

## **Consultation Disclaimer:**

Melanie Chung-Sherman, LCSW, PLLC. has a duty to inform you of possible limitations and/or hazards of Consultation Disclaimer.

There are differences between consultation and traditional face-to-face psychotherapy. Consultation is not on-going psychotherapy, but is an opportunity to discuss if on-going services may be beneficial.

Consultation services that provide can be defined as, but are not limited to the following:

- **Collaborative** --aimed at identifying, educating and addressing the overall issues that may be unique to adoption, but may also be related to other factors. This relationship may be built between the consultant and the following: other professionals, therapists, adoptees, expectant/birth parents, adoptive parents, placing agency, adoption ministry, etc.
  - **Short-term**—generally one to three sessions.
  - **Adoption-Specific**—to optimize positive outcomes, consultants must be well-versed in a range of adoption-specific dynamics and issues (e.g. preplacement issues, transracial placement, complicated grief and loss, birth search, attachment awareness, etc.)
  - **Culturally Sensitive**—understanding the importance of one’s diversity and inherent dignity to serve each consultee is critical regardless of ethnic, racial, religious affiliation, sexual identity/orientation, gender identity, education, political stance and/or socioeconomic status.
  - **Family-Centered**—recognizing that the entire family system is critical to the overall well-being and attunement for all involved, whoever that may involve.
  - **Strengths Based**—addressing and building upon strategies and positive abilities/qualities that one already possesses
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- The therapist will not diagnose, code, or treat any mental health issue, attachment category, and/or mood disorder that you may have during consultation. I will be happy to recommend additional referrals or services if you so desire.
  - Consultation services will be paid in full at the time of services rendered and as agreed upon by both parties.
  - You are not obligated to utilize any additional services we provide beyond consultation.
  - Melanie Chung-Sherman, LCSW is not available for on-call emergencies for this service. If you or someone else is in danger, please call the accepted emergency number for your location or 911 immediately.
  - Melanie Chung-Sherman, LCSW cannot control who may be in your presence listening to your conversations with your therapist should you complete your consult by phone or wireless Internet. By using this service, you agree to maintain the level of privacy you desire and hold me harmless against any loss, liability or damages due to someone listening in on your end of the conversation.



MELANIE CHUNG-SHERMAN, LCSW PLLC

Empathy. Encouragement. Empowerment.

- Melanie Chung-Sherman, LCSW will not provide Teleconsultation-only services (such as phone, Internet, or Skype) with someone using a computer in a public environment.
- Melanie Chung-Sherman, LCSW cannot provide on-going psychotherapeutic services for any individual living outside the State of Texas or specific geographical areas in Texas.
- If I *suspect* abuse or neglect of any kind, by federal and state law, I must report this immediately to the proper authorities and that may include, but is not limited to CPS, Department of State, FBI, police, etc. I am under no obligation to inform you of any report made in good faith.

We/I agree that there may be inherent risks involved with Consultation, including but not limited to lack of complete confidentiality and privacy due to limitations regarding technology and this form of consultation/communication, if you choose to interview via phone or Internet-based services. We/I understand that we will be discussing potentially sensitive information and that it may produce feelings, thoughts, or challenges that we/I have not thought of or considered before.

We/I also understand that Consultation Session is not on-going psychotherapy. We/I have provided accurate information to the best of my knowledge to Melanie Chung-Sherman, LCSW beforehand and do not hold her liable for any willful misrepresentation or false information that was provided to the counseling center prior to, during and after the consultation. We/I also understand that I/we may withdraw this consent and terminate services at any time in writing. By using this service you and your heirs or designates acknowledge and agree to hold me harmless from any loss, liabilities or damages you may incur by the use of these services due to inherent factors outside our control.

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Consultee's Signature

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Date

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Consultee's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Therapist's Signature

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Date