

TELEMEDICINE INFORMED CONSENT

I understand that “telemedicine” includes the practice of health care delivery, diagnosis, consultation, treatment, transfer of medical data, and education using interactive audio, video, or data communications. I understand that telemedicine also involves the communication of my medical/mental information, both orally and visually, to health care practitioners within the agency.

My signature below denotes my consent & understanding:

- (1) I have the right to withhold or withdraw consent at any time without affecting my right to future care or treatment or risking the loss or withdrawal services to which I would otherwise be entitled.
- (2) The laws that protect the confidentiality of my medical information also apply to telemedicine. As such, I understand that the information disclosed by me during the course of my counseling is generally confidential. However, there are both mandatory and permissive exceptions to confidentiality, including, but not limited to reporting child, elder, and dependent adult abuse; expressed threats of violence towards an ascertainable victim; and where my mental or emotional state an issue in a legal proceeding.
- (3) I understand the risks associated with telemedicine, including, but not limited to: the possibility, despite reasonable efforts, that transmission of my medical information could be disrupted or distorted by technical failures; unauthorized persons could interrupt transmission of my medical information. Additionally, telemedicine based services and care may not be as complete as face-to-face services. I also understand that if my counselor believes I would be better served by face-to-face services I will be referred to a counselor who can provide such services in my area or I will postpone my treatment until a time when face to face sessions can begin again.
- (4) I understand that I may benefit from telemedicine, but that results cannot be guaranteed or assured.
- (5) I understand that I have a right to access my medical information and copies of medical records in accordance with Pennsylvania law.
- (6) In an effort to recognize that telemedicine can be interrupted by Wi-Fi/internet access my counselor and I have decided that if the internet is not available, a phone call could be utilized during the appointment time until internet access resumes for either of us. I understand that my counselor may call me from an undisclosed, blocked or anonymous number.

