## MaryEllen Agolia, PhD, LLC

P.O. Box 351 High Rolls, NM 88325 (575) 430-4115

## <u>Disclosure of Information</u> <u>Consent for Treatment of a Minor</u> (Reference 32A-6A)

A child fourteen years of age or older is presumed to have a capacity to consent to treatment without required consent of the child's legal custodian, including consent for individual psychotherapy, guidance counseling, case management, behavioral therapy, family therapy, counseling, substance abuse treatment or other forms of verbal treatment that do not include aversive interventions.

A child under fourteen years of age may initiate and consent to an initial assessment with a clinician and for medically necessary early intervention service limited to verbal therapy. The purpose of the initial assessment is to allow a clinician to interview the child and determine what, if any, action needs to be taken to ensure appropriate mental health and habilitation services are provided to the child. The clinician may conduct an initial assessment and provide medically necessary early intervention service limited to verbal therapy with or without the consent of the legal custodian if such service will not extend beyond two calendar weeks.

A clinician or other mental health and developmental disabilities professional shall promote the healthy involvement of a child's legal custodians and family members in developing and implementing the child's treatment plan, including appropriate participation in treatment for children fourteen years of age or older. However, nothing in this section shall limit the rights of the child fourteen years of age or older to consent to services and to consent to disclosure of mental health records.

Except as otherwise provided in the *Children's Mental Health and Disabilities Act*, a person shall not, without the authorization of the child, disclose or transmit any confidential information from which a person well-acquainted with the child might recognize the child as the described person or any code, number or other means that could be used to match the child with confidential information regarding the child. When the child is under fourteen years of age, the child's legal custodian is authorized to consent to disclosure on behalf of the child.

| Signature of Minor:     | Date: |
|-------------------------|-------|
|                         |       |
| Signature of Counselor: | Date: |