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MINORS & PARENTS

Philosophy

My philosophy is to support and build effective parent/guardian child relationships. When working with minor children, I include parents/guardians as much as possible by sharing ideas of ways the family can facilitate growth or change.

Confidentiality of Minor Children's Disclosures and Artwork

Confidentiality of Minor children is limited based on the need to involve parents in their treatment. Some adolescents or children may request certain feelings or information remain private. I try to honor these request, while at the same time building communication and support in the family. Adolescents often need privacy in order to trust the process. For this reason, I will discuss those things I would like to convey to you with your child first and if possible I will converse with you with your child present. If a child's disclosure involves dangerous behavior such as drugs, sex, suicidal ideation, or running away, I will work with the child to share this information with their parent, with the goal of creating a supportive family atmosphere where the child's needs are met. I will always inform you if I believe your child is in danger.

Children's artwork: Artwork made during art therapy can be many things. For example, it might be the expression of a feeling, a reflection of a wish or fantasy, a memory or part of a story, a gift intended for a special person, or an example of artistic skill. I work to create feelings of safety for your child so they can utilize the art therapy process in the way they need. Sometimes children will share the artwork with their parents. The best way to respond is with interest and without judgment. The artwork is considered part of the private contents of the art therapy session. It is both the choice of children and adults to share the art product of their sessions with others. What is done with the artwork can be part of what makes art therapy powerful. Artwork can be shared with another to explain an idea or feeling, given as a gift, displayed, stored, destroyed, or assembled into a book to tell a story. During the course of art therapy, I will retain most of the artwork and it will be utilized in the closure phase. Following the closure of art therapy some of the artwork will go home with the child and some of it may remain as part of the clinical file. Artwork will be maintained for seven years along with the

clinical file, after that time the artwork will be destroyed. If art therapy is discontinued prematurely, the artwork as well as the clinical record will be maintained for seven years.

Please review the following statements and sign.

I understand that Laura Aube will share with me any information crucial to successful progress toward established goals. I understand that parents have a right to examine their minor child's treatment record, but I will consider the potential impact on my child's ability to trust the therapeutic relationship and discuss alternatives with Laura Aube.

I will help create feelings of safety for my child by sending the message that art therapy is a time that they can create what ever they need or want to. I will also allow them to initiate any sharing of their artwork.

I understand the artwork created by my child during art therapy treatment is part of the clinical file and will be sent home only if therapeutically implicated for my child.

Parents Signature: _____

Date: _____