

CHARLES H. BREWER, JR. MD, PLLC

Child, Adolescent and Adult Psychiatry

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Professional Disclosure Statement and Consent for Treatment with Dr. Charles H. Brewer, Jr., PLLC

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)

This notice describes how medical information about you may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this information. Please review it carefully. This document may be updated without notice, so please review it each time you visit us. A copy of this statement is always available upon request.

All information revealed by you in a counseling or therapy session and most information placed in your counseling/therapy file (all medical records or other individually identifiable health information held or disclosed in any form [electronic, paper, oral]) is considered “protected health information” (PHI) by HIPAA. As such, your protected health information cannot be distributed to anyone else without your expressed informed and voluntary written consent or authorization. The exceptions to this are defined immediately below.

Use or disclosure of the following Protected Health Information does not require your consent or authorization:

1. Uses and disclosures required by law
2. Uses and disclosures about victims of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence
3. Uses and disclosures for health and oversight activities
4. Uses and disclosures for judicial and administrative proceedings
5. Uses and disclosures for law enforcement purposes
6. Uses and disclosures for research purposes
7. Uses and disclosures to avert a serious threat to health or safety
8. Uses and disclosures for Worker’s Compensation

Your rights as a counseling/therapy client under HIPAA

- As a client, you have the right to see your counseling/therapy file. *Psychotherapy notes are afforded special privacy protection under the HIPAA and are excluded from this right. (See Special Treatment of Psychotherapy Notes)*
- As a client, you have the right to receive a copy of your counseling/therapy file. *Psychotherapy notes are afforded special privacy protection under the HIPAA and are excluded from this right. (See Special Treatment of Psychotherapy Notes)* You will be required to pay any copying fees.
- As a client, you have the right to request amendments to your counseling/therapy file.
- As a client, you have the right to receive a history of all disclosures or protected health information. You will be required to pay any copying fees.
- As a client, you have the right to restrict the use and disclosure of your protected health information for the purposes of treatment, payment, and operations. If you choose to release any protected health information, you will be required to sign a Release of Information form detailing exactly to whom and what information you wish disclosed.
- As a client, you have the right to register a complaint with the Secretary of Health and Human Services if you feel your rights, herein explained, have been violated.

Special Treatment of Psychotherapy Notes

Due to the special protection of psychotherapy notes, Dr. Brewer will not release these notes. We will be happy to provide you with the following information – called the designated record set – which HIPAA allows to be released:

Psychotherapy start and stop times

Results of any clinical testing

Treatment plans

Symptoms

Prognosis

Modalities and frequencies of treatment

Functional status

Progress to date

Diagnoses

Medication prescription and monitoring

Prior to counseling or therapy, you will receive a copy of these pages and your therapist/counselor's Professional Disclosure Statement and Consent for Treatment for your personal records. It will be necessary for you to sign a certificate indicating that you have received, read, and understood both documents. This certificate will be placed in your counseling/therapy file. Please do not sign the certificate if you do not understand any part of the HIPAA Client's Rights or Professional Disclosure Statement and Consent for

Treatment. Your counselor or therapist will be happy to explain these documents further.