

# **Mimosa Christian Counseling Center, Inc.**

## **Service Agreement**

Welcome to Mimosa Christian Counseling Center. This Agreement contains important information about our professional services and business policies.

COUNSELING may involve individuals, families, couples, or groups. There are many different methods Mimosa Christian Counseling Center may use to deal with the problems that you hope to address. Counseling calls for a very active effort on the part of each individual.

Counseling can have benefits and risks. Since counseling often involves discussing unpleasant aspects of your life, you may experience uncomfortable feelings like sadness, guilt, anger, frustration, loneliness, and helplessness. However, counseling has been shown to have many benefits; such as, improving relationships, solutions to specific problems, and significant reductions in feelings of distress.

For the first visit, the counselor typically conducts an initial evaluation that will last approximately 90 minutes. During this time, you and the counselor will identify areas of concern and discuss treatment recommendations.

**PROFESSIONAL FEES:** Mimosa Christian Counseling Center's fee is \$125 for the initial session. After the initial session, the charge would be \$100 for a 50-minute session, \$50 for a session up to 30 minutes, \$35 for a one-hour group session. Once an appointment hour is scheduled, you will be expected to pay for it unless you provide 24 hours advance notice of cancellation. It is important to note that insurance companies do not provide reimbursement for cancelled sessions.

**BILLING AND PAYMENTS:** You will be expected to pay for each session at the time it is held, unless we agree otherwise or unless you have insurance coverage that requires another arrangement. Payment schedules for other professional services will be agreed to when they are requested.

**CONTACTING YOUR COUNSELOR:** Due to work schedules, your counselor is often not immediately available by telephone. While Mimosa Christian Counseling Center is usually open most weekdays between 9 AM and 5 PM, your counselor will not be able to answer the phone when in session with a client. When your counselor is unavailable, the telephone is answered by the receptionist or by voice mail that is monitored frequently. Your counselor will make every effort to return your call on the same day you make it, with the exception of weekends and holidays. When leaving a message, please inform your counselor of some times when you will be available. If you are unable to reach your counselor and feel that your situation is an emergency, contact your family physician or the nearest emergency room for assistance.

**LIMITS ON CONFIDENTIALITY and PROFESSIONAL RECORDS:** The Notice of Privacy Practices which you received explains HIPAA in greater detail.

**CLIENT RIGHTS:** Each voluntarily admitted client, or the client's legally responsible person, has the right to consent to or refuse the treatment being offered. For further information regarding client rights, please refer to the Notice of Privacy Practices which you received.

It is very important that you have read this document carefully and ask any questions you may have about the procedures. Your signature on the Acknowledgement of Receipt of Service Agreement will indicate that you have read the information in this document and agree to abide by its terms during our professional relationship.