**Daybreak**  Counseling Services

54 South State St. (302)632-8842/ (302)422-7021

Dover, DE 19901 Fax (302)422-3360

**Confidentiality Agreement**

A major component in any counseling relationship is confidentiality between the client and the counselor. Whatever is said during a counseling session is held in strict confidence by the counselor. There are certain circumstances in which confidentiality may be broken. For the client’s knowledge, the exceptions to confidentiality are:

1. **Release of information form:** If the client has been referred to counseling by another professional (i.e., clergy) and wishes the referral source to remain in touch with the counseling proceedings, the counselor can converse with the referral source through use of this form.
2. **Abuse of a child, elderly person, or person physically or mentally impaired.** If the counselor becomes aware of or suspects such violations, he/she must report this information to the authorities.
3. **Plan to hurt someone else.**  If there is such contemplation to hurt someone else, it is the counselor’s “duty to warn” the intended victim, as well as the authorities.
4. **Plan to hurt self.** If there is such contemplation to hurt self, counselor will inform family member and state agency.
5. **Clinical supervision.** If the counselor has clinical questions regarding case he/she has the ethical obligation to discuss aspects of case with clinical supervisor.
6. **Court subpoena.** If client is involved with the court, counselor may be directed to release portion of records, as mandated through court officials.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Initial Initial

2/14/17