



MONICA WESSON
LICENSED COUNSELOR, MA

INFORMED CONSENT

I/we, _____, the client or clients, referred to as I or client, have been informed by Grace to Live Counseling Center and spiritual guidance care being provided, that this agreement shall govern the professional relationship between the parties, that any disputes or modifications of agreement shall be negotiated directly between the parties, (if negotiations are not satisfactory, then the parties agree to mediate any differences with a mutually acceptable third-party mediator, considering first either the president or vice president of Grace to Live Counseling Center). In the event of a lawsuit, the client may assume all the costs of litigation including adjunct cost and fees, and all attorney fees.

Counselor and qualifications: Monica is a licensed Counselor and a Certified Temperament Therapist. Monica has obtained her Master's Degree in Clinical Christian Counseling through Colorado Theological Seminary. Court appointed counseling cases will be considered on an individual basis and will require the proper releases of information.

Faith based: Grace to Live Counseling Center is a faith based center. **OUR TEAM OF COACHES AND COUNSELORS, OR THERAPIST ALL HAVE DIVERSIFIED BACKGROUNDS AND ARE COMMITTED TO OUR BELIEF STATEMENT. WHILE WE AT GRACE TO LIVE COUNSELING CENTER IS A FAITH-BASED CENTER, WE WORK WITH PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS. WE DO NOT ENFORCE OUR BELIEFS UPON ANYONE WE PROVIDE SERVICES TOO. WE DO NOT DISCRIMINATE BASED ON ETHNICITY, NATIONAL ORIGIN, RACE, COLOR, AGE OR MARITAL STATUS, INCOME, POLITICAL BELIEFS OR DISABILITY.** I further understand that no guaranties have been given as to the outcome of the counseling process and that I/we the counselee pay a vital role in the results of counseling. I agree to make a good faith effort in the counseling process, which includes honest participation during sessions and participation in homework given.

Confidentiality & Mandated Reporting: This center operates under the client confidentiality privilege, which means that communication between the client and counselor of counseling is confidential. However, there are some exceptions when the counselor without the consent of the client may break confidentiality. These include reasonable suspicion of the threat of serious harm to self or others, child abuse, abuse to the elderly or disabled or when otherwise required by law. Reasonable Suspicion is defined as, but not limited to credible evidence that abuse or neglect has or may have occurred, that a threat of serious harm has or may occur, significant discrepancies in or significantly inconsistent explanations of injury. Reasonable suspicion means that there is enough credible evidence to cause suspicion and require further investigation by the proper authorities.

Location and Confidentiality: Grace to Live Counseling Center, New Jersey, Delaware & Telehealth. Grace to Live Counseling Center shares office space with other offices and therefore cannot protect your identity as you come and go from appointments. There may be times when

other people see you entering or exiting the building, our office or other meeting locations.

Center nor the counselor can be held responsible for people who see you interacting with us. Grace to Live Counseling Center does go to great lengths to protect your identity, personal information and case notes. There may also be times when meetings take place in your home or outside of the Grace to Live Counseling Center office. When this does occur these policies are still applicable.

Fees and Billing: Counseling and fees are determined by the Financial Policies Form or a Financial Assistance Application & Determination Letter used by Grace to Live Counseling Center. Full payment shall be made at the prior to each session. Payment can be made with cash, check or credit card payment. Life Focus Center will not extend credit. A \$35.00 fee will be applied to all NSF payments.

Appointment time: Grace to Live Counseling Center schedules appointments in such a way as to avoid waiting times. However, in rare situations they do occur. When they do we ask for your patience. We would also ask that our clients have similar respect for our time. Client sessions are scheduled for 50 minutes. If you the client are more than 15 minutes late, the appointment will be shortened and possibly canceled.

Cancelling appointments: If you are unable to make an appointment, please call 24 hours in advance so we have the opportunity to assist another client. Clients who do not give 24 hr. notice, barring an emergency, will be charged a \$25.00 fee. Due to the nature of the Counseling Profession, no shows can be very stressful. The likelihood that a client is going through a crisis very high. When someone simply does not show we must evaluate the possibility of a crisis and the need for immediate intervention.

Assignments: It is vital that you the client do the assignments the counselor gives. If you put forth halfhearted attempt at the homework you will get a halfhearted return. There is no magic button a counselor can push to bring about calling or to impart truth and new understanding. It requires your desire and effort. If you as a client do not follow through on the assignments then the counselor may choose to cover the same material that was covered in the previous session or, in some cases, cancel the session altogether. It is nearly impossible to help someone that chooses not to participate in their own healing. We firmly believe that the client should have more invested in solving their issues than the counselor.

Terminating Counseling: Counseling is normally terminated by mutual consent between the client and counselor because they have reached the set goals. This can occur in either verbal or written form. However, both the client and the counselor have the right to terminate counseling at any time. **If you the client miss scheduled appointments, fail to schedule an appointment for two consecutive weeks (unless previously agreed upon) or do not reply to our attempts to contact you, Grace to Live Counseling Center as well as your counselor will understand this to mean that you have chosen to terminate counseling.** When counseling is terminated for any reason a termination of counseling notice will be placed in the client file. The termination of counseling notice may be sent along with a service assessment form to the client, but receipt of these forms are not necessary for them to be in effect.

Supervision: In order to assure we are providing the best care possible to our counsees, Grace to Live Counseling Center has supervision meetings where individual counselors who may need further direction in their counseling can discuss Case Studies. All names are kept confidential from the supervision group along with any significant information that may lead to a confidentiality breach of the counselee. You can opt out of allowing your case to be used in supervision by checking this box.

Counseling agreement: I understand and of my own free will accept and agree to abide by this two-page Informed Consent Agreement as presented. I also agree to release all liability, in any form, that may be charged against Grace to Live Counseling Center, the individual counselors, GTLCC employees or volunteers by my estate or me. I understand my personal responsibility to maintain confidentiality, and that bringing a third party into the counseling appointment may

Waive the confidential communication privilege during that session. If any of these policies are found to be unenforceable the rest of the agreement is still in effect.

Client Signature Date

Client Signature Date

Cell Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Client's Mailing Address

Client's Mailing Address

City State Zip Code

City State Zip Code

Client's Email Address

Client's Email Address

Counselor Signature Date

Counselor Signature Date

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