

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

1. Melissa Bannerot, MSW, LSW #773, Melissa Bannerot – Counseling - LLC., 5540 North Academy Boulevard, Ste 250, Colorado Springs, CO 80918, (719) 310-6357.

2. Therapist graduated from University of Houston with a Master of Social and is a Licensed Social Worker Colorado #. Therapist has been in private practice in CO since 2011 and worked for several TX mental health agencies from 1993 to 2001 and in Colorado in a private practice since 2011. Therapist has been under clinical supervision from 1998 to 2000 in Texas and since 2011 in Colorado as a part of completing licensure requirements. Provider currently operates under the license of Sandra Felt, LCSW and is being monitored by Darlen Brace Address: 8335 Mustang Place, Colorado Springs, CO 80908. Phone: 970.903.3588 .

2. The practice of licensed or registered persons in the field of psychotherapy is regulated by the Mental Health Licensing Section of the Division of Professions and Occupations. The Board of Marriage & Family Therapist Examiners can be reached at 1560 Broadway, Suite 1350, Denver, Colorado 80202, (303) 894-7800. Regulatory requirements applicable to mental health professionals:

- Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, and a Licensed Professional Counselor must hold a master's degree in their profession and have two years of post-masters supervision.
- Registered psychotherapist is a psychotherapist listed in the State's database and is authorized by law to practice psychotherapy in Colorado but is not licensed by the state and is not required to satisfy any standardized educational or testing requirements to obtain a registration from the state.
- Certified Addiction Counselor I (CAC I) must be a high school graduate, complete required training hours and 1,000 hours of supervised experience.
- Certified Addiction Counselor II (CAC II) must complete additional required training hours & 2,000 hours of supervised experience.
- Certified Addiction Counselor III (CAC III) must have a bachelor's degree in behavioral health, complete additional required training hours and 2,000 hours of supervised experience.
- Licensed Addiction Counselor must have a clinical master's degree and meet the CAC III requirements.
- Licensed Social Worker must hold a master's degree in social work.
- Psychologist Candidate, a Marriage and Family Therapist Candidate, and a Licensed Professional Counselor Candidate must hold the necessary licensing degree and be in the process of completing the required supervision for licensure.
- A Licensed Psychologist must hold a doctorate degree in psychology and have one year of post-doctoral supervision.

4. CLIENT RIGHTS AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

a. You are entitled to receive information from therapist about your therapy methods, techniques used, duration (if known), and fee structure.

b. You can seek a second opinion from another therapist or terminate therapy at any time.

c. In a professional relationship (such as ours), sexual intimacy is never appropriate and should be reported to the Board that licenses, registers, or certifies the licensee, registrant or certificate holder.

d. Generally speaking, the information provided by and to the client in a professional relationship with therapist is legally confidential and therapist cannot disclose the information without client's consent. There are several exceptions to confidentiality which include: (1) I am *required* to report any suspected/known incident of child abuse (even if victim is an adult now if there's knowledge/reason to believe that perpetrator is in position of trust (clergy, teacher, parent), or elder (70yo+) abuse or neglect to law enforcement, even if it's already been reported, so you have the option of choosing how much to disclose; (2) I am *required* to make reasonable and timely effort to report any serious threat of imminent physical violence against a specific person(s), including specific location/entity to law enforcement and to the person(s) threatened; (3) I *may* report to school/district and law enforcement an articulable and significant threat or substantial bodily harm against a school or occupants or exhibits such behaviors; (4) I am *required* to initiate a mental health evaluation of a client who is imminently dangerous to self or to others, or who is gravely disabled, as a result of a mental disorder, which may include a call to CO Crisis Support Line for a mobile evaluation which may result in a 72-hour hold, which I will not be liable for; (5) I am *required* to report any suspected threat to national security to federal officials; (6) I may be required by Court Order to disclose treatment information; and (7) I am *urged* to report to a county department reasonably believed or observed incidents or imminent risk of mistreatment (abuse, caretaker neglect and/or exploitation), and/or self-neglect of at-risk adults and elders (unable or lacks sufficient understanding or capacity to communicate responsible decision making or perform or obtain services needed for their health safety or welfare) not more than 24 hours after observation or discovery; IDD to law enforcement agency. You may read section 12-43-218, 18-3-401(3.5), 18-6.5-108, 19-3-304(1), 26-5-111, and 27-65-105 of

the Colorado Revised Statutes C.R.S 25-1-802, and the HIPAA Privacy Rule Federal law 45 C.F.R 164.501 for further details. If a legal exception arises during therapy, if feasible, you will be informed accordingly. The Mental Health Practice Act (CRS 12-43-101, et seq.) is available at: <http://www.dora.state.co.us/mental-health/Statute.pdf>.

e. When I am concerned about a client's safety, it is my policy to request a Welfare Check through local law enforcement. In doing so, I may disclose to law enforcement officers information concerning my concerns. You consent to this practice, if it should become necessary.

f. Under Colorado law, C.R.S. 14-10-123.8, parents have the right to access mental health treatment information concerning their minor children, unless the court has restricted access to such information. If parents request treatment information from me, I may provide a treatment summary, in compliance with Colorado law and HIPAA Standards.

g. I agree not to record our sessions without your written consent; and you agree not to record a session or a conversation with me without my written consent.

h. To develop your goals and Treatment Plan and learn of the benefits and risks associated with the particular approach, and anticipated frequency, with no absolute guarantee of your desired results by your therapist as it is hard to predict the outcome of therapy.

i. To phone call therapist for any non-emergency reason during office hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm. Messages will be returned by the end of the next business day. Therapist is not available on an emergency basis.

j. To text or e-mail for scheduling purposes only. To protect your privileged and private confidential information by not texting or e-mailing it; it becomes a part of your legal medical record documented and archived in your chart. Emails are retained in the logs of your and my Internet service providers and available to be read by their system administrator(s). All of technology are not confidential and can be hacked into. To consent to sending and accepting texts you recognize the risk that information could be exposed to others when it appears on your phone. Fax is used to transmit and receive health information to and from requested parties with consent.

k. To leave your cell phone in your car to protect privacy in case of spyware vulnerabilities. To turn off GPS tracking on your device if you use location-based services on your mobile phone. To not have sessions recorded by you, members, or therapist unless signed permission in writing is made in advance per session. Take notes.

l. To know I do not accept friend or contact requests from current or former clients on any social networking site (Facebook, LinkedIn, etc) to avoid compromising confidentiality and to keep the boundaries of our therapeutic relationship so do not contact me these ways. I do not accept clients as fans of my professional Facebook page. To know my listings on any site like square, yelp, etc. are not requests to add a review, testimonial, rating or endorsement.

m. To express yourself on any site you wish using a pseudonym not linked to your email address or friend networks to protect your confidentiality, but I cannot respond to any review due to confidentiality, and I may never see them. To communicate anything about therapy or therapist directly in session, even if you decide we are not a good fit.

n. To call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency room in the event of a crisis/emergency and seek immediate medical or psychiatric attention. If currently considering or threatening suicide or any form of harm to myself or others, client takes full responsibility for seeking appropriate local help immediately and for any action client may take. Client acknowledges the following resources: www.hopeline.com

1-800-273-TALK(8255) 24hour Suicide Prevention Lifeline	1-800- SUICIDE	1-800-656- HOPE	1-800-TLC- TEEN	844-493-TALK(8255) text TALK to 38255 CO Crisis Support Line
Crisis Text Line 741-741 free 24/7 for suicidal thoughts, bullying, depression & other tough issues				

o. To understand that, in keeping with generally accepted standards of practice, therapist may confidentially consult with or receive mentoring from other mental health professionals, i.e. regarding case management. The purpose of the consultation is to assure quality care, and every effort is made to protect the identity of clients. You will be notified as to whom and when requested given a release form to sign prior to the consulting.

p. A proceeding for discipline of a licensee, registrant, or certificate holder may be added to existing statutes; commenced when the board that licenses, registers, or certifies the licensee, registrant, or certificate holder has reasonable grounds to believe that the licensee, registrant, or certificate holder under the board's jurisdiction has committed any act or failed to act pursuant to the grounds established in section 12-43-222 or 12-43-226. (II)

(A) Any person who alleges that a licensee, registrant, or certificate holder violated a provision of this article 43 related to maintenance of records of a client eighteen years of age or older must file a complaint or other notice with the board within seven years after the person discovered or reasonably should have discovered the misconduct. A licensee, registrant, or certificate holder shall notify a client that the client's records may not be maintained after the seven-year period for filing a complaint pursuant to this section. The required notice must be provided to the client in writing no later than one hundred eighty days after the end of the client's treatment. The notice may be included with the licensee's disclosures pursuant to section 12-43-214 (1) or sent to the client's last-known mailing address. Consistent with all procedural requirements of this article 43, or otherwise required by law, the board must either take disciplinary action on the complaint or dismiss the complaint no later than two years after the date the complaint or notice was filed with the board. (B) The seven-year limitation period specified in subsection (1)(a)(II)(A) of this section does not apply to the filing of a complaint or other notice with the board for any other violation of this article 43, including the acts described in section 12-43-222 or 12-43-226.

q. If an adult client requests a copy of the file, my policy is to provide a treatment summary. In the rare case that SSA or a disability agency requests a copy with a specific release for the actual record then the entire copy of the file may be released.

r. If a couple/family client needs individual therapy individual(s) will be referred. Otherwise couple/family therapy would need to be terminated and couple/family therapy could not resume, and must have written consent of all parties. The risk is one party could subpoena therapist later while treating one and giving information on the couple/family causing complications. Couple/family clients may have individual break-out sessions to support the goals of the couple/family, for intake and assessment. During break-out sessions with one member of the couple/family, we limit confidentiality, meaning anything that's shared in break-out sessions may be shared with the other member(s) to effectively treat the couple/family, with consent. With consent I will use my best judgment as to whether, when, and to what extent first the disclosing member be given the opportunity to share it or I make disclosure to the couple/family, if appropriate. Such information becomes part of the couple/family client's file, and may indicate need to terminate couples/family therapy if shared information indicates continuing couples/family therapy could cause harm, i.e. ongoing affair or characterological domestic violence. As long as no major extreme conflict exists between siblings, they may both receive services here. If you feel it necessary to talk about matters you absolutely don't want to be shared with anyone then consult with an individual therapist who can treat you individually. This prevents a conflict of interest of an individual and a couple/family. Information gained in break-out sessions may be relevant or essential to proper treatment of couple/family. If I am not free to exercise my clinical judgment regarding the need to bring this information to the couple during therapy I might be placed in a situation where I will have to terminate couples/family therapy. This policy intends to prevent such need for termination. A request for records by anyone in couples/family therapy requires the signed authorization of all privilege holders. Information shared by a collateral is not confidential and may be shared if subpoenaed to testify.

5. METHODS AND TECHNIQUES

Therapist integrates trauma-informed Accelerated Experiential Dynamic Psychotherapy (AEDP), Internal Family Systems (IFS), mindfulness-based, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, Emotionally Focused Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, and systemic therapies and techniques with a strengths-based approach, utilizing the evidence-based treatment modality appropriate to the client and presenting issues. Therapist is trained in Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing (EMDR) therapy as well as AEDP therapy. Issues of special interest are relationships, parenting, trauma, anxiety, and depression. Duration is determined by need and measured progress.

6. RISKS INVOLVED IN THERAPY

Therapy may a.) Bring greater discomfort into your life before it brings greater comfort. b) Bring about significant changes in your life, which others in your life may feel threatened by. This could lead to conflict in some relationships; c.) The resolution of some problems can sometimes bring up new problems.

7. NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES RECEIPT & ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF NOTICE

You have been offered a copy of Therapist's "Notice of Privacy Practices" to read and it is available on our website below. If you have any questions regarding the Notice or your privacy rights, you may inform Therapist.

Client Refuses to Acknowledge Receipt

8. DISCLOSURE REGARDING DIVORCE AND CUSTODY LITIGATION

If you are involved in divorce or custody litigation, my role as a therapist is not to make recommendations to the court concerning custody or parenting issues. By signing this Disclosure Statement, you agree not to subpoena me to court for testimony or for disclosure of treatment information in such litigation; and you agree not to request that I write any reports to the court or to your attorney, making recommendations concerning custody. The court can appoint professionals, who have no prior relationship with family members, to conduct an investigation or evaluation and to make recommendations to the court concerning parental responsibilities or parenting time in the best interests of the family's children. If you subpoena me or records I will obtain an attorney to oppose it in order to preserve the extremely important therapeutic relationship. Harm may result in the clinical relationship when MFTs are forced to testify and to share treatment information regarding their children clients. If children client's confidentiality is betrayed it may risk loss of therapeutic alliance and trust. Despite this should client subpoena therapist to testify in court about therapy sessions, therapist testimony in court is limited to statements of fact about therapy sessions conducted with client and attending parties. Therapist is NOT qualified to offer opinions in matters of custody, parental fitness, and topics beyond the scope of the therapy sessions. Therapy sessions are protected by HIPAA and the Colorado Revised Statutes, and client/therapist confidentiality will be invoked during testimony, except where explicit or implied consent has been given by all parties attending those sessions being addressed. The judge may order therapist to testify, and therapist may appeal judge's order under certain extraordinary circumstances. Therapist fee is \$300/hour, "door-to-door", regardless of whether therapist testifies, with a \$600 retainer due prior to the court date. If it is not paid for prior to giving testimony, therapist will inform the judge of that fact.

9. BILLING

I do not accept insurance. I offer fee for services via payment of cash, check or credit card.

10. LATE CANCELLATION/NO SHOW/TERMINATION POLICY AGREEMENT

You shall keep all scheduled appointments, unless a personal emergency occurs, and shall give notice of at least 24 hours of intention to cancel your appointment. If you leave a message, the date and time of the message will serve as the basis of when notice was made. If appointment is canceled at least one hour, but less than 24 hours, you will be considered a "NO SHOW" and you will be charged your full session fee for the scheduled session, unless an emergency occurred determined by therapist. The first time each of these occurs you will not be charged (grace). However, if this should occur a second time, you will be charged. Grace is always given for sickness and unsafe weather/road conditions. You will be responsible to schedule the next appointment within a week. If you do not then Therapist will call once to clarify your wish to continue or terminate therapy. If you do not respond within a week therapist will document termination of therapy. Therapist will acknowledge termination by documenting it with reasons in the record. Therapist reserves the right to terminate therapy when appropriate and ethical.

11. RESPONSIBILITIES, PAYMENT FOR THERAPY FINANCIAL AGREEMENT

Your appointments will usually be 30 (child), 50 (adult), or 90-120 (trauma/family) minutes, posted and charged the standard rates, a sliding scale may be negotiated during times of financial hardships. As the financially responsible person for the account you are ultimately responsible for all fees described in this agreement and will pay at time of check-in for all portions of services due in full at the time services are provided by therapist. Payment methods accepted: Cash, Personal Check, or debit, credit or HSA card. A \$25 NSF insufficient fund charge is assessed for returned/declined checks/payments, and checks that are not paid within 2 weeks of being returned to Therapist's office are handled as unpaid bills. Unpaid bills may be submitted to collection services, credit reports, court, and the local district attorney's office. You will then be required to make all payments in cash. In persistent cases a discharge from the practice may be appropriate for nonpayment situations. You may

be charged for phone consults of 10 minutes and more with therapist based on the standard rates below with a minimum 30 minutes rate.

12. FEE WITH PROMPT PAY DISCOUNT AT TIME OF SERVICE effective 1/1/19

Service	Standard Rate
Initial	100
50 min	100
85 min	150
115 min	200
Group	45

13. TREATMENT AGREEMENT CONSENT AND AUTHORIZATION

By signing below I agree to abide by these accepted policy terms of service regarding treatment, disclosure, payment, privacy, late cancellations/no show, fees, billing, and rights. I authorize Therapist to provide psychotherapy assessment and/or mental health treatment/services, which may include EMDR therapy, and may include touch, to me as a client/consumer. I have had an opportunity to discuss this with therapist.

I have read all the information herein and it has been presented to me verbally. I understand the disclosures that have been made to me. I also acknowledge that I have received a copy of this Disclosure Statement if requested. I know my rights as a client or as the client's privilege holder and enter this agreement.		
Print Client's name(s):		Date:
Client's or Privilege Holder's Signature(s):		
Client's or Privilege Holder's Relationship(s):		

Minor 15 years or older as privilege holder has authority to consent to treatment on their own behalf (CRS 27-65-103).

For a Minor under 15 years old, who gets to make decisions for this child?

- Guardian ad litem appointed, collateral privilege holder instead of parents
- Child legal representative

PLEASE CHECK BOX INDICATING marital status of parents:

- Married (Need either parent's consent, who is collateral privilege holder)
- Never married, never a court order appointing decision-maker (Need either parent's consent, who is collateral privilege holder)
- Divorced/Court Order established allocation of parental responsibilities/decision-making **PROVIDE COPY**
 - Parent with Decision-Making for medical and/or mental health decisions is collateral privilege holder and can consent **OR**
 - Joint Decision-Makers (Need **both** parents' consent, who are collateral privilege holders.

Provider Statement

Therapist hereby personally and professionally commits to offering you these rights, providing you with the highest quality of service and responding to your needs in the most highly ethical manner, according to the professional standards of care in marriage and family therapy.

Therapist's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

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