

COVID-19 Policies for Beachside Counseling & Wellness, LLC – Client copy and informed consent

To our valued clients: We at Beachside Counseling & Wellness, LLC, continue to update our policies and procedures to mitigate the risk of spreading the novel Corona Virus that causes COVID-19. The following policies and procedures reflect our commitment to protect you, our staff, ourselves and our families. In addition, you will be asked to comply with recommended safety precautions since we know from the CDC that people can be carriers for the virus without showing any symptoms and unwittingly infect others.

1. We will continue to offer and encourage telehealth sessions for all appropriate clients. You will be asked to read and sign an informed consent that details the benefits and risks of telehealth and the procedures involved.
2. Each individual clinician will determine whether and for whom *in-person* sessions are safe and appropriate.
3. Clients, clinicians and staff who come into the office will be required to:
 - a. **Wear a mask covering nose and mouth.**
 - b. **Stay home if you have any symptoms whatsoever.** These include, but are not limited to: fever, cough, shortness of breath, body aches, red/purple lesions on your toes, nausea, diarrhea or other GI symptoms. **While seasonal allergies** are not symptoms of COVID, the sneezing, coughing and runny nose associated with these can still spread the virus if it is present. If you have any of these symptoms, you may switch to telehealth or cancel your appointment without a late cancellation fee.
 - c. **Maintain a distance of 6 feet** between yourself and other people.
4. In addition, clients, clinicians and staff are urged to:
 - a. **Wash your hands and/or use hand sanitizer frequently**, especially after touching communal surfaces like door handles, light switches, etc.
 - b. Refrain from touching your face, nose, eyes and mouth.
5. A plexiglass barrier has been installed at the front desk to inhibit transmission of airborne material between clients and staff.
6. Communal surfaces will be cleaned and sanitized regularly. However, the most recent information from the CDC states that there is minimal risk of contracting the virus from surfaces, especially if all the other more crucial guidelines (**hand-washing, masks, physical distance & ventilation**) are followed.
7. Air conditioner filters will be of the highest quality available to commercial buildings and will be changed according to manufacturer's instructions.

As new information and guidelines become available, we will do our best to implement procedures that mitigate the risk of anyone who comes into our office. However, **it is impossible for us to ensure everyone's safety, despite our best efforts, when they choose to enter our office suite.**

By signing below, **you agree to follow all expected safety precautions and acknowledge the inherent risk of going into a public place during this pandemic.**

Print name

Signature

Date

Established May 8, 2020

Revised: October 29, 2020