

**Chuck Stannard, M.S.W.**

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Licensed Clinical Social Worker # SW 0003031

Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist # MT 0001156

## **ORIENTATION INFORMATION PLEASE READ**

I would like to welcome you to the office. I am pleased you decided to be in therapy with me. I hope it proves to be beneficial to you and your family. My name is Chuck Stannard. Most clients, including children, call me 'Chuck' and that is my preference. I am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. My graduate training was done at the State University of New York at Buffalo in the School of Social Work. I graduated with my masters in social work (MSW) in 1981. I have past experience with community mental health as well as inpatient psychiatric hospital work. I have been a visiting professor at FSU teaching graduate students about behavioral approaches to practice. I do some consulting work with the Capital City Youth Services providing supervision to their masters level staff who are seeking licensure from the state of Florida and who need supervision from a credentialed professional who has the license that they are seeking. My full time work is my private practice; so you are a priority for me. I strive to have satisfied customers.

## **THERAPY**

My therapy tends to be directive, behavioral and cognitive. Directive means that I do give advice, make suggestions or give assignments to be done between sessions. Behavioral means that I set up target behaviors and goals with specific reinforcements and consequences. Cognitive means that I deal with internal thoughts that may affect our feelings and or behaviors. I prefer to see the client weekly for the first month of treatment, which is an assessment phase with some brief treatment sometimes accomplished. After the first month, if we agree that therapy is to continue, it may be done every week or every two weeks and in rare exceptions, on a monthly basis. My sessions run for 45 minutes. I start the clock at your scheduled appointment time. If I am late, this will not effect your time, but when you are late it is your time in session that is lost as I will still close the session at the planned for time. Please try to be prompt.

## **CONFIDENTIALITY**

All communication between us in the course of therapy is confidential. As the client, you have the power and control of whether or not I may disclose this confidential information. It is now the law that I must breach confidentiality in the following situations...

- If I have cause to suspect child or elderly abuse.
- If I have reasonable cause to suspect you pose a risk of imminent danger to yourself.
- If I have reasonable cause to believe you pose a risk of imminent harm to another individual.
- If I am compelled to testify pursuant to a valid court order. (In this situation I will assert that this communication is privileged and will only testify after you have an opportunity to obtain a court order protecting the confidential information.)

Both parents have the right to be informed about their child. In order to establish the therapeutic relationship there needs to be trust. These young folks need some reassurance that everything they share with me will not be relayed on to mom and dad, otherwise they will never confide in me. Trust that I will share with you information about my assessment, their progress, or lack of progress in treatment, and other information that I deem appropriate to share. I will let them know about their limits of confidentiality.

## **FEES**

My rate is \$125 per session starting in 2004. Most clients will have medical insurance that will help to defray the cost of treatment. I expect payment at the time of service. If this is going to be a problem speak with me about it. In some cases such as HMOs , there will only be a co-payment required with the balance billed to the insurance company. Blue Cross Blue Shield is currently only paying the client so those folks will be asked to pay at the time of service and I will file at the end of each month so that they can reimburse you the amount they are willing to cover for these type services. If you desire to file for yourself I can complete the paperwork you will need to get reimbursement started. Fees for court time and depositions are \$ 150/ hr. including my travel time.

## **MANAGED CARE**

Managed care may request that I send information to them including diagnosis, progress notes and other personal information. The only way that this can be avoided is by you being a private pay client. As a private pay client I can keep your information more confidential. Please discuss this with me further if you have concerns or questions.

## **SCHEDULING**

I see the full age range in my office - some children, some teens and some adults. I try to leave the late afternoons for the school age population that I serve. Sometimes those office hours are heavily booked and as my census of school age clients rises it may be necessary for me to see them occasionally during the school hours, which I regret. I currently am scheduling students with one appointment time during the school day and the next appointment after the

school hours. This is working fairly well at the moment and seems fair to all parties this way.

I expect you to show up for the appointments you have scheduled. If you know you will be missing an appointment the more notification you can give me the better. I occasionally need to see people in a crisis and knowing that time slot is available helps me. I ask for at least 24 hours notice. If you have to cancel the day of your appointment I ask that you pay a \$25 canceled appointment fee. Missed appointments you will be billed a fee of \$50. I hope this will not be necessary. I see people between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. with my last appointment being 4:30 p.m. In an effort to see more of the school aged population outside of school hours I am saving 3 p.m. til 5 p.m. for that age group and those after school appointments will also be 45-minute sessions. I will do my best to work with you around your schedule but some consideration from you with my schedule will be appreciated as well.

### **EMERGENCIES**

While I share an office with other therapists we are all separate practices. We are not a group therefore in a state of crisis I want you to attempt to contact me. If it is a life threatening psychiatric crisis, such as suicidal or homicidal behavior, go directly to the emergency room at TMRMC and ask to be evaluated for admission to the psychiatric hospital. If you cannot get yourself, or your family member, to the emergency room call emergency medical services at 911 if that is appropriate. If it is not life threatening but you need to touch base with me please try to reach me at home at 386-8566. This number remains a listed number because no one has abused access to me in this fashion. If you also see a psychiatrist for medications you could call that physicians number and ask to speak to the psychiatrist on call if they have already closed for the day. Please do not call non-emergency situations "an emergency" but also please do not minimize the situation if a severe crisis is happening. I certainly want to avoid a tragedy. As I said earlier, I want satisfied customers.

I look forward to working with you and if you have any other questions please ask me when we get together next.

Chuck Stannard, MSW