

GCL Ministries, Inc.
Agreement & Policy Information
(Seeds of Hope Ministries)

Welcome to GCL Ministries. This document contains important information about our services and policies. Please read it carefully and take note of any questions that you may have so we can discuss them. Once this document is signed, it will constitute your consent for us through GCL to come alongside and serve you in partnership with Seeds of Hope Ministries.

Our Philosophy

Jesus said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” We believe that knowing God is the greatest good that can happen to a person, and the meaning of life is ultimately found in Jesus Christ. We believe that the local church is God’s primary intended means to minister to, care for, and equip people in the Christian faith. We believe that the oversight of appointed shepherds within the local church, along with the empowerment and gifting of the Holy Spirit, the preaching and teaching of God’s Word and His Gospel, and the gathering and fellowship of believers, all serve in foundational and core ways in the life of a person.

The heart of GCL Ministries is to come alongside the local church and help people with a biblical perspective to their situation. When addressing questions regarding our anthropology, our understanding of human nature, and the issues of life regarding purpose, needs, and the role of relationships, we believe that the Bible is the ultimate authority in shaping our worldview on these kinds of topics. As we minister to the whole person, we first build on the practical application of biblical truths to real life issues and will also embrace other necessary truths regarding the physiology and shaping influences of the person, always striving to provide biblical counsel and practical help with humility and integrity.

In our attempt to provide practical help, true counsel, and genuine hope in this way, we also believe that God’s intended purpose for Christians is to not walk out life independent of God, of the local church, of pastoral oversight and care, and of Christian fellowship and accountability. We kindly recommend that those pursuing counseling through GCL Ministries consider, on an agreeable and as needed basis, granting permission for the counselor to interact with an advocate such as a pastor or church leader and/or a trusted friend or family member with whom an accountable mentoring relationship can function, enhancing the counseling process.

_____ (Initial)

Financial Terms

I acknowledge that Seeds of Hope Ministries is paying for my counseling services provided at a rate agreed upon between Seeds of Hope and GCL Ministries. I understand that although I’m not required to pay for the service provided, I am required to participate in the sessions that I commit to attending.

_____ (Initial)

Counseling/Coaching/Pastoral Care Work Agreement

To make the most of the counseling process, assertive participation achieves the best results, while casual participation usually results in minimal progress. While benefits are the desired and expected outcome, no specific outcomes can be guaranteed.

The time frame of help will vary depending on the severity of the identified issues and the current circumstances surrounding the person seeking help. Suspension, termination, or referral can be discussed between the counselor/coach at any time.

_____ (Initial)

Out of Session Contact

All counseling, coaching and pastoral care issues are to be discussed in-session. The counselor or coach does not provide services through email, text or social media platforms. Please be aware that your privacy is not guaranteed through messaging by phone, text or email.

GCL Ministries will answer most calls on a weekday and within business day hours. During this timeframe we strive to return missed phone calls on the same day or within 24 to 48 hours of the time that a message is left. We value phone calls for scheduling appointments and answering brief questions, and when needed, to speak with a counselor. Phone conversations or email dialogue with a counselor that are over ten minutes will be prorated on the basis of the hourly charge. If there is a life-threatening emergency and you or someone you know is suicidal, please call your local emergency numbers, inform the appropriate leaders in your church, and proceed to your local emergency center.

_____ (Initial)

Confidentiality

Within the limitations discussed below, the information disclosed and discussed during our counseling or coaching relationship will be kept confidential within the counseling or coaching staff of GCL Ministries, your advocate(s) and overseer through Seeds of Hope Ministries. However, certain conditions do require that confidentiality and privileged communication be breached.

These conditions include the following:

(1) If you present a physical, emotional, or biblically moral danger to yourself; (2) If you present a physical, emotional, or biblically moral danger to another person, which can include but not be exclusive to, verbal or physical abuse, passive-aggressive actions or manipulation, and a communicable disease that can be life-threatening to others; (3) If there is reason to believe that child abuse or neglect is present, a report must be filed with a state child protection agency; (4) If there is evidence or reasonable suspicion of abuse against an elder person (60 years or older), or dependent adult; (5) A medical emergency exists; (6) There is a threat of commission of a crime on the premises; (7) If a legitimate court order is issued; and (8) If the counseling is ordered or under the supervision of the court. All counselors serving through GCL Ministries will not be responsible for any injury or claim for damages arising from the release of records or information as by reasons explained above and by the law.

_____ (Initial)

Online/Virtual Services Terms and Conditions

GCL Ministries offers a virtual platform for counseling, coaching, and pastoral care, and the GCL staff is willing to discuss the benefits and risks of the virtual session and address any questions. We cannot guarantee the security of Internet transmissions. In initialing and signing this form, you agree to an understanding of the benefits and risks of a virtual session and permanently agree to release and indemnify God Changes Lives Ministries and your counselor from all suits, claims, and other actions originating from counseling, coaching and pastoral care services provided online through GCL Ministries.

_____ (Initial)

Agreement

I have read the GCL Ministries Agreement & Policy Information fully and completely. I have discussed with a counselor or coach any questions about this information, and I understand and agree to all the terms and conditions regarding this information. I understand that there are no guarantees stated or implied, and I accept the risks inherent in the course of counseling or coaching.

Print Name Client

Signature Client

Date

Joe Carnuccio, MA

Joe Carnuccio

Print Name Counselor/Coach

Signature Client Counselor/Coach

Bill Antinore

Bill Antinore

Print Name SOH Overseer

Signature SOH Overseer