

ADDITIONAL TERMS REGARDING CONFIDENTIALITY AND DISCLOSURE FOR PARENTS AND MINOR CHILDREN

As a general rule, we will keep the information disclosed in our meetings confidential, unless we have your written consent to disclose certain information. There are, however, important exceptions to this rule you must understand before you share personal information in a meeting with your caregiver. In some situations, we are required by law or by ethical guidelines to disclose information whether or not we have permission.

CONFIDENTIALITY CANNOT BE MAINTAINED WHEN:

1. You tell us you plan to cause serious harm or death to yourself, and we believe you have the intent and ability to carry out this threat in the very near future. We must take steps to inform your parent or guardian of what you have told us and how serious we believe this threat to be. We must make sure you are protected from harming yourself.
2. You tell us you plan to cause serious harm or death to someone else who can be identified, and we believe you have the intent and ability to carry out this threat in the very near future. In this situation, we must inform your parent or guardian and the person you intend to harm.
3. You are doing things that could cause serious harm to you or someone else, even if you do not intend to harm yourself or another person. In these situations, we will use our best judgment to decide whether your parent or guardian should be informed.
4. You tell us you are being abused – physically, sexually or emotionally – or you have been abused in the past. In this situation, we are required by law to report the abuse to local law enforcement and the Florida Department of Children and Families.

COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR PARENT(S) OR GUARDIAN(S):

Except for situations such as those mentioned above, we will not tell your parent or guardian specific things you share with us in our private meetings. This includes activities and behavior your parent or guardian would not approve of – or would be upset by – but do not put you at risk of serious and immediate harm. However, if your risk-taking behavior becomes extreme, then we will use our best judgment to decide whether you are in serious or immediate danger of being harmed. If we believe you are in such danger, we will communicate this information to your parent or guardian.

Example: If you tell us you have tried alcohol at a few parties, we would keep this information confidential. If you tell us that you are drinking and driving or you are a passenger in a car with a driver who is drunk, we would not keep this information confidential from your parent/guardian. If you tell us, or if we believe based on things you've told us, that you are regularly misusing and may be addicted to alcohol or drugs, we would not keep this information confidential.

Example: If you tell us you are having protected sex with a boyfriend or girlfriend, we

would keep this information confidential. If you tell us that, on several occasions, you have engaged in unprotected sex with people you do not know or in unsafe situations, we will not keep this information confidential. You can always ask questions about the types of information we would disclose. You can ask in the form of “hypothetical situations,” in other words: “If someone told you that they were doing _____, would you tell their parents?”

Even if we have agreed to keep information confidential - to not tell your parent or guardian - we may believe it is important for them to know what is going on in your life. In these situations, we will encourage you to tell your parent or guardian and will help you find the best way to tell them. Also, when meeting with your parents, we may sometimes describe problems in general terms, without using specifics, in order to help them know how to be more helpful to you.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENT/GUARDIAN:

Check boxes and sign below indicating your agreement to respect your student’s privacy:

- I will refrain from requesting (OR I may request) detailed information about individual caregiving meetings with my student. I understand I will be provided with periodic updates about general progress and/or may be asked to participate in meetings as needed from time to time.
- Although I know I have the legal right to request written or verbal information since my student is a minor, I agree NOT to request these records in order to respect the confidentiality of my student’s care.
- I understand I will be informed about situations that could endanger my student. I know this decision to breach confidentiality in these circumstances is up to the caregiver’s judgment and may be made in confidential consultation with a Pastor and/or the Director of Care Ministry for Celebration Church.

STUDENT AND PARENT AGREEMENT:

The student that agrees to meet with a Pastor or Care Partner has completed the Request for Care form and has indicated that they have read and agreed to the policies described above and understand the limits to confidentiality and when we must tell others what you tell us. If a parent has completed the Request for Care form on behalf of their student said parent is accepting responsibility to communicate Agreement for Care terms and conditions to student. If you have any questions as we progress with our conversations, you can ask your caregiver at any time.