

New Outlook Counseling Center, Inc.

5010 Stone Mill Road, Suite B, Bloomington, IN 47408 ph: 812-929-2193, option 1 fax: 888-789-8394 501 S Madison Street, Suite 105, Bloomington, IN 47403 ph: 812-929-2183, option 2 fax: 888-789-8394

# Office Policies & Agreement for Counseling Services in person and Telehealth

Welcome to our practice. Your first visit to a new therapist is very important and you may have many questions. This letter is to introduce our clinicians as well as give you information to help you to decide if New Outlook Counseling Center is the right fit for you. Please take time to read it carefully and let us know if you have any questions or need more information. When you sign your consent for treatment, it will represent an agreement between you, your therapist, and New Outlook Counseling Center, Inc.

## Qualifications

**Cheryl L Mansell, LCSW** is a licensed clinical social worker and founder of New Outlook Counseling Center, Inc. She received her Master's degree from Western Michigan University where her concentration was on Children and Adolescents. She has worked in a variety of facilities where she has spent her time cultivating her skills and abilities as a therapist. Cheryl has worked with a wide range of clientele and diagnosis. She continues to learn and gain knowledge by attending conferences to ensure that she is meeting her clients' needs. She is a member of EMDIRA, Association for Play Therapy, and a DBT consult team.

**Molly E. McKelfresh-Daywalt, LMHC** graduated from Indiana University with a Master's in Counseling and Counselor Education. She has worked in a variety of settings including inpatient hospital, outpatient center, within schools, and currently at a University counseling Center. Molly sees children 8 and up, adolescents, and adults with a variety of mental health concerns. She adapts her approach to meet the client's needs but has a particular interest in Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, DBT, and Interpersonal Process Approach.

**Sandra "Mary" Mckinney, LMFT, LCSW has** over 35 years of experience in the field. She received her Master's in social work at IUPUI in Indianapolis. Her diverse experience includes working in community mental health, child and family services, medical settings, and services to individuals with cognitive and developmental disabilities. She sees individuals, children, families and couples. She teaches skills based in cognitive behavior therapy, dialectical behavior therapy, trauma informed therapy, problem solving and solution focused therapies.

**Bethany Sammons, LCSW** graduated with a Master's of Social Work from IUPUI in 2017. She has experience working in both the inpatient and outpatient setting. She enjoys working with clients 10 and older and who are motivated to make positive changes. She has experience working in medical social work and can assist clients dealing with complex physical health issues and/or adjusting to debilitating illnesses. She also has experience working with clients who are dealing with anxiety and depression.

**Sarah Baird is a LMHC** in the state of Indiana and a Nationally Certified Counselor (NCC). She earned her Masters of Arts in Counseling Psychology and Art Therapy from the Adler School of Professional Psychology in Chicago, and is proud to hold the title of Registered Art Therapist (ATR). Since 2005, she has worked in a variety of settings. Most recently she worked on an integrated project where she learned the value of whole person care by integrating physical health (diet, sleep, exercise) with a variety of therapeutic modalities in order to meet a client where they are at in their journey of healing. During her 20+ year career, she has worked with diverse populations and a variety of symptoms. She has experience with Depressive Disorders, Anxiety and Stress Disorders, Substance Use Disorders, Bipolar Disorder, PTSD, and ADHD/ADD. She has experience with Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Dialectical Behavior Therapy, Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction, Behavior Modification Therapy, Solution Focused Therapy, and Art Therapy.

**Janelle Floyd, LCSW** specializes in Eating Disorders (anorexia, bulimia and binge eating, orthorexia), anxiety, grief, depression, relationship issues and other life impacting struggles. She has been working with Eating Disorders and those issues related to them for 25 years. She has also worked in residential facilities and an outpatient Eating Disorder Clinic which has aided her in helping those struggling with life obstacles.

**Cara Knight, LMHC** in the state of Indiana. She graduated with her Master's in Art Therapy in 2006 and has provided therapy services for a wide variety of clients over the years – ranging from ages 2 to 102. Cara has worked in a variety of settings including: geriatric/long term care, after school programs, an area shelter, with the heart of her work focusing on supporting families and children in crisis. Cara has worked with families since 2007, both doing homebased therapy, and also in a family shelter.

**Kelly Leach, LCW** received her MSW from Indiana University in 2003. She has worked in a variety of settings with a very diverse range of clientele (diverse in age as well as in clinical focus). Kelly uses an integrative and client-centered/client-driven approach in her work with individuals, couples, and families (groups too), and recognizes that style and technique should be tailored to best suit the client and client need. She feels honored to be a part of the therapeutic process as clients seek support in personal growth, healing, and self-empowerment. Her areas of specialization include persons identified with the LGBTQAI+ community; grief and loss bereavement support; mental health issues such as depression and anxiety, trauma and PTSD; dealing with life challenges and transitions; substance abuse and addictions. Kelly primarily works with adolescents age 15 and up, and young through late adulthood.

Jen Ludwig LMHC – Site Supervisor Stone Mill Rd, graduated with her Masters of Art in Clinical Mental Health counseling in 2017. She has provided therapy and other therapeutic services for a wide variety of clients and settings. She enjoys working with adults, older children and teens (12 and up). Jen specializes in treating individuals who have experienced trauma and may be struggling with dissociation. Jen is trained in EMDR and has completed all necessary requirements for certification in EMDR therapy. She also has coached and assisted with EMDR training in a previous work setting. Jen utilizes a creative an individualized approach to help others heal and recover from past trauma. Jen often uses play, and art techniques to enhance therapy. Jen has received additional training and supervision to assess and manage individuals with dissociative disorders including Dissociative Identity Disorder. She combines her education, knowledge of Polyvagal theory and interventions, and creative processes to help move people toward health and a genuine sense of wellbeing. Jen has worked with a broad range of clinical issues, with most of her clinical work focused on overcoming abuse, anxiety, trauma, self-esteem, stress management, women's and LGBTQ+ concerns and navigating transitions.

**Liz Sickels, LMHC** earned her Master's in Forensic Psychology from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology in 2017. Prior to New Outlook, Liz worked in community mental health. Liz is an advocate for harm reduction and overdose prevention, and has provided education to multiple counties in southern Indiana on this topic. She enjoys working with people at any point in their addiction recovery and/or their family members. Liz also has a passion for individuals who have survived complex trauma. She is trained in EMDR and is actively working towards her

certification. Ideal clients are adults. Areas of specialty are anxiety, depression, trauma, substance use, and crisis intervention.

**Hannah Hennebert, Ph.D.** I hold a Ph.D. in Psychology with a concentration in Jungian Studies from Saybrook University and an M.A. in Counseling from Eastern Mennonite University. I have experience working with people from various ethnic backgrounds and providing clinical services to Portuguese and Spanish speakers. I enjoy working with children, adolescents, families, couples, and adults. My areas of speciality are working with individuals with anxiety, autism, grief, relationship issues, and trauma. I also have a great deal of experience working with expats and ethnic background facing acculturation issues. I offer solid clinical expertise, person-centered guidance, and practical therapeutic help. My approach focuses on your strengths while identifying difficulties that have hindered your ability to live to your full potential.

**Diana Chi-Wei Kan, LMHCA** earned her Master's degree in Mental Health Counseling and Counselor Education from Indiana University. She works with children (6 and older), teens and adults. She enjoys working with individuals from marginalized communities. She draws from mindfulness, CBT, DBT, and interpersonal-process approach in her work. Her areas of focus include depression, anxiety, life transitions, grief and loss, relationship issues and domestic abuse. She provides counseling services in both English and Mandarin.

**Maddux Reid, LMHCA (pending)** earned her Master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Judson University. Maddux has worked at the University counseling setting helping young adults manage a variety of mental health issues as well as the school-based setting, working with various levels of need middle school and high school aged clients. She enjoys working with pre-teens, teens and young adults. She works from a person-centered approach to therapy, integrating other approaches such as CBT, DBT, trauma-informed care and mindfulness. Her areas of clinical focus have included depression, anxiety, ADHD, life transitions, trauma, family and relationship issues, self-esteem and stress management. Maddux seeks to help clients become their best selves through clientcentered care that includes psychoeducation, empathy, self-compassion, learning new coping skills and managing thoughts, feelings and behaviors.

**Zachary Antil, LCSW** is a clinical social worker, earning his masters from the University of Michigan in 2013. He enjoys working with adolescents (12-17) and adults, particularly those within the LGBTQ+ community. He feels comfortable treating individuals facing anxiety, depression, OCD, grief and stress. He relies on CBT, DBT, motivational interviewing and mindfulness in his sessions.

Adrienne Watkins, RDinitially started her career as an addiction's counselor receiving a Bachelor's of Science in Psychology from Indiana State University. Through this work, she recognized the impact of mood on how one approaches their eating. She returned to school to become a Registered Dietitian receiving her Master's Degree in Dietetics from Ball State University in 2010. She specializes in eating disorders and disordered eating helping rebuild trust and relationships with food, body and mind. Adrienne also provides education and guidance with nutritional needs of chronic diseases working from an all foods can fit/non-diet approach. Adrienne works adults, adolescents and families.

**Kevin Moore, APRN, PMHNP** Beginning his work career at 19 as a CNA in long-term care setting, he was able to develop deep understanding for the power of caring and deeply empathetic approach can have on the lives of others. This has led to a passion for providing holistic and person-centered care that he carried into his career as an RN. After developing a broad experience in medical and mental health care settings, he earned a Master's Degree in Nursing as a Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner from Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis in 2018. As a Board-certified PMHNP, he has worked in both inpatient and outpatient settings, including providing specialized care for pediatric OCD and anxiety disorders, as well as individuals with intellectual and developmental disorders. Kevin has clinical expertise in treating simple and complex mental health needs, such as anxiety, depression, OCD, mood disorders, schizophrenia, ADHD, and ASD. Dedicated to thorough evaluation, mindful approach, highly collaborative consultation, and a fierce advocacy, Kevin strives to provide high-quality health care to everyone who seeks his services. He provides effective, culturally-competent, trauma-informed care to individuals of all age ranges, genders,

and sexual-orientations. He is currently accepting new patients for psychiatric evaluations and ongoing medication management. A professional referral is required, and our referral form can be downloaded from our website or by contacting our office.

**Judith Goodwin, CNS,** has joined New Outlook Counseling Center after being at Meadows Hospital for over 11 years. She will offer medication and medication management for individuals who are currently in therapy and those willing to seek therapy. She is unable to see individuals with severe mental illness due to the scope of private practice resources. Clients seen outside of the practice are to have their current therapist send their evaluation, any screenings or tests, as well as the referral form.

### The Process of Therapy/Evaluation

During the first meeting, you will be assessed as to whether we can benefit you. We do not accept clients who we believe we cannot be helpful to, and if this is the case, we will refer you to others who work well with your particular issues. Within a reasonable period of time after starting treatment, your therapist will discuss their working understanding of your issues, their proposed treatment plan, and therapeutic objectives and possible outcomes of the therapy. If you have questions about the process in the course of therapy, please ask.

### **Termination and Follow-up**

Deciding when to stop therapy is meant to be a mutual process. Before you and your therapist stop, you will discuss how you will know if or when to come back or whether a regularly scheduled "check-in" might work best for you. If it is not possible for you to phase out of therapy, your therapist may recommend that you have closure on the therapy process with at least two termination sessions.

Noncompliance with treatment recommendations may necessitate early termination of services. Your therapist will look at your issues with you and exercise their educated judgment about what treatment will be in your best interest. Your responsibility is to make a good faith effort to fulfill the treatment recommendations to which you have agreed. If you have concerns or reservations about the treatment recommendations, we strongly encourage you to express them so that your therapist can resolve any possible differences or misunderstandings.

If during therapy your therapist assesses that they are not effective in helping you reach your therapeutic goals, they are obligated to discuss this with you and, if appropriate, terminate treatment and give you referrals that may be of help to you. If you request it and authorize it in writing, the therapist may talk to the other therapist of your choice in order to help with the transition. If at any time you want another professional's opinion or wish to consult with another therapist, we will assist you in finding someone qualified. You have the right to terminate treatment at any time. If you choose to do so, the therapist will offer to provide you with names of other qualified professionals whose services you might prefer.

If you commit violence to, verbally or physically threaten or harass your therapist, the other therapists, the administrative assistant, the office or our families, the therapist reserves the right to terminate your treatment unilaterally and immediately. Termination can also happen immediately if you use mind altering substances prior to session, bring any type of weapon to session and record sessions without obtaining the therapist's approval.

Failure or refusal to pay for services after a reasonable time is another condition for termination of services. Please contact our Office Coordinator on the business line if your financial situation changes.

### **Dual Relationships**

Therapy never involves sexual, business, or any other dual relationships that could impair your therapist's objectivity, clinical judgment, or therapeutic effectiveness or could be exploitative in nature. Please discuss this with your therapist if you have questions or concerns.

### **Benefits & Risks of Therapy**

Participation in therapy can result in a number of benefits to you, including improved interpersonal relationships and resolution of the specific concerns that led you to seek therapy. Working toward these benefits requires effort on your part. Therapy requires your active involvement, honesty, and openness in order to change your thoughts, feelings, and/or your behavior. Your therapist will ask for your feedback and views on your therapy and its progress. Sometimes more than one approach can be helpful.

During the initial evaluation or the course of therapy, remembering unpleasant events, feelings, or thoughts may result in your experiencing considerable discomfort, strong feelings, anxiety, depression, insomnia, etc. Your therapist may challenge some of your assumptions or perceptions or propose different ways of thinking about or handling situations that may cause you to feel upset, angry, or disappointed. Attempting to resolve issues that brought you into therapy may result in changes that were not originally intended. Therapy may result in decisions to change behaviors, employment, substance use, schooling, housing or relationships. Change can sometimes be quick and easy, but more often it can be gradual and even frustrating. There is no guarantee that therapy will yield positive or intended results.

### Phone calls & emergencies

If you need to contact your therapist between sessions, please contact Administrative staff at 812-929-2193. She will be sure to pass along any messages to your therapist. If your therapist is going on vacation, your therapist will let you know in advance. You and your therapist will address how emergencies will be handled while he/she is on vacation. Emergency phone consultations of 10 minutes or less are normally free. However, if more than 10 minutes a week is spent on the phone, if more than 10 minutes worth of phone messages in a week are left, if your therapist spends more than 10 minutes reading and responding to emails from you in a given week, the therapist may bill you at a prorated rate for that time. If an emergency situation arises, please indicate that clearly in your message to your therapist. If your situation is an acute emergency and you need to talk to someone right away, contact:

Meadows Hospital in Bloomington at 1-800-972-4410, Valle Vista in Greenwood at 1-800-447-1348 U.S. Crisis Hotline 1-800-784-2433 Dial 911 Or go to the nearest emergency room

### **Cancellations and Lateness**

Since scheduling of an appointment involves the reservation of time specifically for you, a minimum of 24 hours business day notice is required for rescheduling or canceling appointments. A \$75 dollar fee will be charged for

missed appointments without notification. If you contact our office after the 24 hour business day a \$45 fee will be charged, some exceptions may apply. For those with Medication or Medication management, you will be charged the full cost of that appointment that you miss if you do not notify the office prior to 24 business hours before your appointment. Please let your therapist know as soon as possible that you will not be able to keep your scheduled appointment. Be aware that most insurance companies do not reimburse for missed sessions.

If you are running late for your appointment, please phone or email your therapist as soon as you can to let them know you will be late. If you are late for your session, you will still end at the regular time as your therapist will want to remain on time for their next appointment.

### **Payment and Financial Arrangements**

Our standard fees for therapy are \$180 for intial evaluations, \$155 for 52 minute+ session, and \$110 for 22 to 52 minute sessions. Your session will be billed to your insurance at their contracted rate and you will be responsible for copays or coinsurance at the time of your session. If you do not have insurance, the fee is to be paid at time of session.

### **Insurance Changes and Updates**

If your insurance lapses, or your insurance changes and you do not inform us, you will be responsible at the self-pay rate for any services you have received during that time frame. If we are in-network with your new insurance, we will start billing your new plan from the date you inform us of the change.

We are not able to backdate insurance claims.

### Confidentiality

As a client, you have privileged communication. This means that your relationship with your therapist as their client, all information disclosed in sessions, and written records of those sessions are confidential and may not be revealed to anyone without your written permission, except where law requires disclosure. Most of the provisions explaining when the law requires disclosure are described in *Notice of Privacy Practices*.

#### When Disclosure Is Required By Law:

Disclosure is required when there is a reasonable suspicion of child, dependent or elder abuse or neglect and when a client presents a danger to self, to others, to property, or is gravely disabled.

#### When Disclosure May Be Required:

Disclosure may be required in a legal proceeding. If you place your mental status at issue in litigation that you initiate, the defendant may have the right to obtain your psychotherapy records and/or your therapist's testimony. If you have not paid your bill for treatment for a long period of time, your name, payment record and last known address may be sent to a collection agency or small claims court.

In couple or relationship therapy or when different family members are seen individually, confidentiality and privilege do not apply between the couple or among family members. Your therapist will use their clinical judgment when revealing such information.

#### Emergencies

If there is an emergency during our work together or after termination in which your therapist's becomes concerned about your personal safety, the possibility of you injuring someone else, or about you receiving psychiatric care, they will do whatever they can within the limits of the law to prevent you from injuring yourself or another, and to ensure that you receive appropriate medical care. For this purpose your therapist may contact the person whose name you have provided on your intake form.

#### Health Insurance and Confidentiality of Records

Your health insurance carrier may require disclosure of confidential information in order to process claims. Only the minimum necessary information will be communicated to your insurance carrier, including diagnosis, the date and length of our appointments, and what services were provided. Often the billing statement and your company's claim form are sufficient. Sometimes treatment summaries or progress toward goals are also required. Unless explicitly authorized by you, psychotherapy notes will not be disclosed to your insurance carrier. While insurance companies claim to keep this information confidential, your therapist has no control over the information once it leaves our office. Please be aware that submitting a mental health invoice for reimbursement carries some risk to confidentiality, privacy, or future eligibility to obtain health or life insurance.

#### Confidentiality of E-Mail, Voice mail and Fax Communication:

Email, voice mail and fax communication can be easily accessed by unauthorized people, compromising the privacy and confidentiality of such communication. Please notify your therapist at the beginning of treatment if you would like to avoid or limit in any way the use of any or all of these communications devices. *Please do not contact us via email or faxes for emergencies.* 

#### Social Media

As new technology develops and the internet changes, there may be times when we need to update this section. If we do so, we will notify you in writing of any policy changes and make sure you have a copy of the updated version.

#### Friending

Your therapist will not accept friend or contact requests from current or former clients on any social networking site. We believe that adding clients as friends or contacts on these sites can compromise your confidentiality and respective privacy. It may also blur the boundaries of our therapeutic relationship. If you have questions about this, please bring them up when you meet with your therapist.

New Outlook keeps a Facebook page for the professional practice to allow people to share our posts and practice updates with other Facebook users. You are welcome to view the New Outlook Facebook page and read or share articles posted there, but we do not accept clients as fans of this page. We believe having clients as Facebook fans creates a greater likelihood of compromised client confidentiality and we feel it is best to be explicit to all who may view the list of fans to know that they will not find client names on that list.

#### Interacting

Please do not use messaging on social networking sites such as Twitter, Facebook or LinkedIn to contact your therapist. These sites are not secure and we may not read these messages in a timely fashion. Do not use wall postings, @replies, or other means of engaging your therapist in public online if we have already established a client/therapist relationship. Please do not use mobile phone texting unless absolutely

necessary. If you must resort to this then keep message brief and concise. Engaging with your therapist this way could compromise your confidentiality. It may also create the possibility that these exchanges become a part of your legal medical record and will need to be documented and archived in your chart.

If you need to contact your therapist between sessions, the best way to do so is by phone. Email is the second best way.

#### Email

Please be reminded that email is not completely secure or confidential. If you choose to communicate with your therapist by email, be aware that all emails are retained in the logs of your and our Internet service providers. While it is unlikely that someone will be looking at these logs, they are, in theory, available to be read by the system administrator(s) of the Internet service provider. You should also know that any emails your therapist receives from you and any responses that your therapist sends to you become a part of your legal record.

#### **Business Review Sites**

You may find our practice on sites such as Yahoo Local, Bing, etc. Some of these sites include forums in which users rate their providers and add reviews. Many of these sites comb search engines for business listings and automatically add listings regardless of whether the business has added itself to the site. If you should find our listing on any of these sites, please know that our listing is NOT a request for a testimonial, rating or endorsement from you as our client.

Of course, you have a right to express yourself on any site you wish. But due to confidentiality, we cannot respond to any review on any of these sites whether it is positive or negative. We urge you to take your own privacy as seriously as we take our commitment of confidentiality to you. You should also be aware that if you are using these sites to communicate indirectly with us about your feelings about our work, there is a good possibility that we may never see it.

If we are working together, we hope that you will bring your feelings and reactions to our work directly into the therapy process. This can be an important part of therapy, even if you decide we are not a good fit. None of this is meant to keep you from sharing that you are in therapy with us wherever or with whomever you like. Confidentiality means that your therapist cannot tell people that you are our client and our Ethics Code prohibits us from requesting testimonials. But you are more than welcome to tell anyone you wish who your therapist is or how you feel about the treatment, in any forum of your choosing.

If you do choose to write something on a business review site, we hope you will keep in mind that you may be sharing personally revealing information in a public forum. We urge you to create a pseudonym that is not linked to your regular email address or friend networks for your own privacy and protection.

If you feel your therapist has done something harmful or unethical and you do not feel comfortable discussing it with them, you can always contact the Board of Behavioral Health and Human Services, which oversees licensing, and they will review the services that your therapist has provided.

#### Consultation

We consult regularly with other professionals regarding our clients in order to provide you with the best possible service. Names or other identifying information are never mentioned; client identity remains completely anonymous and your confidentiality will be fully maintained.

#### **Release of Information**

Considering all of the above exclusions, upon your request and with your written consent, your therapist may release limited information to any person/agency you specify, unless they conclude that releasing such information might be harmful to you. If your therapist reaches that conclusion, they will explain the reason for denying your request.

### **COMPLAINTS**

If you have a concern or complaint about your treatment please talk with your therapist about it. Your therapist will take your criticism seriously and respond with care and respect. If you feel your concern or complaint was not taken seriously by your therapist, please contact Cheryl L Mansell, the owner of New Outlook Counseling Center. She will do her best to resolve the issue. If you believe that your therapist and owner has been unwilling to listen and respond, or that they have behaved unethically, you can contact the Board of Behavioral Health and Human Services.

Professional Licensing Agency Attn: Behavioral Health and Human Services Licensing Board 402 West Washington Street, Room W-072 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Board Phone Number: (317) 234-2064 Board Fax Numbers: (317) 233-4236 & (317) 233-5559 Board Email Address: <u>pla5@pla.IN.gov</u>

You are also free to discuss your complaints about your therapist with anyone you wish and you do not have any responsibility to maintain confidentiality about what we do that you do not like since you are the person who has the right to decide what you want kept confidential.

We hope this answers some of your questions. Please let us know if you have concerns or questions about any of these policies and procedures of this agreement for working together in therapy.