



LIFE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES, LLC

NO SECRETS POLICY

This written policy is intended to inform you, the participants in therapy, that when we/Life Management Associates, LLC, and the therapist agree to treat a couple or a family, we consider that couple or family (the treatment unit) to be the patient. For instance, if there is a request for the treatment records of the couple or the family, we will seek the authorization of all members of the treatment unit before we release confidential information to third parties. Also, if our records are subpoenaed, we will assert the psychotherapist-patient privilege on behalf of the patient (treatment unit). A judge may issue a court order that would override this psychotherapist-patient privilege in some cases.

During our work with a couple or a family, we may see a smaller part of the treatment unit (i.e., an individual or two siblings) for one or more sessions. These sessions should be seen by you as a part of the work that we are doing with the family or the couple, unless otherwise indicated. If you are involved in one or more of such sessions with us, please understand that generally these sessions are confidential in the sense that we will not release any confidential information to a third party unless we are required by law to do so or unless we have your written authorization. In fact, since those sessions can and should be considered a part of the treatment of the couple or family, we would also seek the authorization of the other individuals in the treatment unit before releasing confidential information to a third party.

However, we may need to share information learned in an individual session (or a session with only a portion of the treatment unit being present) with the entire treatment unit – that is, the family or the couple, if we are to effectively serve the unit being treated. We will use our best judgment as to whether, when, and to what extent we will make disclosures to the treatment unit and will also, if appropriate, first give the individual or the smaller part of the treatment unit being seen, the opportunity to make the disclosure. Thus, if you feel it necessary to talk about matters that you absolutely want to be shared with no one, you might want to consult with an individual therapist who can treat you individually.

This “no secrets” policy is intended to allow the therapist to continue to treat the couple or family by preventing, to the extent possible, a conflict of interest to arise where an individual’s interests may not be consistent with the interests of the unit being treated. For instance, information learned during an individual session may be relevant or even essential to the proper treatment of the couple or the family. If we are not free to exercise our clinical judgment regarding the need to bring this information to the family or the couple during their therapy, we might be placed in a situation where we will have to terminate treatment of the couple or the family. This policy is intended to prevent the need for such a termination.

600 Dewey Blvd., Suite B, • Butte, MT 59701 & 302 Missouri Ave., • Deer Lodge, MT 59722

Phone: 406-782-4778 • Fax: 406-782-1318

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NO SECRETS POLICY

PARTICIPATING FAMILY MEMBERS

Name, Please Print: _____

Name, Please Print: _____

Name, Please Print: _____

Name, Please Print: _____

Name, Please Print: _____

Name, Please Print: _____

Name, Please Print: _____

Name, Please Print: _____

We, the members of the couple/family/other unit being seen, acknowledge by our signatures below, that each of us has read this policy, that we understand it, that we have had an opportunity to discuss its contents with the therapist or representative of Life Management Associates, LLC, and that we enter couple/family therapy in agreement with this policy.

Client Signature

_____/_____/_____
Date

Client Signature

_____/_____/_____
Date

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature *mandatory if client is a minor*

_____/_____/_____
Date

Therapist/Representative of Life Management Associates, LLC

_____/_____/_____
Date

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