



First Step Denton County
Outreach Program, LLC

Confidentiality Policy

In order to provide the best conditions for therapeutic work, clients are entitled to confidentiality about their identity and other information shared in group. Any information First Step releases to a third party will be limited to that which is required by referral and funding sources.

Each client is also **required** to keep the identity and personal information shared by other group members **confidential**.

There are **limits to confidentiality**, which include:

- When a client is believed to be in imminent danger to him/herself or others;
- When a client reveals information that suggests child or elder abuse or abuse of a person with a handicap, staff are obligated by law to inform the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services;
- When a judge through a court-ordered subpoena requires records and/or testimony;
- When a client provides written consent.

OBSERVERS

Observers may occasionally sit in on a group. First Step requires them to sign a confidentiality statement. Observers may include student interns, trainees, other professionals, or community members.

CLIENT STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

As a client of First Step Denton County Outreach Program, LLC, I have read the information above and I understand the limits to the Confidentiality Policy and the conditions under which information will be reported and not held confidential.

I also agree that I will not hold First Step Denton County Outreach Program, LLC liable in the event of injury or accident while receiving non-residential services at First Step Denton County Outreach counseling center.

Client Signature

Date

Staff Witness

Date

A lifestyle change for a better community

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