

Robert “Bob” McGuire, M.A., LMHC

Emmaus Counseling Center

(425) 869-2644 ext.44

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT/CLIENTS’ RIGHTS

Washington State Law RCW 18.19.060

License and Experience

I received my Master’s Degree in Family Psychology from Hardin-Simmons University, in Abilene Texas in 1993 and obtained State Licensure in the State of Washington in 2001. I have been trained in systemic family therapy, individual and group cognitive behavioral counseling, and solution-focused brief therapy. My primary interest was to strengthen marriages and support parents and families.

I was an intern in the Hardin-Simmons University counseling clinic seeing Couples and families as well as individual clients with a wide range of presenting concerns. I also worked as a counseling intern at the Presbyterian Free Medical Clinic seeing clients the physicians referred to me, and as a probation sex-offender counseling trainee for Taylor County, TX probation Dept.

Primarily, up until 2012, when I entered private practice, I have used my counseling training while employed as a pastor in several congregations. From 1998 to 2005 I was the Congregational Care and Counseling Pastor for a church in Vancouver, WA. My focus was to create a system of therapeutic avenues so as to provide professional counseling services as an aspect of the church’s ministry. I have taught classes on marriage, parenting and various topics of personal growth and I have counseled many people on the same topics. I established 12 step alcohol and addiction recovery groups and led grief and divorce support groups. Western Seminary in Portland, Oregon provided Masters Level interns which I supervised as a part of their practicum. Through networking with other counseling centers and individual counselors we provided a broad base of counseling services which were available to those in need of counseling services as a service available to the general public. It might be important to some potential clients who are reading this to understand that while my experience has been in “Christian” settings; my counseling is and always has been to the general public and I am accepting of all manner of presenting concerns with professional and ethical practice as would be expected in any counseling setting. I will respect your beliefs and only discuss matters of faith in as much as you the client desire.

All state licensed counselors are required to receive ongoing continuing education in order to maintain licensure. I have had continuing education in Gerontology (senior adults) counseling, trauma, anger management, suicide, depression, anxiety, and more. I attend educational seminars several times a year to further my professional education.

Counselors practicing for a fee in Washington State must be registered with the Department of Licensing. I am registered and have also received state licensure, which requires additional education, training, supervision, and successful completing of the State Licensing Exam. I am a State Licensed Mental Health Counselor, #LH00006846

Fees, Cancellation Policies, and Emergencies

Please note that I am a provider on some, but not all insurance panels. If you are planning on using your insurance for mental health services, please verify that I am contracted with your plan prior to the first visit. Emmaus Counseling Center’s billing staff will submit claims to your insurance company following each office visit. My rate for those paying full fee (i.e., no mental health insurance coverage) is currently \$150 for the initial assessment and \$130 for each 50 minute session thereafter. Payment (including insurance co-pays) is expected at the beginning of each session.

If you are not able to attend your scheduled appointment, I request that you notify me of any cancellations at least 24 hours in advance, or pay the missed session fee of \$80. Please note that your insurance

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cannot be billed for missed sessions. The only exception to this would be a sudden illness or accident, in which I would not charge you for the session missed. If this occurs, please call and inform me as soon as possible. If you cannot reach me right away, please leave a message on my voice mail. Please allow up to a day for me to respond to all voicemail messages. If you need immediate assistance before I can be reached, then please call the Crisis Clinic at (206) 461-3222, which is a 24-hour service.

Confidentiality

Generally speaking, whatever we talk about during your counseling sessions are kept by me in the strictest confidence possible, meaning that I will not discuss our work together with anyone else except in my own strictly confidential professional consultation and supervision. For me to be able to discuss our work with any outside entity (such as your primary care physician, school counselor, previous therapist) or additional family members, you must sign a release of information form, otherwise I cannot acknowledge to these outside entities that we are working together. At no time am I free to discuss with you therapeutic information about other clients.

In order to provide the best service possible; I may seek professional consultation on your case if needed. In the context of these consultations I will not use information that would identify you personally.

Exceptions regarding confidentiality

There are some important exceptions to confidentiality that you need to be aware of before we begin. In cases of neglect or reported physical, sexual, and in some cases emotional abuse of a child (anyone aged 18 or under), a disabled individual, or an elderly adult, I am required by law in the State of Washington to report these instances to the proper authorities. In addition, if you are threatening serious harm or injury (toward yourself or another person), suicide or homicide, I have a duty to warn and protect yourself or others that might be threatened. In some court cases, judges are able to subpoena either my records, or request my testimony at a hearing. In instances where I am required to take such actions, I take the greatest care possible to inform you, as well as work with you to continue to promote the best therapy possible through these difficult situations. If you have any further questions about confidentiality, please feel free to discuss them with me.

Professional Practice and Orientation

I utilize Brief, Solution-Focused Therapy, Narrative Therapy and Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy. I also work from a Systemic model of family therapy, which when agreeable, can involve sessions which may include spouses, parents, children and other siblings in a context of a safe therapeutic environment. Individual clients usually still live and work in environments of other people; exploring these "systems" and understanding one's boundaries and roles in those systems can relieve symptoms and reduce stresses leading to more functional behaviors and more satisfaction in life. I encourage clients to explore family of origin issues, where appropriate, and strongly encourage parents of children and teenagers to have an active role in their counseling. For teenage clients aged 13 years and older, this requires them to sign a release of information for me to include parents and caregivers in the therapeutic process. I work primarily with clients aged 16 and older.

Social Media Policies

Per industry standards, my personal social media presence and professional social media presence are separate. (ACA code section H.6. Secondly, it is not appropriate for me to engage in virtual relationships with my clients. (ACA Code A.5.e; NBCC Code section 19).

State of Washington Disclosures

The State of Washington requires that I provide you with the following information.

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You have the right both to receive appropriate care and treatment, and to refuse any treatment you do not want. You have the right to choose a Counselor who best suits your needs and purposes. Counselors practicing counseling for a fee must be registered or licensed with the Department of Licensing for the protection of public health and safety. Credentialing of an individual with the Department of Health does not include a recognition of any practice standards, nor necessarily imply the effectiveness of any treatment.

A copy of the acts of unprofessional conduct can be found in RCW 18.130.180. Complaints about unprofessional conduct can be made to:

Health Systems Quality Assurance Complaint
Intake Post Office Box 47857
Olympia, WA 98504-7857
Phone: 360-236-4700
E-mail: HSQAComplaintIntake@doh.wa.gov

Addendum

All clients receiving mental health services at Emmaus Counseling Center are welcome to contact the clinic director, Richard Wemhoff, Ph.D., with any concerns about their treatment at the Center.

By signing this document, you are attesting that you have received, read, fully understand and consent to the disclosures, terms, and conditions above, that you read and fully understand these rights, and have been given the opportunity to ask questions.

By signing this document, you are attesting to your consent to participation in counseling services provided by Robert "Bob" McGuire, M.A., LMHC.

Client Signature

Date

Print Name

Robert "Bob" McGuire, M.A., LMHC

Date
