

Grace for Individual and Family Therapy

Confidentiality Agreement (Couples and Family)

As part of any counseling relationship, confidentiality is a foremost concern. This document serves as an understanding and agreement between you, the counselee and Rev. Matthew Hogan as Grace for Individual and Family Therapy.

Any information that you share or even the fact that you are receiving counseling is strictly protected by ethical and legal standards.

However, there are a few circumstances where confidentiality not only may, but must be broken and appropriate authorities must be notified. These include, but are not limited to:

- A reasonable belief that there is clear and imminent danger to you or someone else
- If there is a reasonable expectation that you will engage in dangerous conduct
- Any reasonable suspicion that a child or elder is currently being abused
- A court order

To share any information beyond these conditions, a written and signed information release must be on file.

Furthermore, in cases where more than one individual is involved in counseling, all adult individuals being counseled must agree together that they will not discuss their therapy with anyone else outside of the counseling office. This agreement extends to friends, to co-workers, to other family members, and to anyone else whom the individual may choose to discuss the counseling relationship. Such communication outside of the therapeutic environment will not help the growth and nurturing of the family relationship. In fact, there is a strong possibility that such communication will do significant and maybe even irreparable harm to the family relationship.

Your signature on this document states clearly that you will not discuss your family relationship or your family relationship difficulties outside of the counselor's office with others. In all likelihood, the advice that you will obtain from others will be biased information from sources untrained in therapeutic techniques. That information will hinder or destroy any prospect of health being brought to your family relationship.

Within reason, your information is protected. However text, email and any online counseling are all vulnerable to hacking, etc. and confidentiality cannot be strictly guaranteed. When using electronic communications, an attempt will be made to minimize the sensitive information discussed to further protect your privacy. I will not initiate any text or email conversations of a personal nature other than to confirm appointments, but will respond if you initiate.

I, _____ authorize Rev. Matthew Hogan to use the following electronic communications:

Text Messaging

Email

Online Counseling

I understand and accept this Confidentiality Agreement

Signed _____ Date _____