



Notice of Privacy Practices

Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW is committed to the protection of your privacy in regard to the use and disclosure of your confidential information. In most cases, it is considered unethical to disclose any information regarding your treatment without your consent. Absent an ethical or legal obligation, an authorization for release of information will be completed prior to any disclosure of your records. You may update or revoke your authorization at any time by submitting a written request to Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW.

Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW is required to give you this notice about Rain to Rainbow Counseling's privacy practices, legal obligations, and your rights concerning your confidential information. If Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW amends this notice, she will provide you with the amended notice for your information and signature.

For more information about Rain to Rainbow Counseling, LLC privacy practices, or for additional copies of this notice, please let Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW know your questions as soon as they arise.

Uses and Disclosures of Confidential Information

Permissible Uses and Disclosures Without Written Authorization. Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW may use and disclose your records without your written authorization for certain purposes as described below. The examples provided in each category are not meant to be exhaustive, but instead are meant to describe the types of uses and disclosures of your confidential health information that are legally permissible.

- **Treatment.** Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW may use and disclose your records to other clinicians involved in your care in order to better provide integrated treatment to you. In addition, Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW may disclose your records to other health care providers in order to provide you with appropriate care and continued treatment.
- **Payment.** Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW may use and disclose records so that she can receive payment for the treatment services provided to you.
- **Health Care Operations.** Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW may use and disclose your records in connection with health care operations, including

quality improvement activities, training programs, accreditation, certification, licensing or credentialing activities.

- **Required or Permitted by Law.** Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW may use or disclose your records when required or permitted to do so by law.
 - **In some legal proceedings a judge may issue a court order**, this would require Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW to testify in court.
 - **If Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW learns of or believes that there is physical or sexual abuse or neglect of any person under 18 years of age**, she must report this information to county child protection services.
 - **If Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW learns of or believes that an elderly person, or disabled person is being abused or neglected**, she must file a report with the appropriate state agency that handles elder abuse.
 - **If Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW learns of or believes that you are threatening serious harm to another person**, she is obligated to report this. This can be in the form of telling the person who you have threatened, contacting the police or placing you into hospitalization.
 - **If there is evidence that you are a danger to yourself and Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW believes that you are likely to harm yourself unless protective measure are taken**, Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW may be obligated to seek hospitalization for you or to contact family members or others who can help provide protection.
 - **Prenatal Exposure to Controlled Substances.** Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW must report any admitted prenatal exposure to controlled substances that could be harmful to the mother or the child.
 - **There may be times when Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW consult with outside sources about cases.** In these cases, no personally identifiable information will be used to discuss this case. However, discussion topics will be used in order to ensure that Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW is getting and providing the best assistance possible. The persons with whom Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW discuss cases are legally bound to keep information confidential.
- **Other disclosures permitted or required by law include the following.** Disclosures for public health activities; health oversight activities including disclosures to state or federal agencies authorized to access your clinical information; disclosures to judicial and law enforcement officials in response to a court order or other lawful process; disclosures for research

when approved by an institutional review board; disclosures for workers' compensation claims, and disclosures to military or national security agencies, coroners, medical examiners, and correctional institutions as authorized by law.

Uses and Disclosures Requiring Your Written Authorization.

- **Psychotherapy Notes.** Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW will not disclose the records of our work that she keeps separate from the medical record for her personal use, known as psychotherapy notes, except as permitted by law.
- **Marketing.** Most uses and disclosures of your confidential information for marketing purposes, including subsidized treatment communications
- **Sale of Clinical Information.** Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW must obtain your written authorization prior to using or disclosing your confidential information for marketing or sale purposes.
- **Other Uses and Disclosures.** Uses and disclosures other than those described in this Notice will only be made with your written authorization. You may revoke any such authorization at any time by providing Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW with written notification of such revocation.

Patient Rights

You have the following rights regarding your records. To exercise any of these rights, please submit your request in writing to Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW

- **Right of Access to Inspect and Copy.** You have the right, which may be restricted only in exceptional circumstances, to inspect and copy clinical information that is maintained in a "designated record set". A designated record set contains mental health/medical and billing records and any other records that are used to make decisions about your care. Your right to inspect and copy your record will be restricted only in those situations where there is compelling evidence that access would cause serious harm to you or if the information is contained in separately maintained psychotherapy notes. Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW may charge a reasonable, cost-based fee for copies. If your records are maintained electronically, you may also request an electronic copy of your records. You may also request that a copy of your records be provided to another person.

- **Right to Amend.** If you feel that the clinical information we have about you is incorrect or incomplete, you may ask Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW to amend the information although she is not required to agree to the amendment.
- **Right to an Accounting of Disclosures.** You have the right to request an accounting of the disclosures that we make of your clinical information. Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW may charge you a reasonable fee if you request more than one accounting in any 12-month period.
- **Right to Request Restrictions.** You have the right to request a restriction or limitation on the use or disclosure of your clinical information for treatment, payment, or health care operations. Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW is not required to agree to your request unless the request is to restrict disclosure of clinical information to a health plan for purposes of carrying out payment or health care operations, and the clinical information pertains to a health care item or service that you paid for out of pocket. In that case, Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW is required to honor your request for a restriction.
- **Right to Request Confidential Communication.** You have the right to request that Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW communicate with you about health matters in a certain way or at a certain location. Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW will accommodate reasonable requests. Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW may require information regarding how payment will be handled or specification of an alternative address or other method of contact as a condition for accommodating your request. Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW will not ask you for an explanation of why you are making the request.
- **Breach Notification.** If there is a breach of unsecured clinical information concerning you, Kellie Stryker, MSW, LCSW will notify you of this breach, including what happened and what you can do to protect yourself.
- **Right to a Copy of this Notice.** You have the right to a copy of this notice.