

# *Healing Inspiration with Olivia Fae Stadler*

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## **INFORMED CONSENT FOR IN-PERSON SERVICES DURING COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS**

This document contains important information about our decision (yours and mine) to resume in-person services in light of the COVID-19 public health crisis. Please read this carefully and let me know if you have any questions. When you sign this document, it will be an official agreement between us.

### **Decision to Meet Face-to-Face**

We have agreed to meet in person for some or all future sessions. If there is a resurgence of the pandemic or if other health concerns arise, however, I may require that we meet via telehealth. If you have concerns about meeting through telehealth, we will talk about it first and try to address any issues. You understand that, if I believe it is necessary, I may determine that we return to telehealth for everyone's well-being.

You are not required to receive psychotherapy in person. If you are concerned about possible risks to your health, consult with your physician before attending in-person meetings. If you decide at any time that you would feel safer staying with, or returning to, telehealth services, I will respect that decision, as long as it is feasible and clinically appropriate. Reimbursement for telehealth services, however, is also determined by the insurance companies and applicable law, so that is an issue we may also need to discuss.

### **Risks of Opting for In-Person Services**

You understand that by coming to the office, you are assuming the risk of exposure to the coronavirus (or other public health risk). This risk may increase if you travel by public transportation, cab, or ridesharing service. By receiving services in person, you will be mindful of the risks to yourself, your therapist, and your family members.

### **Your Responsibility to Minimize Your Exposure**

To obtain services in person, you agree to take certain precautions which will help keep everyone (you, me, and our families, other building occupants, and other clients) safer from exposure, sickness and possible death. If you do not adhere to these safeguards, it may result in our starting/returning to a telehealth arrangement. Initial each to indicate that you understand and agree to these actions:

- You will only keep your in-person appointment if you are symptom free. \_\_\_\_
- You will **take your temperature before coming to each appointment**. If it is elevated (100 Fahrenheit or more), or if you have other symptoms of the coronavirus, you agree to not come in and proceed using telehealth. \_\_\_\_

- You will wait in your car or outside until no earlier than 5 minutes before our appointment time. If the waiting room is occupied, please wait outside. \_\_\_\_
- **You will wash your hands when you enter the building.** \_\_\_\_
- You will adhere to the safe distancing precautions we have set up in the waiting room and therapy room. For example, you won't move chairs or touch the therapy room doorknob. \_\_\_\_
- You will wear a mask in all areas of the building (I will too). \_\_\_\_
- You will keep a distance of 6 feet and there will be no physical contact (e.g. no shaking hands) with me. \_\_\_\_
- There will be no physical contact (e.g. no petting) with the therapy dog. \_\_\_\_
- If you are bringing your child, you will make sure that your child follows all of these sanitation and distancing protocols. \_\_\_\_
- You will take steps between appointments to minimize your exposure to COVID. \_\_\_\_
- If you have a job that exposes you to other people who are infected, you will immediately let me know. \_\_\_\_
- If your commute or other responsibilities or activities put you in close contact with others (beyond your family), you will let me know. \_\_\_\_
- If a resident of your home tests positive for the infection, you will immediately let me know and we will then resume/begin treatment via telehealth. \_\_\_\_

I may change the above precautions if additional local, state or federal orders or guidelines are published. If that happens, we will talk about any necessary changes.

### **My Commitment to Minimize Exposure**

My practice has taken steps to reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus within the office and we have posted our efforts on our website and in the office. Please let me know if you have questions about these efforts.

### **If You or I Are Sick**

You understand that I am committed to keeping you, me, other building occupants, other clients, and all of our families safe from the spread of this virus. If you show up for an appointment and I believe that you have a fever or other symptoms, or believe you have been exposed, I will have to require you to leave the office immediately. We can follow up with services by telehealth as appropriate.

If I test positive for the coronavirus, I will notify you so that you can take appropriate precautions.

### **Your Confidentiality in the Case of Infection**

There are certain circumstances under which I may be required to notify health authorities that you have been in the office. This typically would only occur if someone who had been seen in my office were to test positive for COVID-19. If this situation arises, and in accordance with applicable privacy laws, I will provide the minimum information necessary for the health

authorities to perform their duties. By signing this form, you are agreeing that I may do so without an additional signed release.

**Informed Consent**

This agreement supplements the general informed consent/business agreement that we agreed to at the start of our work together.

Your signature below shows that you agree to these terms and conditions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient/Client printed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature