ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY RELATED TO COVID-19

Thank you for participating in services provided by Northeast Contemporary Services, Inc. (NCSI)! We appreciate every consumer we serve and their parents/guardians, and we are happy that you have chosen to be a part of the NCSI community.

As you prepare to return to NCSI (or if you are new to NCSI), we want to be sure that you understand the risks associated with the novel coronavirus, COVID-19. COVID-19 is a contagious disease and is believed to spread from person-to-person contact, including through respiratory droplets, and in other ways that everyone is still learning about. For the most current information on COVID-19 and how it is spread, we encourage you to read more on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website at www.cdc.gov.

Community-spread COVID-19 is happening in Minnesota and new cases continue to occur. As a result, federal, state, and local governments and various health agencies recommend that we practice physical distancing and have, at certain times and locations, prohibited groups of people congregating or certain activities.

NCSI has created a robust Preparedness Plan and supporting practices related to screening, handwashing and sanitary practices, respiratory etiquette, physical distancing, housekeeping (cleaning and disinfecting), and more to ensure an environment that is as safe as possible and to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Weeks of planning and preparation have been devoted to this effort, and we need everyone to follow our plan. Our plan is available for your review, and can be found on our website at www.northeastcontemporaryservices.org. We will ensure that all NCSI staff are following this plan in order to support the safest delivery of services possible.

Given that the virus is contagious and there is community spread, NCSI cannot guarantee that participants in our services will avoid becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19. Further, participating in our services holds inherent risks of exposure or infection as you encounter other people—both NCSI staff and consumers.

As always, you can choose whether you participate in NCSI services. If you would prefer to stay home, that is your right. It is possible that remote services may be available to you and you may be able to choose that option instead of, or in addition to, participating in NCSI services on-site and in the community.
**Assumption of Risk:** By signing this agreement, I acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk that the undersigned consumer could potentially be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by participating in services provided by NCSI. I understand that such exposure or infection may be very serious and result in personal injury, illness, disability, or death.

**Informed Choice:** It is my/my consumer’s choice to participate in services provided by NCSI, knowing that service participation may increase the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19.

**Waiver:** In consideration of being permitted to participate in services provided by NCSI I, for myself, or on behalf of the consumer, hereby release, agree not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless, NCSI, its officers, employees, agents, and representatives, from all claims, actions, damages, costs or expenses of any kind relating to COVID-19. I understand and agree that this release includes any and all claims based on the actions, omissions, or negligence of NCSI, its officers, employees, agents, or representatives.

**Indemnification and Hold Harmless:** I also agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless NCSI and its officers, employees, agents and representatives from any and all claims, actions, costs, expenses, damages and liabilities, including attorney’s fees, relating to any claim of exposure, infection, injury or illness concerning COVID-19 arising from participation in services provided by NCSI.

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Signature of Consumer (if own guardian) or Consumer’s Parent/Guardian       Date

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Print Name of Parent/Guardian       Print Name of Consumer