



Lauren H. Kerstein LCSW, P.C.
Child and Family Psychotherapist

YOUR RIGHTS AS A CLIENT

Consent for Treatment

Disclosure Statement

Beginning the therapeutic process can be somewhat overwhelming. It is my intention to provide you with information about your rights throughout this process and to assist you with feeling more comfortable. Please ask any questions or voice any concerns you may have at any time.

As to the regulatory requirements applicable to mental health professionals: a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, and a Licensed Professional Counselor must hold a masters degree in their profession and have two years of post-masters supervision. A Licensed Psychologist must hold a doctorate degree in psychology and have one year of post-doctoral supervision. A Licensed Social Worker must hold a masters degree in social work. A Psychologist Candidate, a Marriage and Family Therapist Candidate, and a Licensed Professional Counselor Candidate must hold the necessary licensing degree and be in the process of completing the required supervision for licensure. A Certified Addiction Counselor I (CAC I) must be a high school graduate, and complete required training hours and 1,000 hours of supervised experience. A CAC II must complete additional required training hours and 2,000 hours of supervised experience. A CAC III must have a bachelors degree in behavioral health, and complete additional required training hours and 2,000 hours of supervised experience. A Licensed Addiction Counselor must have a clinical masters degree and meet the CAC III requirements. A Registered Psychotherapist is registered with the State Board of Registered Psychotherapists, is not licensed or certified, and no degree, training or experience is required.

The Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies has the general responsibility of regulating the practice of licensed psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, licensed professional counselors, licensed marriage and family therapists, certified school psychologists, and unlicensed individuals who practice psychotherapy. The agency within the Department that has responsibility specifically for licensed and unlicensed psychotherapists is the State Grievance Board, 1560 Broadway, Suite 1350, Denver, Colorado 80202, (303) 894-7800. The Grievance Board requires mental health professionals to provide the following information about our credentials:

Therapist: Lauren H. Kerstein, LCSW
Degrees: Master of Social, George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University, 1995
Bachelor of Arts, Education and Psychology, Washington University, 1993
License: Colorado Board of Social Work Examiners, Number 991998

Please feel free to ask any questions you may have about my training.

Client Rights and Important Information

- a. You are entitled to receive information from me about my methods of therapy, the techniques I use, the duration of your therapy (if I can determine it), and my fee structure. Please ask if you would like to receive this information. The benefits and risks of psychotherapy include: 1)

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assisting you with relieving upsetting symptoms, 2) may help you feel better, 3) may not help you feel better, and 4) it is sometimes difficult to review the issues and concerns brought to therapy.

- b. You can seek a second opinion from another therapist or terminate therapy at any time.
- c. In a professional relationship (such as ours), sexual intimacy between a therapist and a client is never appropriate. If sexual intimacy occurs, it should be reported to the State Grievance Board.
- d. Generally speaking, the information provided by and to a client during therapy sessions is legally confidential if the therapist is a certified school psychologist, a licensed clinical social worker, a licensed marriage and family therapist, a licensed professional counselor, a licensed psychologist, or an unlicensed psychotherapist practicing under the supervision of a licensed psychotherapist. If the information is legally confidential, the therapist cannot be forced to disclose without the client's consent.

Confidentiality

Information disclosed to a licensed clinical social worker, a licensed marriage and family therapist, a licensed professional counselor, or a licensed psychologist is privileged communication and cannot be disclosed in any court of competent jurisdiction in the State of Colorado without the consent of the person to whom the testimony sought relates. There are times, however, when I may be required to disclose certain information in response to a valid court order.

There are exceptions to the general rule of legal confidentiality. These exceptions are listed in the Colorado statutes (see section 12-43-218, C.R.S., in particular). You should be aware that, except in the case of information given to a licensed psychologist, legal confidentiality does not apply in a criminal or delinquency proceeding. The most common exception to confidentiality involves the threat of serious harm to self or others, as in the case of child abuse, suicide or grave disability.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to ask me at any time.

Consent for Therapy

I have read the preceding information and understand my rights as a client.

Client/Patient Signature

Date

Street Address

City, State, Zip

Therapist

Date

