# **Aspiring Minds**

### Neuropsychological Assessment & Psychotherapy Clinic

Ludmila Zaytsev, Ph.D. Clinical Psychologist (PSY 23050)

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Please read the consent form below carefully. It is important that you understand the kind of services the Aspiring Minds Clinic provides, and the terms and conditions under which these services are offered. If you have any questions, Dr. Zaytsev or clinic staff will be happy to discuss them with you.

### **Informed Consent**

### **Confidentiality**

Information about clients is kept confidential within the office. Client information will not be shared outside the office without the client's written permission.

### **Limits of Confidentiality**

All information disclosed within these sessions are strictly confidential and may not be revealed to anyone outside the Aspiring Minds Clinic staff without the written permission of the client, or if applicable, the client's representative. Confidentiality is waived under the following conditions:

- If you are deemed in danger of harming yourself or anyone else
- If the therapist believes that a child is being neglected or abused
- If an elder is being abused
- If the client is a minor (under 18 years of age), the client does not have the legal right to keep therapy confidential from his/her parents. For the purposes of therapy, however, the parent may agree to grant the minor privacy in therapy.
- Professional therapy never includes sex. Allegations of sexual misconduct by a licensed health care provider must be reported to the CA Board of Psychology.

#### **Communication via E-mail**

According to HIPAA regulations, we need your expressed authorization to communicate with you via email regarding your case or the case of your child. However, you need to be aware that while every effort is made to ensure privacy, email messages sent over the internet are not always completely secure.

Yes, I wish to communicate with you via email, when needed. This includes sending me a copy of my child's (or my) report in .pdf format. My email address is
No, I do not wish to communicate with you via email.

### **After Hours Contact/Emergencies**

The operating hours of the office are Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm. This office is not equipped to offer treatment on an emergency or walk-in-crisis intervention basis. If in case of an emergency, you are unable to reach Dr. Zaytsev (such as after business hours or during vacation or holiday time), you are advised to:

- Call 911
- Go to the emergency room of the nearest hospital for an evaluation
- Contact the switchboard of Los Angeles Crisis Hotline 800-854-7771 and speak with a counselor by phone

#### Release of Records

Written records are released only after an authorization for Authorized Release of Information form is signed by the client or guardian.

### **Psychological Assessment**

A written report of the assessment results, conclusions, and recommendations will be released to you and to anyone you authorize to receive it. Raw data (the test questions and answers) may only be released to another psychologist who has been trained to interpret them.

#### **Assessment Fees and Financial Agreement**

With the exception of the Medicare, we do not accept insurance as a form of payment for services rendered. A detailed receipt will be provided when all fees are paid in full. This receipt will contain all of the information necessary to submit a claim to your insurance company, should you choose to do so. Please be aware that insurance companies vary in their reimbursement for psychological and educational testing services, and no amount of reimbursement is guaranteed. A payment in full is required at the time the services are provided. If the payment is not received within 30 days of the session, collections procedures may be initiated. We accept cash, check, Venmo, Zelle, and credit card payments.

Assessment payments are made in two installments, first half at the time of the first visit (intake interview) and the balance at the time of the testing session. In case the client decides to discontinue assessment process upon completion of the intake interview/consultation, the session fee of \$350 will apply. Client agrees to pay the agreed-upon fee at the time of service, whether or not their insurance company reimburses them for all or part of the fee.

Additional services (e.g., consultation with schools, IEP meeting attendance, etc.) may be provided upon request at an hourly rate of \$250 per hour. Travel time is charged door-to-door and is billed at \$130 hourly.

In case the provider is subpoenaed to testify in court regarding your case, an hourly fee of \$500 will apply and require an initial retainer of \$1,500.00. Additional time will be billed hourly (or portion thereof) as necessary at the rate of \$500 per hour. Preparation time (charged separately) is usually required and typically ranges from 2-3 hours (or more if the records to be reviewed

are extensive) at \$400 per hour. No matter who deposes me or arranges to a court appearance, the \$1500 minimum fee must be paid at least 5 working days in advance. If for some reason the appointment is canceled with less than 72-hour notice, no partial or full refund of the minimum fee will be issued.

### **Treatment Fees and Financial Agreement**

With the exception of the Medicare, we do not accept insurance as a form of payment for psychotherapeutic services rendered. If you have a PPO insurance plan, a detailed receipt can be provided once a month when all fees are paid in full.

Therapy payments are made at the beginning of each session. Client agrees to pay the agreedupon fee at the time of service, whether or not their insurance company reimburses them for all or part of the fee.

To account for the annual inflation rate, there is a yearly \$10 increase in the per session rate. This increase automatically takes place on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January. In preparation for the change, client is offered a reminder in November and December.

#### **No-Show and Cancellation Policy**

Your visit has been reserved for you. A 24-hour notice is required for cancellation or you will be charged a late cancellation fee equivalent to your full appointment fee. It is important to recognize that if you are using insurance to pay for your regular treatment sessions, your insurance does not cover a late cancelation fee. A late cancellation fee is always a patient's responsibility.

### **Social Media & Public Setting Policy**

The basis for this policy is to truly protect our relationship and your confidentiality in session. You are the person that can decide what you want to keep confidential.

I must keep my relationship with you completely confidential except in cases of where you might harm yourself or others (see confidentiality agreement for details). Thus, if you post on my page, you are opening up the possibility of people inferring about our relationship or asking you about your connection to me. You get to decide what you tell people. You have a choice as to what you reveal about yourself online, however I will not reveal my connection to you. Thus, this is how I handle different social media options:

### "Friending" & "Following"

To respect your privacy and confidentiality, I do not accept friend requests on my personal Facebook page, Instagram, LinkedIn, or on any social networking site from current or former clients.

#### **Interacting on Social Media**

Please do not use messaging on social networking sites, such as Facebook, Instagram, or LinkedIn to contact me. The best way to interact with me is by text or phone.

## STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

I have reviewed the information above and give consent for treatment. Further, I agree that I have been afforded the opportunity to discuss any questions about the terms of this agreement before signing below.

I have read all the items listed above and hereby consent to services at the office of Lud Zaytsev, Ph.D. I agree to pay the total fee of \$			
\$ per thera	py session.		
Client Signature (if over 18 years old)			
Parent or Legal Guardian (if minor)	Date		
Psychologist	Date		