

Commonwealth Therapy

268 NEWBURY STREET – BOSTON, MA 02116

617.383.7220 | commonwealththerapy.com

Welcome to Commonwealth Therapy! This form provides information about our services. Please read it carefully and feel free to ask any questions.

Services

There are many potential benefits of counseling including improved personal functioning, relationships, self-image, mood, and the achievement of personal goals. Clients understand that healing and growth are difficult, and some discomfort may be a part of the counseling process.

Commonwealth Therapy is not a 24-hour agency. Voicemail is monitored frequently and calls will be returned within 24 hours. If you cannot reach your clinician in case of emergency, contact your primary care doctor, BEST team, or go to your local emergency room. Clients will receive information about emergency services and how to use them. Clients agree to use emergency services when necessary. If your clinician will be unavailable for an extended period of time, you will be given contact information for a covering clinician.

Confidentiality/Personal Health Information

All communications and records with your clinician are held in strict confidence. Information may be released, in accordance with state law, when (1) the client signs a release of information; (2) the client expresses serious intent to harm self or others; (3) there is reasonable suspicion of abuse against a minor, elderly person, or dependent adult; (4) to acquire payment for services; or (5) a subpoena or court order is issued for disclosure of information. To protect your privacy to greatest extent of the law, it is our policy to assert privileged communication in the case of #5 or the right to consult directly with clients in the case of #2 or #3.

Professional Records

Laws and standards require that Commonwealth Therapy keep treatment records. Records are kept in accordance with standards of confidentiality. Clients may request to receive a copy or summary of records. Because these are professional records, they can be misinterpreted and/or be upsetting to non-clinical readers. If you wish to see your records, please discuss this with your clinician. There will be a charge for time spent copying or reviewing records.

Scheduling and Cancellations

Scheduling an appointment is a commitment from both the clinician and client. Appointments may be cancelled or rescheduled with 48-hour notice. If sessions are cancelled with less notice, the client is responsible to pay for the session. Please know that exceptions to this policy may be made in instances of serious medical or family emergencies.

Service Fees

The agreed upon hourly rate is \$160 per individual counseling session. The initial assessment fee is \$190.

Please initial all items as part of this agreement:

- 48 hour notice is required for cancellation
- Drugs and weapons will not be brought into the office
- It is expected that clients will not use drugs or alcohol before sessions
- Clinicians may not accept gifts
- Clinicians may not connect on social media
- Clinicians may terminate treatment if there is any threat to safety
- First responders may be called in case of emergency
- Emergency resources have been provided
- Clients will call 911 or go to the local emergency room in case of emergency

The clinician and client have read, fully understand, and agree to honor this agreement.

Client _____ **Date** _____

Clinician _____ **Date** _____

Emergency Resources:

Boston Emergency Services Team (BEST)
(tel) 1.800.981.4357

Samaritans
(tel) 1.877.870.4673