



CLIENT HANDBOOK

PATHWAYS BIBLICAL COUNSELING CENTER

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Welcome to Pathways Biblical Counseling Center

We are grateful you have chosen to begin your journey toward healing and growth with us. At Pathways, our mission is to offer Christ-centered counseling that promotes emotional, relational, and spiritual wholeness. Through the power of biblical truth and compassionate care, we aim to guide you on a path of restoration and peace. Whether you are facing personal challenges, relationship struggles, or seeking to deepen your walk with God, we are here to walk alongside you.

This handbook will provide important information about our services, policies, and what you can expect during your time with us. Please take the time to review it carefully, and feel free to reach out with any questions.

1. General Information

Contact Details

- **Location:** 119 Habitat St, Americus, GA 31709
- **Phone:** (229) 514-0845
- **Email:** info@pathwaysbcc.org
- **Website:** www.pathwaysbcc.org
- **Hours of Operation:** Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Meet Our Team

At Pathways, our counselors are experienced in providing biblically-based care to individuals, couples, and families. Each counselor is trained in both theology and psychology, ensuring a balanced and holistic approach to mental and spiritual health. For more information about our counselors, please refer to the "Meet Our Team" section on our website.

2. Counseling Services

Types of Counseling Offered

- **Individual Counseling:** Address personal struggles such as anxiety, depression, grief, or spiritual challenges.
- **Marital Counseling:** Strengthen your marriage by addressing communication issues, conflict resolution, intimacy, and biblical roles.

- **Family Counseling:** Help families navigate difficulties and restore unity through biblical principles.
- **Premarital Counseling:** Prepare for marriage by building a solid, Christ-centered foundation.
- **Grief and Loss Counseling:** Find healing through Christ after the loss of a loved one.
- **Addiction Counseling:** Break free from addictions by focusing on biblical truth and accountability.
- **Other Services:** We also offer specialized services, such as trauma recovery and support for caregivers.

Our Biblical Counseling Approach

At Pathways, our counseling is rooted in the Bible and centered on Jesus Christ. We believe that the Word of God provides the ultimate answers to life's difficulties. Our approach combines biblical wisdom with compassionate care to address both the heart and mind. We incorporate prayer, scripture study, and practical applications of God's truth in our sessions.

Counseling Goals

- To guide you toward a deeper relationship with Christ.
- To help you navigate personal challenges through a biblical worldview.
- To foster emotional, spiritual, and relational growth.

3. Getting Started

The First Session

Your first session will be an intake session. During this time, your counselor will gather information about your background, current challenges, and goals for counseling. This helps us understand how we can best serve you. Please arrive 15 minutes early to complete intake paperwork if you have not already done so.

Fees and Payment Policies

- **Session Fees:** [Insert fee structure]
- **Payment Methods:** We accept cash, check, and major credit cards.
- **Sliding Scale:** A sliding fee scale is available based on financial need. Please contact our office to apply.
- **Insurance:** [Insert insurance information if applicable].

Session Information

- Each session lasts approximately 50 minutes.
- Sessions typically occur weekly or bi-weekly depending on your needs.

- We require 24-hour notice for cancellations. If you do not provide sufficient notice, you may be charged a cancellation fee.
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4. Client Responsibilities

Participation

Your active participation is essential to the counseling process. This includes attending sessions, completing any assignments or readings provided by your counselor, and being open to biblical guidance and personal reflection.

Confidentiality

We are committed to maintaining your privacy and confidentiality. Your sessions and personal information will remain confidential unless you provide written consent to share it or if there is a legal obligation to do so (e.g., in cases of abuse or threats of harm).

Attendance

Consistent attendance is important for the success of your counseling. Please make every effort to attend all scheduled sessions. If you need to reschedule, contact us as soon as possible.

5. Counselor Responsibilities

Commitment to Care

Our counselors are dedicated to providing a safe, supportive, and Christ-centered environment. Each counselor will:

- Pray for and with you as you seek healing and growth.
- Use scripture to guide counseling sessions.
- Respect your confidentiality and uphold professional ethics.

Confidentiality

Your counselor will maintain strict confidentiality, except in situations where disclosure is legally required (e.g., child abuse, danger to self or others). These exceptions will be explained to you during your intake session.

6. Frequently Asked Questions

What can I expect during counseling?

During your counseling sessions, you can expect open dialogue, biblical guidance, and practical tools for change. Sessions will often include prayer, scripture, and discussions tailored to your specific needs.

How long will I need counseling?

The duration of counseling varies from person to person. Some clients find resolution within a few sessions, while others may need longer-term support. Your counselor will work with you to determine the best course of action.

What if I have an emergency?

If you experience a crisis outside of your scheduled counseling sessions, please contact emergency services or go to your nearest hospital. We encourage you to reach out to your church for additional spiritual support in emergencies.

Can I request a different counselor?

If at any time you feel that your counselor may not be the best fit for your needs, we encourage you to speak with us. We will do our best to match you with another counselor within our team.

Does counseling involve family members or spouses?

Counseling can be tailored to include family members or spouses if it is beneficial for the process. Your counselor will discuss this with you based on your goals.

7. Resources

Recommended Reading

- "The Meaning of Marriage" by Tim Keller
- "Boundaries" by Dr. Henry Cloud & Dr. John Townsend
- "Healing for Damaged Emotions" by David Seamands

Scripture References

- Anxiety: Philippians 4:6–7
- Forgiveness: Ephesians 4:31–32
- Marriage: Ephesians 5:22–33
- Healing: Psalm 147:3

Local Support Groups

We encourage clients to seek out additional support through small groups at their local church or community. Your counselor can help guide you to resources.

8. Conclusion

We are honored to walk with you as you pursue healing and wholeness through biblical counseling. Our prayer is that you will experience God's love, peace, and restoration as you journey through this process. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to our office.

Thank you for choosing Pathways Biblical Counseling Center. We look forward to serving you.

In Christ,

The Pathways Team