

Information about Psychological Services Provided by Dr. Woody Childress

Overview

Psychological services include a wide range of services. Consultation, therapy, and psychological assessments (including Independent Educational Evaluations) are the most common services provided by Dr. Childress.

This information is provided to the client to help communicate some important details about the therapist/client relationship. Dr. Childress encourages clients to ask questions for clarification or to obtain more information.

Confidentiality

When therapy is provided, there is a confidential relationship between the client and psychologist. The two exceptions are; (1) when the client is a danger to self or others and (2) when there is evidence of child abuse.

When a psychological assessment or Independent Educational Evaluation is conducted, any information provided is subject to being included in the written report. The client (or parent or guardian when appropriate) must provide a written release before the psychologist can release the report.

When psychological consultation is provided, the psychologist will often share information about the client with the consultee. The client (or parent or guardian when appropriate) must provide authorization before the psychologist can provide information during consultation.

Appointments

Appointments for services are usually scheduled during the evenings or weekends so that the student will not miss school. In the case of an Independent Educational Evaluation, a teacher will usually be interviewed by phone or in person. When appropriate, the student will be observed at school. In some situations, the evaluation may be conducted at the school facility.

Cancellation of missed appointments

The client (or parents or guardians when appropriate) is responsible for keeping the scheduled appointment. If the appointment needs to be canceled or rescheduled, then 24-hours notice is requested. If the client (or parent or guardian when appropriate) does not give prior notice and does not show up for the appointment, then the client (or parent or guardian when appropriate) will be expected to pay for one-half hour of professional services. If the client (or parent or guardian when appropriate) does not appear at the appointment site within 30-minutes of the time scheduled for the appointment, then the session will be considered a "no show".

Emergencies

In case of an emergency where the client is a danger to self or others, call 911 for assistance. If the client may need hospitalization, contact your HMO or insurance company or tax supported hospital (John Peter Smith hospital in Tarrant County and Parkland Hospital in Dallas County). Dr. Childress does not provide Emergency coverage. If you need a psychologist who has the resources to

cover emergencies, please ask Dr. Childress to help refer you to an agency or professional who is equipped to handle emergencies.

Duration of Services

Services will begin when the client (or parent or guardian when appropriate) agrees to the terms of this contract and will end when the psychologist recommends terminating the services or refers the client to another provider.

Payment of Professional Services Rendered

Payment of psychological services is the responsibility of the client (or parent or guardian when appropriate). For several reasons, Dr. Childress has chosen to not join any HMO's. In most cases, the client pays for services provided by Dr. Childress when the service is provided. In the case of an Independent Educational Evaluation, the student's school district is responsible for payment only when the district agrees in advance to contract for services.

Services are typically billed on an hourly basis. Assessment involves the time spent conducting the evaluation as well as time spent scoring and interpreting the tests and writing and editing the written report. These services are billed on the basis of a 60-minute hour for all services involved in the assessment.

Therapy is typically billed as a 50-minute hour. The remaining 10 minutes of the hour are spent completing notes and other paperwork related to the case.

Consultation is billed for the time required for the case. This includes time spent reviewing records, collecting information and writing reports.

Expert testimony in court, a due-process hearing or a deposition is billed from the time the psychologist is requested to be available until the time released. All time related directly to the case will be billed.

Phone calls longer than 5 minutes will be billed, including the initial 5 minutes. Travel to a location more than 10 miles from downtown Fort Worth will be billed on the basis of mileage rather than time.

In rare cases, the Dr. Childress will file an insurance claim for the client. Since filing insurance claims is a very time consuming process, Dr. Childress offers a 20% discount to any client who pays at the time services are rendered. In cases of extreme financial hardship, Dr. Childress may waive a portion of the client's fee if evidence of financial hardship is provided.

Follow-up services

Dr. Childress can be reached at (817)731-2468 for follow-up services.

Training, certification and licenses

Dr. Childress completed a Ph.D. in Educational/School Psychology from the University of Texas at Austin. He has an M.A. in Clinical Psychology from the Rosemead Graduate School of Psychology and a B.A. in Psychology from the University of Houston. He is licensed by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists as a Licensed Psychologist and as a Licensed Specialist in School Psychology. (The TSBEP can be reached at (512)305-7700.) Dr. Childress is a Nationally Certified School Psychologist and is listed in the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology.