

## Laurie J. Hall, LCSW

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### Welcome

My name is Laurie Hall, and I am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. I would like to acknowledge the courage that you have demonstrated by scheduling an appointment to consider psychotherapy. This can be a difficult choice for many people for a variety of reasons. I hope that by working together and communicating openly this will be a positive experience for you. The following items are important for us to agree upon:

- Our main task is to identify your goals and try to achieve them. I will provide a safe environment for you to express yourself and to achieve your goals. You will decide what information you share with me and if there is anything you would like to change in your life. I will help you identify patterns in your life that may not be working for you and assist in your exploration of the options available to you. You will evaluate the options and make decisions about any action you would like to take.
- There is no guarantee that psychotherapy will solve all problems, but you and I will work together to do the best we can. Your treatment here is voluntary and you may choose to end it at any time. If you do choose to stop treatment prior to achieving your goals, I would request that you inform me of your decision as opposed to not returning for scheduled appointments.
- Sessions are 50 minutes long. You and I will decide together how often we will meet and for how many total sessions. Typically, sessions occur once a week. Sessions are scheduled from Monday through Friday, and different appointment times are available on different days. Appointment times can be as early as 11:00 a.m. and as late as 6:00 p.m., depending on current availability.
- Cancellation Policy – Please advise me when you need to cancel an appointment as far in advance as possible, as this will allow me to offer that time to other clients who are waiting for an open appointment. You must cancel your appointment by calling me at least one business day in advance or a \$30 failed appointment fee will be due at your next appointment. If you miss one appointment without cancelling in advance, your failed appointment fee will go up to full fee.
- The information that you share during therapy sessions is confidential with certain exceptions. These exceptions occur when I believe that someone is in danger, or has been harmed, such as if:
  - ❑ I believe you are in danger of harming yourself or another person.
  - ❑ I believe that a child, an elderly person, or a dependent adult, either has been or is being emotionally, physically, or sexually abused and/or neglected.
- I check my office phone messages from Monday through Friday. If you are unable to locate me during a crisis situation, you can call any of the following numbers:

Access and Crisis Line	(888) 724-7240
Emergency Screening Unit	(619) 421-6900 ext. 0
Battered Woman's Hotline	(800) 799-7233
Emergency	911

Thank you for considering me as your psychotherapist, and I look forward to working with you.