

Divorced/Separated Parents Policy

Changes in a child's family situation can be very complicated and difficult, and CTD is limited in the way we can support children in these potential situations. Adherence to this policy will help to maintain understanding between staff and the parents/guardians involved.

1. We will consider both parents to have legal custody unless we are presented with a court order to the contrary.
2. Both parents will have full access to information regarding the child's therapy, including medical records, unless we are presented with a court order to the contrary.
3. Both parents can receive appointment reminders via text and/or email, but we will expect each parent to communicate scheduled appointments with the other parent as needed.
4. One parent will be listed as the primary contact for the child, and will be the parent with whom we communicate. We will expect this parent to communicate information about scheduled appointments with the other parent as needed.
5. One parent will be listed as the responsible financial party and billing statements will be sent to this parent. Communication over cost sharing will be the responsibility of the parents involved. Failure to maintain a current account balance may result in a pause in treatment.
6. Either parent can request a parent consultation at any time to have a one-on-one conversation with their child's therapist in regard to their child's treatment. This conversation will be documented in the child's chart and will be subject to release upon the receipt of a written records request. Consults are subject to our fee schedule and cannot be billed to insurance. Fees must be paid at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled time or the consult will be cancelled.
7. Our therapists are not trained or licensed to evaluate parental fitness or custody, and cannot make these judgements in good faith. As a result, our therapists will not write letters or provide testimony in support of one parent over another. We will be willing to provide copies of therapy records upon written request. If a therapist is subpoenaed, the parent requesting their testimony will be billed \$1000 per impacted treatment day. If the case is postponed, \$1000 will be charged for each additional impacted treatment day.
8. Conversations about legal proceedings and/or one parent's opinion of the other should not occur during therapy sessions, and are not appropriate for this therapy setting.
9. Physical, occupational, and speech therapists cannot provide mental health care or counseling. Please contact your child's Primary Care Provider for a referral for mental health or counseling services.