

CONSENT FORM

New Client Information and Consent

Therapist

The undersigned therapist is a Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor, a Level III Texas Board Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor, a Nationally Certified Addiction Counselor, an Internationally Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor and a Certified Experiential Therapist, engaged in private practice providing behavioral health care and chemical dependency counseling services to clients directly. The undersigned therapist provides behavioral health and chemical dependency counseling services and educational services through Lois Thomson Bowersock & Associates, LLC.

Behavioral Health/Chemical Dependency Counseling Services

While it may not be easy to seek help from a behavioral health professional, it is hoped that you will be better able to understand your situation and feelings and move toward resolving your difficulties. The therapist, using her knowledge of human development and behavior, will make observations about situations as well as suggestions for new ways to approach them. It will be important for you to explore your own feelings, thoughts and to try new approaches for change to occur. You may bring other family members to a therapy session if you feel it would be helpful or if this is recommended by your therapist.

Appointments

Appointments are made by calling or texting 281-782-6755 Monday through Thursday between the hours of 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM. Please call or text to cancel or reschedule at least 24 hours in advance, or you will be charged for the missed appointment. Third-party payors will not usually cover or reimburse for missed appointments.

Office Location

All services, unless otherwise agreed upon in advance, will be conducted using the HIPAA compliant TeleHealth services of Secure Video.com

Southlake office visits will be conducted at: 771 E. Southlake Blvd. Southlake, TX 76092.

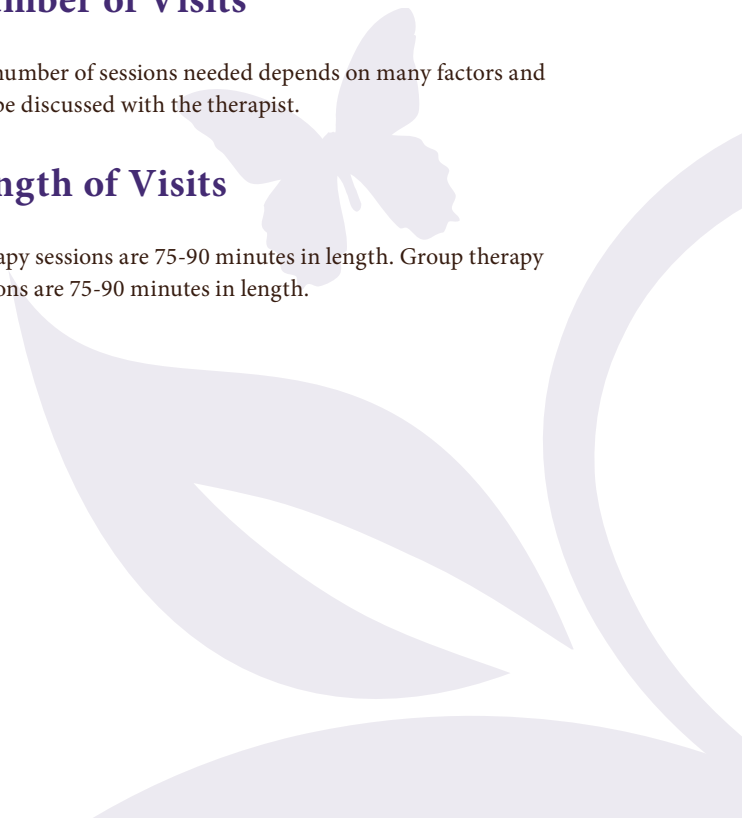
The Woodlands office visits will be conducted at: 2441 High Timbers, The Woodlands, TX 77380.

Number of Visits

The number of sessions needed depends on many factors and will be discussed with the therapist.

Length of Visits

Therapy sessions are 75-90 minutes in length. Group therapy sessions are 75-90 minutes in length.



Relationship

Your relationship with the therapist is a professional and therapeutic relationship. In order to preserve this relationship, it is imperative that the therapist not have any other type of relationship with you. Personal and/or business relationships undermine the effectiveness of the therapeutic relationship. The therapist cares about helping you but is not able to have a social or personal relationship with you. Gifts, bartering and trading services are not appropriate and should not be shared between you and the therapist.

Cancellations

Cancellations must be received at least 24 hours before your scheduled appointment; otherwise you will be charged the customary fee for that missed appointment. You are responsible for calling or texting to cancel or reschedule your appointment.

Social Media

Your therapist does not accept friend or contact requests from current or former clients on any social networking sites. Adding clients or contacts on these sites can compromise confidentiality and privacy of both the therapist and the client. It can blur the boundaries of the professional relationship and are not permitted.

Payments for Services:

- Individual Sessions - regular business hours, including virtual web sessions - \$150.00
- Individual Sessions - after hours, including virtual web sessions (Saturdays, Sundays or holidays) - \$175.00
- Joint or Family Sessions - regular business hours, including virtual web sessions - \$175.00
- Joint or Family Sessions - after hours, including virtual web sessions (Saturdays, Sundays or holidays) - \$195.00

- Telephone or electronic communications - regular business hours - \$150.00. No fee will be charged for telephone calls or electronic communications that do not exceed 10 minutes.
- Telephone or electronic communications - after hours (Saturdays, Sundays or holidays) - \$175.00
- Group Therapy Sessions - \$75.00 per person per session (unless otherwise indicated)

The charge for a Substance Abuse Assessment conducted for the purpose of providing a corresponding written report to a third-party, is \$500.00. Additional fees are not charged for Substance Abuse Assessments deemed necessary by the therapist to provide standard quality services to the client.

Services rendered at locations other than the therapist's offices indicated above, will be charged at a rate of \$300.00 per hour, plus expenses. Automobile mileage will be charged at the current IRS rate.

The charge for additional services requested by the client (such as reviewing files, writing letters, writing reports or communicating with third parties etc.) is \$175.00 per hour during regular hours and \$195.00 per hour during after-hours (Saturdays, Sundays or holidays).

The undersigned therapist does not accept assignment of insurance benefits. You are responsible for payment in full of all charges and for filing a claim for any reimbursement from your insurance provider.

All charges for services shall be paid in full at the time the services are provided.

Cash, check and all major credit cards are accepted for payment of your account. You are advised that payment of your account with check or credit card could provide enough information to financial institutions and their employees to identify you as a client of the therapist. This identification by association can be minimized by using cash for the payment of the services provided by the therapist.

Confidentiality

Although it is the goal of the undersigned therapist to protect the confidentiality of your records, there may be times when disclosure of your records or testimony will be compelled by law. Confidentiality and exceptions to confidentiality are discussed below. In the event disclosure of your records or testimony is required by law, you will be responsible for and shall pay the costs involved in producing the records and the therapist's normal hourly rate for the time involved in preparing for and giving testimony. Such payments are to be made at the time, or prior to the time, the services are rendered by the therapist.

Exceptions to confidentiality include, but are not limited to the following situations: child abuse; abuse of the elderly or disabled; abuse of patients in behavioral health facilities; sexual exploitation; AIDS/HIV infection and possible transmission; criminal prosecutions; child custody cases suits in which the behavioral health of a party is in the issue; situations where the therapist has a duty to disclose, or where, in the therapist's judgment, it is necessary to warn or disclose; fee disputes between the therapist and the client; a negligence suit brought by the client against the therapist; or the filing of a complaint with the licensing board. If you have any questions regarding confidentiality,

you should bring them to the attention of the therapist when you and the therapist discuss the matter further. By signing this information and consent form, you are giving your consent to the undersigned therapist to share confidential information with all persons mandated by law and the managed care company and/or insurance carrier responsible for providing your behavioral health care services and payment for these services, and you are also releasing and holding harmless the undersigned therapist from any departure from your right of confidentiality that may result.

The undersigned therapist is required by law to maintain the privacy of your protected health information (PHI) and to provide you with notice of your privacy rights and the therapist's legal duties and privacy practices with respect to your PHI. The undersigned therapist is required to abide by the terms of the Notice of Privacy Practices with respect to your PHI but reserves the right to change the terms of the notice and make the new notice provisions effective for all PHI that she maintains. The therapist will provide you with a copy of the revised notice sent by regular mail to the last address you have provided to the therapist for this communication purpose. The Notice of Privacy describes how behavioral health information about you may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this information. You are advised to read it carefully.



Risks of Therapy

Therapy is the Greek word for change. Often growth cannot occur until you experience and confront issues that induce you to experience a wide range of feelings and emotions, including sadness, sorrow, anxiety or pain. The success of our work together depends on the quality of the efforts on both our parts, and the realization that you are responsible for lifestyle choices/changes that may result from therapy.

After Hours Emergencies

Emergencies are urgent issues requiring immediate action. In the event of an emergency requiring immediate psychiatric or medical attention please telephone 911 and/or obtain emergency services at your nearest hospital. In the event suspected overdoses of mood-altering substances such as alcohol, prescription medications and/or illicit drugs, you are advised to seek immediate emergency medical services. After first obtaining emergency care, then contact the undersigned therapist.

Therapist's Incapacity or Death

You acknowledge that, in the event the undersigned therapist becomes incapacitated or dies, it will become necessary for another therapist to take possession of your file and records. By signing this Information and Consent Form, you give your consent to allow another licensed behavioral health professional selected by the undersigned therapist to take possession of your file and records and provide you with copies upon request, or to deliver them to a therapist of your choice.

Defamation

By signing this Information and Consent Form below you agree you will not make or post defamatory commentary about Lois Thomson Bowersock & Associates, LLC, on any web site or social media site. In the event that defamatory remarks about Lois Thomson Bowersock & Associates, LLC, are made by you, or others acting in concert with you, you further consent by signing this Information and Consent Form to allow Lois Thomson Bowersock & Associates, LLC, to use confidential information necessary to rebut or defend against, or prosecute claims for the defamation.

Distance or Virtual Counseling

All electronic communications between you and the undersigned therapist will be transmitted using the encryption software referenced in the Consent to Treatment section below. You will be responsible to secure and protect the functionality, integrity, and privacy of your hardware, files, and communication. Password protection for accessing your hardware and files is recommended. If others will be accessing the same computer or electronic device, be aware that programs exist that copy every keystroke you make. It is recommended that you schedule your sessions with the undersigned therapist when and where you can ensure the greatest level of privacy for all communications. Be sure to fully exit all programs and hardware at the end of each session.



Duty to Warn

In the event that the undersigned therapist reasonably believes that you are in danger, physically or emotionally, to yourself or another person, you specifically consent for the therapist to warn the person in danger and to contact the following person(s), in addition to medical and law enforcement personnel:

Name of Emergency Contact Person

Telephone Number

Name of Emergency Contact Person

Telephone Number

Marital or Joint Therapy

By signing this intake and consent form below, you give your consent for Lois Thomson Bowersock & Associates, LLC, to maintain a single file for each joint therapy session in which you and

Your Spouse/ Family Member

participates, and for either you or your spouse/family member to have the right to access all the information recorded by the therapist in the joint file at any time.

Animal Assisted Therapy

Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT) is a form of creative therapy that utilizes licensed and credentialed therapy animals in a therapeutic setting. Animal Assisted Therapy can be used with various types of psychological, emotional, developmental, cognitive behavioral or physical health situations. Lois Thomson Bowersock and her dogs have been providing AAT as a licensed and credentialed therapy team since 2007. By signing this intake and consent form below, you acknowledge that you have read, understand and agree to the terms and conditions for Animal Assisted Therapy as specified in the Consent and Release of Liability for Animal Assisted Therapy Form of Lois Thomson Bowersock & Associates, LLC.

Initial here to verify you have read Animal Assisted Therapy Consent Form

Email and Text Messaging

Lois Thomson Bowersock and Associates, LLC, uses and responds to email and text messages only to arrange or modify appointments. Please do not send emails related to your treatment or therapy sessions, as such electronic communications are not completely secure and confidential. Therapy related questions or issues will not be addressed by the therapist in any electronic communication but will be dealt with during your next session. You should know that any emails or texts received from you and any responses sent will become part of your therapy record.

I consent for the undersigned therapist to communicate with me by mail, by telephone and by text messaging at the following address and telephone numbers, and I will immediately advise the therapist in the event of any change:

Street Address

Apt. #

City

State

Zip

Work Phone

Cell Phone

I consent for the undersigned therapist to communicate with me by email and the following email address and I will immediately advise the therapist in the event of any change:

Email Address

Consent to Treatment

I voluntarily agree to receive behavioral health and/or chemical dependency assessment, care, treatment or services, and authorize the undersigned therapist/counselor to provide such care, treatment or services as are considered necessary and advisable.

I understand and agree that I will participate in the planning of my care, treatment, or services, and that I may stop such care, treatment or services that I receive through the undersigned therapist/counselor at any time.

I agree to conduct any virtual online counseling sessions with Lois Thomson Bowersock & Associates, LLC, through Secure Video, www.securevideo.com in order to comply with HIPAA standards for protected health information (PHI).

By signing this Client Information and Consent Form, I, the undersigned client/parent, acknowledge that I have both read and understood all the terms and information contained herein. Ample opportunity has been offered to me to ask questions and seek clarification of anything unclear to me.

Client Name

Street Address

Apt. #

City

State

Zip

Date of Birth

Date

Signature of Client or Parent/Guardian

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian (if applicable)

Signature of Witness

Printed Name of Witness

Lois Thomson Bowersock & Associates, LLC

Date

Notice of Privacy Practices of Lois Thomson Bowersock & Associates, LLC

Revised January 1, 2022

Lois Thomson Bowersock & Associates, LLC/Lois Thomson Bowersock is required by law to maintain the privacy of your Protected Health Information (PHI) and to provide you with notice of your privacy rights and our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to your PHI. We are required to abide by the terms of this notice with respect to your PHI but reserve the right to change the terms of this notice and make the new notice provisions effective for all PHI that we maintain. We will provide you with a copy of the revised notice sent by regular mail to the last address you have provided to us for this communication purpose.

HIPAA Privacy Notice Acknowledgement

I have been provided and have received Lois Thomson Bowersock & Associates, LLC's Notice of Privacy Practices revised January 1, 2022.

Signature of Client or Legal Representative

Date

Printed Name of Client

I request that changes to the Notice of Privacy Practices be sent to me at this address:

Street Address

Apt. #

City

State

Zip

Signature of Witness

Date