

Better Care Counseling, LLC

Michelle Aletkin, MSW, LCSW

28870 US Highway 19 North, Suite 338

Clearwater, Florida 33761

Phone (727) 491-3999 Fax (727) 666-7624

www.bettercarecounseling.com

Date: _____ Home Phone _____ May we use this as a contact number? _____
Cell Phone _____ May we use this as a contact number? _____
Business Phone _____ May we use this as a contact number? _____

Email _____

May we use this to contact you to send you information for our client portal and newsletter? _____

Client Information (If minor use minor's information)

Name _____ Soc. Sec # _____

Last Name First Name Initial

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ May we contact you at this address? _____

Sex: ()F ()M AGE _____ Date of Birth _____ ()Single ()Married ()Divorced ()Widowed

Client Employed By _____ Occupation _____

Business Address _____

Street Address City State Zip

Whom may we thank for referring you? _____

In case of emergency who should be notified? _____ Phone: _____

Responsible Parties Information

Person Responsible For Account _____

Last Name First Name Initial

Relationship to Client _____ Birthdate _____ Soc. Sec # _____

Address if different from patient _____

Street Address City State Zip

Insurance Information

Policy Holder's name _____ Relationship to client _____

Birthdate of Policy Holder _____ Policy Holder's Employer _____

Insurance Company _____ Policy Holder's Soc. Sec # _____

Policy Number _____ Group Number _____ Is there a secondary insurance ()Y ()N

I, THE UNDERSIGNED CERTIFY THAT I (OR MY DEPENDENT) HAS THE ABOVE MENTIONED INSURANCE COVERAGE.

I UNDERSTAND IT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO INFORM THIS OFFICE WHENEVER ANY INFORMATION ON THIS FORM CHANGES.

I AGREE TO PRESENT THIS OFFICE WITH A PICTURE ID CARD (DRIVER'S LICENSE, MILITARY ID, STATE ID) AND IF APPLICABLE

MY INSURANCE CARD. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS OFFICE WILL MAKE A COPY OF MY ID AND INSURANCE CARD TO KEEP ON

FILE.

SIGNATURE OF RESPONSIBLE PARTY

RELATIONSHIP

DATE

PRINT RESPONSIBLE PARTIES NAME

SIGNATURE OF CLIENT IF DIFFERENT

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CLIENT RIGHTS

All individuals who apply for services, regardless of sex, race, age, color, creed, financial status or national origin are assured that their lawful rights as client shall be guaranteed and protected.

1. To be provided a copy of our office’s Privacy Notice.
2. To be treated with respect and dignity
3. To privacy for interview/counseling sessions.
4. To confidentiality

Exceptions:

- (a) The court may request information about clients and/or treatment without client consent
- (b) By law, all suspected cases of child abuse/neglect must be reported
- (c) By law, all suspected cases of elderly abuse/neglect must be reported
- (d) By law, “Whenever a patient has declared an intention to harm other persons, such declaration may be disclosed”.
- (e) If client fails to make good on a bounced check within a reasonable amount of time, some confidentiality information may be released so that the State Attorney’s office can collect on the outstanding debt.
- (f) If client fails to pay the balance of his or her account in full within a reasonable amount of time, some confidential information may be released so that the collections of the fees may be pursued.

5. To refuse treatment
6. To be informed of the client grievance procedure upon request
7. To receive full information regarding the treatment process

Please initial in the () parenthesis that are applicable

() I agree () I refuse

To have family/significant others participate in the treatment process including the provision of information about the effects of medication

Family/Significant other who is participating please initial in parenthesis below

() I agree () I refuse to participate in _____ treatment process

Additional information and explanation of the above rights has been given in the Notice of Privacy and is available upon request. Our office welcomes any questions or concerns.

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of this Client Rights Statement.

Signature of Client or Guardian if a Minor

Social Security Number

Date of Birth

Print Name

Date

Signature of Family/Significant Other

Print Family/Significant Other’s Name

Date

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CONSENT FOR SERVICES/TREATMENT

Client's Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Social Security # _____

I, the undersigned a client of Better Care Counseling, LLC

I, the undersigned, a (Parent of minor, Guardian, Guardian advocate) of the above named client

Who is a client of this office and the subject of this authorization, hereby authorize Better Care Counseling, LLC to administer mental health and/or substance abuse services/treatment, which may include psychotherapy, psychoeducational services and/or emergency evaluations.

I have been informed that this consent can be revoked orally or in writing prior to or during the treatment period. I acknowledge that there have been no guarantees or assurances made to me as to the results of services/treatments rendered by Better Care Counseling, LLC.

I am aware that I am financially responsible for any costs incurred as the result of services/treatment rendered by this office.

I have read and fully understand the above Consent for Services/Treatment.

Date of Consent

Client Signature

Print Client's Name

Parent of Minor/Guardian/Guardian Advocate Signature

Print Name

***The client shall always be asked to sign this authorization form. In addition, a parent of a minor, guardian or guardian advocate is required to sign this form.**

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APPOINTMENT POLICIES, FEES AND AGREEMENTS

1. Should you need to cancel or reschedule an appointment, we require at least **24 hour's notice**. Should you not provide this notice, or not show for an appointment, you will be charged the full session fee.
2. Our office does not have an answering service. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause you. We will do our best to respond within 24 business hours, however we are unable to guarantee immediate returns of emergency telephone calls. Therefore, **in the case of an emergency, please go to the nearest hospital or call 911.**
3. The fees for services are \$125.00 per 45 minute session. Reports, letters, court reports, court appearances, and additional services have different fees and those will be discussed and agreed upon prior to the service.
4. **My insurance company is entitled to any medical or other information necessary to process my claims. Signature on File is to be used on all my insurance submissions. My counselor may act as my agent in helping me obtain payment from my insurance company. The insurance payment is to go directly to my counselor. The insurance co-payment is due at the time of service. I authorize use of this form on all my insurance submissions. I permit a copy of this authorization to be used in place of the original.**
5. Clients without insurance are expected to pay in full at the time of the service. Therefore it is agreed that I will pay \$125.00 for each 45 minute session.

Client Signature or Guardian Signature if a Minor _____

Date _____

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APPOINTMENT POLICIES, FEES AND AGREEMENTS

6. If your insurance payment is not received within 60 days, or if the amount paid by your insurance is less than expected, you will be responsible for the total amount remaining.
7. For services rendered to a minor dependent, the **Parent or Guardian who signs this form** is the one responsible for the balance.
8. There is a \$30.00 **fee for any returned checks**. If failure for paying on a bad check in a timely manner occurs, I give my consent for this office to employ the State Attorney's Office to collect on the outstanding debt. I understand to bounce a check and not make the outstanding check good in a timely manner is a crime, and this office does prosecute to the fullest extent by law.
9. **In failure of paying my account in a timely manner, I give my consent for this office to employ another agency** (i.e., attorney, or collection agency) to collect any outstanding debt. I understand that I will be responsible for any additional costs. I understand that all necessary records will be released to the retained agency.

If you have any questions regarding the above agreement, please feel free to speak with your therapist.

I have read, understood and agreed to the following terms for services:

Print Name	Social Security Number
Date of Birth _____	
Signature of Client or Guardian if a Minor	Date
Minor's Date of Birth	Minor's Name
Minor's Signature	Date

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CREDIT CARD INFORMATION ON FILE

In the event that you do not show up for a scheduled appointment, or if you give less than **24 hours' notice** for a cancellation (without a **mutually agreed** upon emergency), your credit card on file will be charged the full fee for your missed session. By signing this form, you authorize Better Care Counseling, LLC to charge your credit card on file in these circumstances.

*Please note that this form and your credit card information will be uploaded into a secure and encrypted online system and this original form will be destroyed. Under **NO** circumstances will your credit card information ever be shared.

Please provide your credit card information below

Credit Card Number

Expiration Date

Name of the person listed on the credit card

Zip code

CVV Code

Signature of Cardholder

Date

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SIGNATURE ON FILE

Please initial in front of each subject that applies to you and sign at the bottom of the page. Thank you.

- _____ I authorize use of this form on all my insurance submissions
- _____ I authorize release of information to all my insurance companies
- _____ I understand that I am responsible for my bill
- _____ I authorize Better Care Counseling, LLC to act as my agent in helping me obtain payment from my insurance companies
- _____ I authorize payment directly to Better Care Counseling, LLC
- _____ I permit a copy of this authorization to be used in place of the original
- _____ I authorize Better Care Counseling, LLC to use the term Signature on File, when submitting my claims

_____	_____
Please print responsible parties name	Date of Birth
_____	_____
Signature of responsible party	Date
Insurance Company _____	ID# _____
_____	_____
Client or Guardian's Signature	Print client name

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NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE

Our Office is required by law to maintain the privacy of certain confidential health care information, known as Protected Health Information (PHI), and to provide you with a notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to your PHI. This Notice describes your legal rights, advises you of our privacy practices, and lets you know how our office is permitted to use and disclose PHI about you.

This Notice is covered under HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act). Any state law that is more stringent than the HIPAA rules and regulations has priority.

We are required to follow the privacy practices described in this Notice, though we reserve the right to change our privacy practices and the terms of this Notice at any time. If we do so, we will post a new Notice in our waiting area. You may request a copy of the new notice from Better Care Counseling, LLC by calling (727) 491-3999.

HOW WE MAY USE AND DISCLOSE YOUR PROTECTED MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION

We use and disclose PHI for a variety of reasons. For most uses/disclosures, we must obtain your consent. However, the law provides that we are permitted to make some uses/disclosures without your consent. The following offers more description and examples of our potential uses/disclosures of your PHI.

Uses and Disclosures Requiring Your Consent

- For treatment: We may disclose your PHI to other mental health care practitioners who are involved in providing your mental health care. For example, a referral to a mental health practitioner for assessment and/or long-term treatment would require signed consent from you for us to release and/or receive PHI about you to appropriately coordinate your care.
- For mental health care operations: We may use/disclose your PHI in the course of operating our program. For example, we may use your PHI in evaluating the quality of services provided, creating reports that do not individually identify you, or disclose your PHI to our accountant or attorney for auditing purposes.
- For payment: We may use/disclose your PHI in the course of collecting outstanding payment from you. For example, if failure for paying on a bad check in a timely manner, we may employ the State Attorney's office to collect on the outstanding debt. Or if you fail to pay on your account in a timely manner, we may employ an attorney or collection agency to collect any outstanding debt.

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Exceptions: Although your consent is usually required for the use/disclosure of your PHI for the activities described above, the law allows us to use/disclosure of your PHI for the activities described above, the law allows us to use/disclose your PHI without your consent in certain situations. For example, we may disclose your PHI if needed for emergency treatment if it is not reasonably possible to obtain your consent prior to the disclosure and we think that you would give consent if able. Also, if we are required by law to provide your treatment, we may use/disclosure your PHI for treatment and operations without obtaining your prior consent.

Uses and Disclosures Requiring Authorization

For uses and disclosures beyond treatment and operational purposes we are required to have your written authorization (signed permission), unless the use or disclosure falls within one of the exceptions described below. Like consents, authorizations can be revoked at any time to stop future uses/disclosures except to the extent that we have already undertaken an action in reliance upon your authorization.

Uses and disclosures requiring authorization by a minor: The law provides that we may not use/disclose a minors PHI to the parent/legal guardian without a consent or authorization in the following circumstances.

- When required by law: We may not disclose a minors PHI to the parent/legal guardian when a law requires that we keep confidentiality about:
- Substance Abuse/Chemical Dependency
- Pregnancy
- Abortion

Uses and Disclosures NOT requiring consent or authorization: The law provides that we may use/disclose your PHI without consent or authorization in the following circumstances:

- When required by law: We may disclose PHI when a law requires that we report information about:
- Suspected abuse
- Neglect or domestic violence
- Suspected criminal activity
- In response to a court order

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We must also disclose PHI to authorities who monitor compliance with these privacy requirements.

- For health oversight activities: We may disclose PHI for audits or government investigations, inspections, disciplinary proceedings, and other administrative or judicial actions undertaken by the government (or their contractors) to oversee the health care system.
- To avert threat to health or safety: In order to avoid a serious threat to health or safety, we may disclose PHI a necessary to law enforcement or other persons who can reasonably prevent or lessen the threat of harm. For example, a plan to commit suicide or a homicidal act.
- For specific government functions: We may disclose PHI of military personnel and veterans in certain situations, to correctional facilities in certain situations, to government programs relating to eligibility and enrollment, and for national security reasons, such as protection of the President.

Uses and Disclosures requiring you to have an opportunity to object: In the following situations, we may disclose your PHI if we inform you about the disclosure in advance and you do not object. However, if there is an emergency situation and you cannot be given your opportunity to object, disclosure may be made if it is consistent with any prior expressed wishes and disclosure is determined to be in your best interest. You must be informed and given an opportunity to object to further disclosure as soon as you are able to do so.

- To family friends or other involved in your care: We may share with these people information directly related to your family, friends, or other person's involvement in your care. We may also share PHI with these people to notify them about your location or general condition. For example, parents of a minor have certain rights to PHI. Also, we may have to locate family members to inform them of the location of a client who has been hospitalized for psychiatric reasons.

YOUR RIGHTS REGARDING YOUR PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION. You have the following rights relating to your protected mental health information:

- To request restrictions on uses/disclosures. You have the right to ask that we limit how we use or disclose your PHI. We will consider your request, but are not legally bound to agree to the restriction. To the extent that we do agree to any restrictions on our use/disclosure of your PHI, we will put the agreement in writing and abide by it except in emergency situations. We cannot agree to limit uses/disclosures that are required by law.
- To choose how we contact you: You have the right to ask that we send you information at an alternative address or by an alternative means. We must agree to your request as long as it is reasonably easy for use to do so.
- To inspect and copy your PHI. Unless your access is restricted for clear and documented treatment reasons, you have a right to see your protected health information if you put your request in writing. We will respond to your request within 30 days. If we deny your access, we will send you written reasons for the denial and explain any right to have the denial reviewed. If you want copies of your PHI, a charge for copying may be imposed, but may be waived,

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depending on your circumstances. You have a right to choose what portions of your information you want copied and to have prior information on the cost of copying.

- To request an amendment of you PHI. If you believe that there is a mistake or missing information in our record of your PHI, you may request, in writing, that we correct or add to the record. We will respond within 60 days of receiving your request. We may deny the request if we determine that the PHI is (1) amended and complete; (2) not created by us and/or not part of our records; or (3) not permitted to be disclosed. Any denial will state the reasons for denial and explain your rights to have the request and denial, along with any statement in response that you provide, appended to your PHI. If we approve the request for amendment, we will amend the PHI and so inform you, and tell others that need to know about the amendment in the PHI.
- To find out what disclosures have been made. You have the right to receive an accounting (which means a detailed listing) of disclosures that we have made. If you would like to receive an accounting, you may send us a letter requesting an accounting or contact our Privacy Officer. The accounting will not include several types of disclosures, including disclosures made prior to April 14, 2003. However, from that day forward, disclosures must be documented and retained for a period of 6 years. We will respond to your written request for such a list within 60 days of receiving it. There will be no charge for up to one such list each year/ (12) month period. There may be a charge for more frequent requests.
- To receive this notice. You have a right to receive a paper copy of this Notice and/or electronic copy by email upon request.

How to complain about our privacy practices

If you believe that your privacy rights have been violated or if you are dissatisfied with our privacy policies or procedures, you may file a complaint either with us or with the federal government. We will not take any action against you or change our treatment of you in any way if you file a complaint. You may file a written complaint with the Office for Civil Rights (OCR), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Atlanta Federal Center, Suite 3B70, 61 Forsyth Street SW, Atlanta, GA 30303-8909.

Contact person for information or to submit a complaint and questions

If you have any questions about this Notice or any complaints about our privacy practices, please contact:

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

I have **received the Notice of Privacy Practices** and I have been provided with an opportunity to ask questions.

Today's Date: _____

Name _____

Signature of Client or Guardian if a Minor _____

Social Security Number: _____

Street Address

City

State

Zip

Contact Telephone Number