

RHEMA



Counseling & Support Services
Solution Focused Treatment

A Message To Parents

Dear Parents or Guardians:

Welcome to RHEMA Counseling & Support Services, PC. We consider it a privilege to meet your family's counseling needs. During the first session, the counselor will ask to speak with you to discuss goals, concerns and obtain a brief history of your child. Although each counselor has their own counseling style, parents or guardians are often asked to speak with the counselor before or after each session to give an update on any issues. Feel free to bring with you any information you think the counselor may find helpful.

Parents/Guardians, please note that children of any age have the right to independently consent to and receive mental health treatment without parental consent and, in that situation; information about that treatment cannot be disclosed to anyone without the child's agreement. This information may be sexual in nature, treatment of venereal diseases, pregnancy, abuse of controlled substances or alcohol or emotional disturbances. While privacy in psychotherapy is very important, particularly with teenagers, parental involvement is also essential to successful treatment and this requires that some private information be shared with parents.

It is RHEMA Counseling & Support Services policy not to provide treatment to a child under 12 unless he/she agrees that we can share whatever information we consider necessary with his/her parents. For children 12 and over, we request an agreement between the client and his/her parents allowing us to share general information about the progress of the child's treatment and his/her attendance at scheduled sessions. We will also provide parents with a summary of their child's treatment upon request when it is complete. Any other communication will require the child's Authorization, unless we feel that the child is in danger or is a danger to someone else, in which case, we will notify the parents of our concern. Before giving parents any information, the counselor will discuss the matter with the child, if possible, and we will do our best to address any objections he/she may have.