

Michele M. Freeman MS NCC LPC  
354 NE Greenwood Av., Suite 212, Bend OR 97701  
541-408-4943

**NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES**

Your health record contains personal information about you and your health. This information, which may identify you and relates to your past, present or future physical or mental health or condition and related health care services, is referred to as Protected Health Information ("PHI"). This Notice of Privacy Practices describes how I may use and disclose your PHI in accordance with applicable law.

I am required by law to maintain the privacy of PHI and to provide you with notice of my legal duties and privacy practices with respect to PHI. I am required to abide by the terms of this Notice of Privacy Practices. I reserve the right to change the terms of our Notice of Privacy Practices at any time. Any new Notice of Privacy Practices will be effective for all PHI that I maintain at that time.

**HOW I MAY USE AND DISCLOSE HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOU:**

**For Treatment.** Your PHI may be used and disclosed by those who are involved in your care for the purpose of providing, coordinating, or managing your health care treatment, counseling, and related services. This includes consultation with clinical supervisors or other treatment team members.

**For Payment.** I may use or disclose PHI so that I can receive payment for the treatment services provided to you. Examples of payment-related activities are: making a determination of eligibility or coverage for insurance benefits, processing claims with your insurance company, reviewing services provided to you to determine medical necessity, or undertaking utilization review activities. If it becomes necessary to use collection processes due to lack of payment for services, I will only disclose the minimum amount of PHI necessary for purposes of collection.

**For Health Care Operations.** I may use or disclose, as needed, your PHI in order to support our business activities including, but not limited to, reminding you of appointments and/or providing information about treatment alternatives or other health related benefits and services. For example, I may share your PHI with third parties that perform various business activities (e.g., billing services), provided I have a written contract with the business that requires it to safeguard the privacy of your PHI.

**Required by Law.** Under the law, I must make disclosures of your PHI to you upon your request. In addition, I must make disclosures to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services for the purpose of investigating or determining our compliance with the requirements of the Privacy Rule.

**Following is a list of the categories of uses and disclosures permitted by HIPAA without an authorization.**

**Abuse and Neglect  
Emergencies  
National Security**

**Judicial and Administrative Proceedings  
Law Enforcement  
Public Safety (Duty to Warn)**

**Without Authorization.** Applicable law and ethical standards permit me to disclose information about you without your authorization only in a limited number of other situations. The types of uses and disclosures that may be made without your authorization are those that are:

- Required by law, such as the mandatory reporting of child abuse or neglect or mandatory government agency audits or investigations (such as state licensing boards or health department)
- Required by Court Order
- Necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to the health or safety of a person or the public. If information is disclosed to prevent or lessen a serious threat, it will be disclosed to a person or persons reasonably able to prevent or lessen the threat, including the target of the threat.

**With Authorization.** Uses and disclosures not specifically permitted by applicable law will be made only with your written authorization, which may be revoked at any time.