

## SERVICE AGREEMENT

1423 E. Brown School Rd, Maryville, TN 37804

(865) 982-4960

Lighthouse@EMBC.us

NAME: Date of Birth: Contact Phone Number:

## **Christian Counseling Services for Individuals and Families:**

We provide a ministry of faith-based supportive **care**, biblical **coaching**, Christian living **discipleship**, **comfort** for the wounded heart, and compassionate **guidance** without coercion. These services are offered to members of the body of Christ and the local community who are struggling to experience:

a real relationship with God and a life full of confident hope and joy in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:17-19), transformative freedom from sin (Galatians 2:20, 5:16-24), restorative healing from painful experiences (Matthew 11:28-29, Psalm 30), the fullness and qualities of abundant life promised to Christians (John 10:10, Colossians 3:8-17), and the ability to be content and full of peace in any circumstance (Philippians 4:11-13, John 14:27, Romans 8:18), demonstrated through healthy and thriving interpersonal relationships, beliefs, feelings, behaviors, spiritual growth, and self-worth and identity, marked by a life of purpose and peace.

\*\*\*We are **NOT a mental health care service provider** and do **not** offer licensed, professional, clinical, psychological, psychotherapeutic, diagnostic services.

Our counseling services are part of the ministry of East Maryville Baptist Church.

Indicate **acknowledgment** by initialing here:

Service Standards	Details and Descriptions
Session Logistics	Counseling sessions are provided <b>in-person</b> at the Lighthouse Counseling Ministry House: 1423 E. Brown School Rd.  Two <b>prayer partners are always present</b> in the Counseling House whenever sessions are scheduled. Prayer partners are available to provide additional counseling support if needed, but otherwise they cannot see anyone coming or going from the Counseling House, and they are never informed of the identity of anyone receiving counseling or any information that is discussed with the counselor. Their primary role is to pray for the counselor and client throughout each session.  The <b>first session</b> is typically 90-120 minutes, to allow us to get to know each other and learn about your struggles, your background, and your reasons for seeking Christian counseling. All subsequent sessions will be approximately <b>50 minutes</b> .
Privacy	The counselors of Lighthouse Counseling Ministry are commissioned by the local church to provide this ministerial service to those seeking spiritual counsel. Therefore, <b>ALL</b> client information is considered private, and we are prohibited by law from disclosing <b>any</b> information entrusted or communicated to us in a confidential manner. We are not allowed to give legal testimony or reveal any information that was obtained while providing the ministry of counseling to those who sought our care (TN Code § 24-1-206). Any and all information about those we serve, including <b>their names or any services provided or not provided</b> , will not be disclosed by anyone associated with the Lighthouse Counseling Ministry for any reason other than those legally mandated exceptions detailed below (TN Code Ann. § 37-1-614).  Counselors receive ongoing <b>supervision and training from the Director</b> of Lighthouse Counseling Ministry, and as part of this supervision process, our counselors and the Director of Counseling <b>regularly discuss</b> the needs of those we serve and our strategies, methods, and techniques of ministering most effectively in various cases. Such discussions are always private, respectful, emphasize the counselor's training to minister skillfully, and <b>omit</b> identifying information about our clients.  No information discussed in counseling sessions is stored digitally, and all written notes and records contain only the information necessary for counselors to minister to clients as they receive ongoing counseling services.  Payment processing and email/text communications are performed to minimize any details about the nature of the services provided to each person we serve, and will only address issues related to practical logistics, scheduling, and necessary inquiries, on the part of Lighthouse Counseling Ministry. We do not provide counseling support through email/text.  If information is shared by clients that indicates any of the following circumstances, clients must expect that their <b>privacy will be waived</b> for
Pricing	We charge a <b>scheduling fee</b> for counseling in order to help those we serve feel invested in their personal commitment to attending the counseling sessions they schedule with us and to engage themselves fully in the counseling process. The session rate is <b>based on a sliding scale</b> , in order to make these counseling services affordable for anyone who desires to receive care from the Lighthouse Counseling Ministry.  Identify which rate applies to you by <b>checking one</b> of the boxes below:  For those with an annual household income of \$70,000 or greater, sessions are provided at a rate of <b>\$40/session</b> .  For those with an annual household income less than \$70,000, sessions are provided at a rate of <b>\$20/session</b> .
Payment Method	Session scheduling fees are automatically charged at the time you schedule your session, and you can pay with <b>credit card or debit card</b> . We cannot accept payments from HSA accounts. We do not accept payments via cash or check.  Once you submit this form, we will send you <b>an email or text</b> containing a scheduling link, which will allow you to schedule your first session with your counselor and submit payment. Please provide <b>either</b> an email address or phone number that you would like us to send this scheduling link to:



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Cancellation Policy	Please contact your counselor directly if you need to <b>reschedule or cancel</b> a session.
	<ol> <li>Payment is collected as a "scheduling fee" and is charged at the time your counseling session is scheduled.</li> <li>For cancellations made more than 24 hours prior to your scheduled session, 100% of the scheduling fee may be applied to a future counseling session.</li> </ol>
	<ul> <li>3.) In the case of cancellations with less than 24 hours notice prior to your scheduled session, 50% of the fee may be applied to a future session; 50% is retained by Lighthouse Counseling Ministry as a cancellation fee.</li> <li>4.) If two or more counseling sessions are canceled by a client with less than 24 hours notice, Lighthouse Counseling Ministry</li> </ul>
	does not agree to offer any further sessions to that client.  Indicate agreement by initialing here:
Voluntary Participation	Counseling services are provided only through mutual agreement that these services are desired and beneficial, and that the needs of the client are appropriately matched with the counseling ministry we provide. Clients may choose to end participation in this ministry at any time, for any reason, without any explanation. We request that clients inform us if they no longer wish to receive counseling or wish to cancel a scheduled session. If we determine that the client's needs are more appropriately addressed through professional clinical counseling or a different type of service, we will offer a referral whenever possible.
Methods of Care	Our counselors have been trained to utilize a variety of God-honoring methods, strategies, and techniques to help you address the various issues, struggles, and goals that you may bring into this process. Counseling sessions focus on the specific concerns of those we serve. We offer prayer and address Scripture and theology within our counseling sessions whenever this is desired, beneficial, and relevant to the issues and goals being discussed. Some types of struggles are best addressed with practical strategies that can help you gain more self-control and peace in your thoughts, feelings, and actions, and which help you to identify and meditate on what is good and true, root out false beliefs, and experience contentment in any and every situation. In all cases, we only draw upon Biblically sound, God-honoring models of care.  Our <b>theoretical framework</b> and <b>methods of counseling</b> generally align with the <i>Christian Counseling &amp; Educational Foundation</i> , utilize techniques from the <i>Peace Pursuit model</i> of biblical discipleship and the <i>Trauma Healing Institute</i> , and reflect the <b>theological</b> doctrine embraced by <i>East Maryville Baptist Church</i> .  Lighthouse Counseling Ministry <b>does not endorse</b> an approach that presumes all struggles are a simple matter of sin and all solutions are achieved through repentance or agreement with Biblical truths. We allow space for those we serve to struggle with doubt, uncertainty, and faith issues without attempting to <b>manipulate or coerce</b> you to reach a pre-determined outcome that we believe is best for you. We believe in the Holy Spirit and the Holy Word, and believe They are <b>fully sufficient</b> to reveal truth, provide conviction, correction, direction, peace, purpose, and freedom in Christ. Our approach is to <b>facilitate opportunities</b> for those we serve to gain insight, perspective, understanding, knowledge, to challenge assumptions, identify solutions that weren't previously accessible, and experience the fullness of the fruit of the Spirit in your life and relationships
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Guarantees	We do NOT guarantee any specific outcomes that you will experience as a result of these services. We will use all our ministerial resources and training to care for you. However, some outcomes that you desire may be influenced by the choices of other parties, while other outcomes might require more change, flexibility, compromise, or transformation than you are ready to make during the time you are receiving counseling. Even if short-term goals are not accomplished as desired, you may experience long-term benefits from these services over time.  We will always provide care that is respectful, honoring, honest, consistent with Biblical theology, patient, compassionate, and loving. Sometimes love requires drawing attention to personal areas that require change or are producing problems in your life. We do NOT promise to avoid causing offense or challenging areas that may be acting as barriers to your goals. We do promise to prioritize your well-being, your goals for change and growth, and avoid causing any harm or unnecessary pain.  We do not have the ability to read your mind, interpret hidden intentions, discern your secrets, or anticipate impulsive choices that you might make. We take no responsibility for addressing information or intentions that you do not disclose, including issues of mental illness or intentions or actions of harm to yourself or others. We do not undertake to provide any advice or guidance to you on legal, medical, or safety matters.  We are not a crisis care provider, and do not offer counseling services as a response to urgent, crisis, dangerous, or emergency situations. If you have an emergency, need immediate help, or if you have urgent mental/physical health needs that require professional services, please go immediately to the closest emergency department or call 911. If such a need arises during a counseling session, we may choose to call 911 on your behalf. We only provide services for the range of issues and goals agreed upon openly with those we serve. We do not address severe he
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