this carefully and jot down any questions you might have so that we can discuss them at our next meeting.

Introduction

Our therapists are Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists in the state of California. We specialize in working with couples, adolescents, adults, and families. We offer individual, couples and family therapy.

Therapeutic Services

Sessions are typically forty-five (45) minutes in length. Duration of treatment will depend on your needs, your treatment goals, and other factors related to your treatment responsibilities. As with any type of growth or change process, individual factors can significantly impact the rate and the degree of effectiveness of the therapeutic process. We will discuss your progress throughout treatment, including expected length of therapy.

Fees

You are responsible for paying your co-pay of \$ at the beginning of each session. You are responsible to pay your full co-payment at each session. It is customary to pay for professional services at the time they are rendered. You may pay by cash or check, made payable directly to Positive Change Counseling Center. Please be advised: if your insurance carrier denies payment for services rendered, you will be responsible for payment in full. If at any time you experience difficulties making your payment, we will be glad to discuss your concerns with you. In the event your check is returned for non-sufficient funds, you will be expected to pay for services by cash or money order and will also be charged a \$25.00 fee for your returned check.

Cancellation Policy

If you are unable to attend your session for any reason, please notify us at least 24 hours in advance. Failure to do so will result in a fee of \$50.00 and will be expected to be paid at your next session. Insurance companies typically do not reimburse for missed sessions, therefore this will be your responsibility.

Privacy and Confidentiality

Confidentiality: All therapy sessions are strictly confidential. There are specific situations in which a Marriage and Family Therapist is mandated or permitted by law to reveal information obtained during therapy to another person(s) or agencies without your permission. Exceptions to confidentiality are: Adult/Elder Abuse, Child Abuse and Danger to self or others.

Minors Right to Privacy: In our practice, we promote open communication between children and parents; however, when this does not occur, parents are encouraged to understand the importance of confidentiality within the therapeutic relationship.

Electronic Communication: Many people feel comfortable communicating via e-mail. However, there may be risks involved. There is no guarantee that spyware or other such programs will work 100% of the time. All e-mails will be stored on a password protected account that only your therapist will have access to.

