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PRIVATE-PAY (OPT-OUT) MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES CONTRACT

As of January 1, 2024, Medicare will allow Licensed Professional Counselors to become Medicare providers and providers who do not want to accept Medicare payments must opt-out.

Why a special contract?

Because I will not be providing mental health services with Medicare, I am required to enter into a private-pay mental health contract with any Medicare client who wishes to obtain my services. This is to inform them that I have decided not to be a Medicare provider. My current opt-out started January 2, 2024, and ends January 2, 2026. Because I opted out, Medicare requires I have you sign a private-pay mental health services contract before I treat you.

Who pays for services?

You are required to pay the bill. You will have to use your own money to pay the entire cost of my services.

Are there charge limits?

No, Medicare charge limits do not apply to products or services you receive from me through this private-pay mental health services contract. I am able to charge you whatever amount you and I agree to.

Will Medicare help pay?

No. Medicare will not help pay your bill. Because I separated from Medicare, it is against the rules for you to send a bill to Medicare for my services or ask to send the bill to Medicare for you.

But isn't this a Medicare-covered service?

Yes and no. Yes, Medicare would pay for the same service from a provider who is connected to Medicare. No, Medicare won't pay because I separated myself from Medicare.

What Options do I have?

You have the right to get your service from a provider connected to Medicare or from me, a provider separated from Medicare. Even if you get your service from me, you can always get services from providers connected to Medicare.

Will my Medigap or other supplemental plan help pay?

No. Medigap plans will not help pay for products or services you get from me. If you have some other medical insurance plan, it might not help pay your bill either.

What else do I need to do?

You may wish to keep a copy of the contract. This way you will have a copy if you have any questions in the future.

Will Center for Medicare Services (CMS) get a copy of the contract?

I, the provider, will supply a copy of this contract in the event CMS requests a copy.

Provider's Name

Tenley Fukui, MA, LPC _____

Provider's Signature

Date

Client's Name

Client's Signature

Date

