

Oaks Ministry Collaborative

Participant Release & Confidentiality Agreement

Oaks exists to equip the local church to be a rehabilitative community for the healing process. We are a support ministry. Our services include peer support and spiritual counsel through advocates (one-on-one support), groups, restorative prayer, and collaborative counseling care. Oaks provides preventative and rehabilitative psychological support through the local church community, and so our support care is administered as a free service. Oaks does not provide licensed clinical counseling or certified biblical counseling, though professional and/or lay counseling be part of the Oaks support connections. We do not diagnose, assess, or treat mental illness. Oaks volunteers and staff will consult with supervision when a situation exceeds our level of community support care.

Confidentiality

All interactions which take place in the setting of Oaks support are considered confidential. This includes requests by telephone, all interactions with volunteers or staff, any scheduling or appointment notes, all session content records and any progress notes taken during your sessions. Oaks staff and volunteers will not even verify that you are a care receiver of Oaks. You may choose to give Oaks staff and volunteers permission in writing to release any or specific information about you to any person or agency that you designate. If you encounter any unethical behavior such as a breach of confidentiality in your Oaks connections, please contact the Oaks ministry leader at your church, or email the Oaks leadership team at admin@oaksministrycollaborative.com.

Limits to this agreement

1. In some legal proceedings a judge may issue a court order. This would require an Oaks staff member or support volunteer to testify in court.
2. If I learn of or believe that there is physical or sexual abuse or neglect of any person under 18 years of age, I must report this information to county child protection services.
3. If I learn of or believe that an elderly person, or disabled person is being abused or neglected, I must file a report with the appropriate state agency that handles elder abuse.
4. If I learn of or believe that you are threatening serious harm to another person, I am obligated to report this. This can be in the form of telling the person who you have threatened, contacting the police or placing you into hospitalization.
5. If there is evidence that you are a danger to yourself and I believe that you are likely to complete suicide unless protective measures are taken, I may be obligated to seek hospitalization for you or to contact family members or others who can help provide protection.
6. There may be times when Oaks staff and volunteers consult with supervision with church leadership or Oaks leadership for supervision. The persons with whom I discuss cases are bound to keep information confidential.

I have read and discussed the above information. I understand the nature and limits of the Oaks Ministry Collaborative support services and confidentiality.

Oaks Participant Written Name: _____

Oaks Participant Signature: _____

Date: _____