Donna J. Henn, M.S., LPC Patti Peoples, M.S., LPC 1120 Nasa Pkwy., Ste. 305 Houston, Texas 77058

**To Your Family and Friends**: We must disclose your health information to you, as described in the Client Rights section of this Notice. We may disclose your health information to a family member, friend, or other person to the extent necessary to help with your healthcare or with payment for your healthcare, but only if you agree that we may do so.

**Persons Involved in Care**: We may use or disclose your health information to notify, or assist in the notification of (including identifying or locating a family member, your personal representative or another person responsible for your care, of your location, your general condition, or death. If you are present, then prior to use or disclosure of your health information, we will provide you with an opportunity to object to such uses and disclosures. In event of your incapacity or emergency circumstance, we will disclose health information based on a determination using our professional judgment disclosing only health information that is directly relevant to the person's involvement in your healthcare.

Marketing Health-Related Services: We will not use your health information for marketing communications without your written authorization

**Required by Law**: We may use or disclose your health information when we are required to do so by law.

Abuse or Neglect: We may disclose your health information to appropriate authorities if we reasonably believe that you are a possible victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence or the possible victim of other crimes. We may disclose your health information to the extent necessary to avert a serious threat to your health or safety or the health or safety of others.

National Security: We may disclose to military authorities the health information of Armed Forces personnel under certain circumstances. We may disclose to authorize Federal officials health information required for lawful intelligence, counterintelligence, and other National Security activities. We may disclose to correctional institutions or law enforcement officials having lawful custody of protected health information of inmate or patient under certain circumstances.

# **CLIENT RIGHTS**

Access: You have the right to review or get copies of your health information, with limited exceptions. You may request that we provide copies in a format other than photocopies, We will use the format you request unless we cannot practicably do so. You must make a request in writing to obtain access to your health information. We may charge you a reasonable, cost-based fee for expenses such as copies and staff time. You may also request access by sending us a letter to the address at the end of this Notice.

#### **QUESTIONS AND COMPLAINTS**

If you want more information about our privacy practices or have questions or concerns, please contact us directly at the address below.

If you are concerned that we may have violated your privacy rights, or you disagree with a decision we made about access to your health information or in response to a request you made to amend or restrict the use or disclosure of your health information or have us communicate with you by alternative means, or at alternative location, you may complain to us using the contact information listed at the end of this Notice. You may also submit a written complaint to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. We will provide you with the address to file your complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services upon request.

Contact Officer: Please contact your individual therapist. Fax: 281-333-1270 Address: 1120 Nasa Pkwy., Ste. 305 Houston, Texas 77058 Donna J. Henn, M.S., LPC Patti Peoples, M.S., LPC 1120 Nasa Pkwy., Ste. 305 Houston, Texas 77058

# **NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES**

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY. THE PRIVACY OF YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT

### PURPOSE

This form, Notice of Privacy Practices, presents the information that Federal law requires us to give out clients regarding our privacy practices. We must provide the Notice to each client beginning no later than the date of our first service delivery to the client, including services delivered electronically, after April 14, 2003. We must make a good-faith attempt to obtain written acknowledgement of receipt of the Notice from the client. We must also have the Notice available at the office for clients to request to take with them. We must post the Notice in our office in a clear and prominent location where it is reasonable to expect any clients seeking service from us to be able to read. Whenever the Notice is revised, we must make the Notice available upon request on or after the effective date of the revision in a manner consistent with the above instructions. Therefore, we must distribute the Notice to each new client at the time of service delivery and to any person requesting a Notice. We must also post the revised Notice in our office.

### **OUR LEGAL DUTY**

We are required by applicable Federal and State Law to maintain the privacy of your health information. We are also required to give you this Notice about our privacy practices, our legal duties, and your rights concerning your health information. We must follow the privacy practices that are described in this Notice while it is in effect. This Notice takes effect 4/14/03, and will remain in effect until we replace it. We reserve the right to make the changes in our privacy practices and the new terms of our Notice effective for all health information that we maintain, including health information we created or received before we made the changes. Before we make a significant change in our privacy practices we will change the Notice and make the new Notice available upon request.

# **USES AND DISCLOSURES OF HEALTH INFORMATION**

We use and disclose health information about you for treatment, payment, and healthcare operations:

**Treatment**: We may use or disclose your health information to a physician or other healthcare provider providing treatment to you.

Payment: We may use and disclose your health information to obtain payment for services we provide to you.

**Healthcare Operations**: We may use and disclose your health information in connection with our healthcare operations. Healthcare operations include quality assessment and improvement, reviewing the competence or qualifications of healthcare professionals, evaluating practitioner and provider performance, conducting training programs, accreditation, certification, licensing or credentialing activities.

**Your Authorization**: In addition to our use of your health information for treatment, payment, or healthcare operation, you may give us written authorization to use your health information or to disclose it to anyone for any purpose. If you give us an authorization, you may revoke it in writing any time. Your revocation will not affect any use or disclosures permitted by your authorization while it was in effect. Unless you give us a written authorization, we cannot use or disclose your health information for any reason except those described in this Notice.