

Provider, License & Training

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The practice of licensed or registered persons in the field of psychotherapy is regulated by the Mental Health Licensing Section of the Division of Registrations. A Licensed Clinical Social Worker must hold a masters degree in their profession and have two years of post-masters supervision.

Client Rights and Important Information

- a. You are entitled to receive information from your provider about their methods of therapy, the techniques they use, the duration of your therapy (if your provider can determine it), and the fee structure. Please ask if you would like to receive this information.
- b. You can seek a second opinion from another therapist or terminate therapy at any time.
- c. In a professional relationship (such as ours), sexual intimacy between a therapist and a client is never appropriate. If sexual intimacy occurs, it should be reported to the Department of Regulatory Agencies, Mental Health Section.
- d. Generally speaking, the information provided by and to a client during therapy sessions is legally confidential and is privileged communication and cannot be released without the client's consent. There are exceptions to the general rule of legal confidentiality, some of which are listed in the Colorado statutes (C.R.S. 12-43-218) and the HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices you were provided, as well as other exceptions in Colorado and Federal law. For example, mental health professionals are required to report suspected child abuse to authorities. If a legal exception arises during therapy, if feasible, you will be informed accordingly. The Mental Health Practice Act (C.R.S. 12-43-101, et seq.) is available at: <http://www.dora.state.co.us/mental-health/Statute.pdf>
- e. Confidentiality of Telemedicine, E-mail and Chat, Cell Phone Communication: Messages containing personal and confidential information should be sent through the Therapy Partner portal. If you choose to text or email your provider from your personal email account, please limit the contents to basic issues such as cancellation or change in contact information. In an effort to support confidentiality, your provider will not respond to personal and clinical concerns via regular email or text. Please be aware that unless you are both on land line phones, the conversation is not confidential. The laws that protect the confidentiality of medical information also apply to telemedicine, performed via SimplePractice. Mariah Stuart LCSW encourages you to only communicate through a computer that you know is safe, i.e. wherein confidentiality can be ensured. Be sure to fully exit all online counseling sessions and emails. If you and your provider are unable to connect or are disconnected during a session due to a technological breakdown, please try to reconnect within 10 minutes. If reconnection is not possible, email to schedule a new session time.

Confidentiality

The law protects the relationship between a client and a psychotherapist, and information cannot be disclosed without written permission. Should you request our communication with another entity for care coordination, you will be required to complete a Release of Information Document.

Exceptions to Confidentiality:

- Suspected child abuse or dependent adult or elder abuse, for which your provider is required by law to report this to the appropriate authorities immediately.
- If a client is threatening serious bodily harm to another person/s, your provider must notify the police and inform the intended victim.
- If a client intends to harm himself or herself, your provider will make every effort to enlist their cooperation in ensuring their safety. If they do not cooperate, your provider will take further measures without their permission that are provided to therapists by law in order to ensure their safety.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to ask.

Fees for Services

Mariah Stuart LCSW offers one free initial 15-30 minute phone consultation per family to discuss services offered.

Rates for services are as follows:

Individual Therapy

- o Initial Intake Session (45-50 Minutes): \$180
- o Individual Therapy Session (38-52 Minutes): \$165
- o Brief Individual Therapy Session (16-37 Minutes): \$110

Phone Calls/Coordination of Care

- o The first 15 minutes of any phone call your provider makes are free. Each 15-minute increment thereafter costs \$50.
- o These costs include conversations with caregivers or third parties for continuity of care.

Payment

This practice accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover and personal checks. I accept HSA/FSA payments, but will require a back-up payment method if HSA/FSA cards are used. While our system is best positioned to accept payments from HSA/FSA accounts, I cannot guarantee charges will be accepted on the end of HSA/FSA companies. HSA/FSA companies allow for reimbursement for charges not accepted by the card's settings, using statement I offer via the client portal.

Clients are responsible for payment at the time of service.

Good Faith Estimate

You have the right to receive a "Good Faith Estimate" explaining how much your medical care will cost. Under the law, health care providers need to give patients who don't have insurance or who are not using insurance an estimate of the bill for medical items and services.

- You have the right to receive a Good Faith Estimate for the total expected cost of any non-emergency items or services. This includes related costs like medical tests, prescription drugs, equipment, and hospital fees.
- Make sure your health care provider gives you a Good Faith Estimate in writing at least 1 business day before your medical service or item. You can also ask your health care provider, and any other provider you choose, for a Good Faith Estimate before you schedule an item or service.
- If you receive a bill that is at least \$400 more than your Good Faith Estimate, you can dispute the bill.
- Make sure to save a copy or picture of your Good Faith Estimate. For questions or more information about your right to a Good Faith Estimate, visit www.cms.gov/nosurprises or call the Colorado Division of Insurance at 303-894-7490 or 1-800-930-3745.

Policy for Non-Payment

In the event billing efforts fail, delinquent accounts may be subject to collections. If there is an outstanding balance on your account, Mariah Stuart LCSW reserves the right to cancel upcoming appointments until payment has been received. This practice will make every attempt to develop a payment plan with any challenges to pay a past due balance prior to sending a balance to collections.

Insurance

This practice does not directly bill through any insurance or medical plan. Insurance-ready statements will be emailed to you each month detailing any direct payments you have made to the practice. These statements can be used to initiate the reimbursement process privately through your insurance company if you choose. You are welcome to use an HSA or FSA card for services. We ask that you provide us with a second form of electronic payment, should your H/FSA account be empty.

Disclosure Regarding Divorce and Custody Litigation

If you are involved in a divorce or custody litigation, Mariah Stuart LCSW is unable to provide guidance, conduct investigations, or engage in evaluations regarding custody or parental fitness. As mental health providers, it is not within the scope of our role to make recommendations to the court concerning custody or parenting issues. The court can appoint

professionals who have no prior relationship with family members to conduct an investigation or evaluation and to make recommendations to the court concerning parental responsibilities for parenting time in the best interest of the family's children. By signing this Disclosure Statement, you agree not to subpoena your provider to court for testimony or disclosure of treatment information in such litigation; and you agree not to request that your provider write any reports to the court or to your attorney, making recommendations concerning custody. The court can appoint professionals who have no prior relationship with family members to conduct an investigation or evaluation and to make recommendations to the court concerning parental responsibilities for parenting time in the best interest of the family's children.

Phone Calls & Emails

Your provider will return calls within 48-72 business hours. Note that business hours are on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Cancellations

All cancellations within 48 hours notice are subject to the full session fee. No call or no shows are also charged the full session fee. If patients are not present within the first 15 minutes of their session, they will be considered a no show.

Emergency Services

This practice does not provide 24-hour emergency service. In the case of a life-threatening emergency, please call 911 or go to your nearest emergency room.