

Living Water Christian Services | 12836 Lomas Blvd, NE Albuquerque NM 87112 | (505) 349-1586| (505) 226-1832 | http://livingwaterchristianservices.com/ livingwaterservices2018@gmail.com

 **Consent to Biblical Counseling**

**Our Goal**: is to help you develop a biblical worldview of your life and recognize the core truth that guides right thinking and actions.  Our mission at the end of our relationship is to have rendered long lasting compassionate care and solution to painful spiritual and emotional difficulties using the all sufficient Word of God.

**Biblically Based**: We believe that the Bible provides thorough guidance and instruction for faith and life. Therefore, our counseling is based on biblical principles rather than those of secular psychology.

Our Counseling team will only function in the following capacities:

• **In the capacity of duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed ministers of a church or ministry providing pastoral services on behalf of a church/ministry per NM Code 61-9A-6**

**• As an alternative practitioner engaging in non-clinical activities consistent with the standards and codes of ethics of that practice per NM Code 61-9A-6**

**• As defined by the applicable Statement of Practice set forth by the International Institute of Faith Based Counseling.**

**Not Professional Advice**: If you are seeking legal, financial, medical, technical, or other non-biblical advice, we will refer you to the appropriate professional or have you seek them out yourself.

**Confidentiality**: Confidentiality is an important aspect of the counseling process. There are situations, however, when it may be necessary for us to share certain information with others:

 • If we suspect elderly abuse or neglect of a child under the age of 18, or if said child discloses abuse or neglect directly to me, we may be required by law to inform the appropriate authorities, usually the Department of Child, Youth and Family Services (CYFD), Child Protective Services, Adult Protective Services and possibly the local law enforcement.

 • If we believe that a counselee presents a substantial and imminent risk of serious harm to herself or another person, we may be required by law to take protective action which may include notifying the potential victim, contacting the police, or seeking hospitalization for the client.

 • If you are involved in a court proceeding and we are ordered by the court to disclose information, we may be required by law to do so.

• When a counselor is uncertain how to address a specific problem and seeks advice from another pastor, elder, or counselor or when a counselor is receiving or providing training or evaluation for educational or certification purposes related to counseling

• When it is necessary to talk with a counselee’s pastor, spiritual advisor or others designated in the counselee’s church to encourage repentance and reconciliation (See Proverbs 15:22, 24:11; Matthew 18:15-20) Please be assured that our counselors strongly prefer not to disclose any personal information to others and they will make every effort to help you find ways to resolve the problem as privately as possible.

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**Counseling Appointments and Costs**: At this time, our counseling sessions are offered at no set cost to the client. We rely on donations to cover the cost of providing our Biblical counseling services. Our counseling ministry is supported primarily through the donations of our clients and other interested parties. Our suggested donation is between $50-150 per visit, which we based on the average co-pay that an insurance plan in the Albuquerque area would charge for similar services. However, if you are not able to meet the minimum amount requested, we are willing to accept what you are able to afford. We accept cash, checks, MasterCard, and VISA credit cards. Counseling sessions are 60 minutes long unless scheduled otherwise. NOTE: All counseling is done by appointment only via face to face, video conferencing or telephone. When you have an appointment, our counselor is here for you, please respect the counselor’s time and arrive on time for your appointment. If you are late, your appointment will still need to end at the scheduled time.

 **Number of Counseling Sessions:** The number of counseling sessions provided depends on each counselee and the problem or challenge bringing them into counseling. Our sessions go anywhere from two – six sessions and this is determined on a case by case basis. If additional sessions are needed, an evaluation will be done prior to the last session for the counselee. Please bear in mind that the maximum amount of sessions offered is six. The frequency of sessions may depend on various factors as well, however on average, our counselors usually meet with counselees once a week. (Mons, Weds & Fridays)

**Cancelled, missed and late appointments**: If you are unable to make it to an appointment, notification must be made to the ministry office at (505) 349-1586 at least 24 hours prior to the appointment. This will allow us to make that time slot available to someone else needing services. NOTE: appointments cancelled the “day of” and/or less than 24 hours prior to the appointment will incur a $25.00 cancellation fee. If you cancel, reschedule or miss more than 3 scheduled appointments within a six month period, your counseling services with us will be terminated. Also, if you are 15 minutes or later for your scheduled appointment without calling you will be assessed the $25.00 cancellation fee. All fees must be paid before you are placed back on the schedule. If calling outside of office hours, leave a voice message with your name, telephone number and a detailed message and we will respond within office hours as soon as possible. Abuse of the cancellation policy may result in loss of counseling services.

 **Please initial here to indicate your understanding of the cancellation policy**: \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Emergencies:** We do not provide emergency services. Telephone messages left after 3:30pm may not be acted upon until the following business day. Should you need immediate intervention by an emergency service, please arrange to visit your nearest hospital emergency room for evaluation. If you use them, you will be seen and billed independently by the provider of the services.

If you have any questions about these guidelines, please feel free to ask us for further explanation. Likewise, we encourage you to talk with your pastor or spiritual advisor concerning these guidelines if desired. If you consent to all these guidelines, please sign below. Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dated:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Counselee(s) or legally responsible party for counselee(s) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Printed name) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Address) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (City, State, Zip)

 (Telephone) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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