# Amy Fuller, PhD

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist & Licensed Professional Counselor

Information for New Clients

## WELCOME!

Congratulations on taking a brave step toward healing! The following information is meant to help answer any administrative questions you may have about Dr. Amy Fuller or the services she offers to individuals, couples and families.

# About Amy Fuller, PhD

Both a Licensed Professional Counselor and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, Dr. Fuller has extensive experience in assisting children, adolescents, individuals, families and marriages. She received comprehensive didactic and clinical training at Abilene Christian University, while completing a Masters degree in Marriage and Family Therapy. After working as a director of youth and children's programs in church settings, Dr. Fuller gained expertise as a family preservation specialist for Child Protective Services and as a team leader for a home-based counseling agency. In addition, she served on the Methodist Hospital Psychiatric Assessment Team, providing crisis intervention and assessment of acute patients. Dr. Fuller holds a doctoral degree from St. Mary's University in Marriage & Family Therapy.

Currently, Dr. Fuller provides individual, marriage, and family therapy to clients in the private practice setting. Her clinical expertise is matched by an articulate and well developed presentation style which is comprehensive and yet comprehensible. Dr. Fuller approaches her clients with warmth, empathy, and a nonjudgmental, confidential professional style. Dr. Fuller integrates value and faith-based aspects when appropriate within the therapeutic context.

Her therapeutic approach is based on a collaborative model which allows clients to address past and present difficulties and hurts in a safe and secure relational framework. By empowering and equipping clients, previously hopeless situations now represent new opportunities for healing.

Dr. Amy Fuller has been married to her husband, David Fuller, for over ten years and they have two children. Dr. Fuller is a follower of Jesus Christ and, along with her family, is active within her church.

# **Counseling Goals**

Dr. Fuller is goal-oriented, utilizing mutually constructed and clearly defined objectives usually determined in the first or second session. Goals are positive in nature, focused on finding solutions, healing, and peace in life's difficulties. Counseling can be an effective way to address many different life problems. However, much of the work in reaching these goals will come in the hours outside of counseling as one begins to make small changes in his or her life.

## **Rights of a Client**

In order to assist our clients in overcoming personal and family difficulties it is imperative that things discussed in counseling be kept private. Therefore, Dr. Fuller upholds strict policies regarding confidentiality.

Issues discussed in therapy with children or adolescents is confidential and will not be disclosed to parents. Dr. Fuller does discuss assessment issues and treatment goals with parents and will involve parents in treatment as much as possible.

The following are some limits to the confidentiality of a professional counselor:

- Under subpoena from a judge, in criminal or federal matters, a therapist may be required to disclose confidential client-therapist information.
- In addition, most insurance companies require clinical information before they will pay for services. The client should indicate a billing preference on the intake form.
- Professional counselors are required to report the following to appropriate agencies: if a client appears to have intent to harm themselves or others or if there is indication of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse or neglect to children, elderly, or handicapped persons.
- Our offices maintain separate billing and clinical records; however, administrative staff will have access to invoices and other information needed for billing or scheduling purposes. This includes, but is not limited to diagnosis, address, date and time of service.

## **Services Available**

Dr. Fuller offers individual, marital & family therapy to adults, children, adolescents and families. Sessions begin meeting weekly and generally last 45-55.

## Fees for Services

Diagnostic/First Session (no discount)	\$150
Individual Session 45-50 minutes	\$150
65-75 minutes	\$185
90 minutes	\$ 225
Marital/Family Session 50-60 minutes	\$150
65-75 minutes	\$185
90 minutes	\$ 225
Reports or Requests for Letters	\$ 50

**Consultation:** \$300 per hour This includes the following: telephone consults greater than 10 minutes, ARDs, travel time to and from meetings, weekend sessions, after hour emergency phone calls, or other services. Insurance companies do NOT cover these services.

Legal Proceedings: \$300 per hour Dr. Fuller will only appear at a court proceeding when subpoenaed. A block of time must be scheduled in order for Dr. Fuller to appear in court, which prohibits her from scheduling other clients. If cancelled in less than 24 hours notice the full fee will be charged. The fee applies to travel time and time "on-call", whether or not testimony is given.

## Scheduling

Follow-up sessions are scheduled at the conclusion of the session. To schedule an appointment please call Dr. Fuller at 393-4650 or email <u>amyfuller@satx.rr.com</u>. Appointments are offered Tuesday, Thursday and Friday during regular working hours.

When you arrive, please be seated in the lobby and she will be with you shortly. If you arrive late to the session please look to see if Dr. Fuller's door is open or closed. If the door is open, please come in. If the door is closed, have a seat in the waiting room, and she will be with you as soon as possible. If Dr. Fuller is running late, she will adjust her schedule so as to provide a full session to each client. If the client is late, Dr. Fuller will end the session at the hour or upon the arrival of her next client.

## **Payment for Services**

The client is responsible for payment of counseling and other services utilized. Dr. Fuller does accept many insurance plans as an out of network provider. However, those who pay in full at the time of service receive a \$10 discount. **Clients are responsible for payment** of professional services not covered by insurance. Dr. Fuller accepts check (payable to Dr. Amy Fuller), credit card or cash. There is a \$35 fee for returned checks.

**SELF-PAY:** Many clients chose to pay for counseling instead of using health insurance. This choice has several benefits including a \$10 discount for each session. In order to bill an insurance company, a diagnosis must be included on the claim. Sometimes, such a diagnosis may affect current or future health insurance coverage.

**SELF-SUBMIT TO INSURANCE:** Others chose to personally submit the receipt to the insurance company after paying for counseling up front in order to get the \$10 discount. The company then reimburses the client directly. As long as a "\$0" balance is kept, the discount will be applied to all sessions.

**INSURANCE:** Dr. Fuller can submit claims for counseling to the insurance company; however, the discount will not apply. The client pays the full fees until the deductible has been met, then the client is responsible for the copayment (deductible and co-pays vary according to insurance plans and coverage). Once the intake form has been completed, the insurance information can be verified and Dr. Fuller will inform the client of insurance benefits and coverage for psychotherapy.

## **Cancellation Policy**

If you cannot keep your appointment, please notify Dr. Fuller as soon as possible at 393-4650 or 404-9001 (she often has a waiting list for evening hours). If you do not give 24 hours notice, a \$50 fee will apply the first time. The second time this happens, a \$100 fee will apply. If it happens again then the full fee will apply for the session and all future sessions.

#### Referrals

Your referral to others is the highest complement you can give. If you do suggest our offices to friends or family members, we greatly appreciate it.

#### Location

Dr. Fuller's office is located in North Central San Antonio on Huebner Road, approximately 2 miles south of 1604 between Bitters and Northwest Military. **Reserved client parking is directly in front of the building marked in green.** 

> 15303 Huebner Road, #10 San Antonio, TX 78248 (210)393-4650 www.amyfullerphd.com amyfuller@satx.rr.com

## **Credentials**

Licensed Professional Counselor

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

"Healthy Families, Healthy Kids" Certified Educator

Experienced EMDR Clinician (Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing Therapy)

Master's Degree (MMFT) in Marriage and Family Therapy

Doctoral Degree (PhD) in Marriage and Family Therapy

## **Professional Memberships**

American Association of Christian Counselors

Clinical Member of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists

San Antonio Marriage and Family Therapy Association

EMDRIA (Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing International Association)

Association for Play Therapy

Texas Association for Play Therapy

## **Common Issues Addressed:**

#### For Children and Adolescents:

Abuse and Neglect Play Therapy Depression, Anxiety, Bipolar Adolescent and Family Issues Self-Esteem Issues Attachment Disorders ADD/ADHD School Problems Divorce & Post-Divorce Issues Traumatic events (EMDR)

#### For Individuals:

Depression Anxiety Anger & Stress Management Christian and Spiritual Counseling Sexual Abuse Survivors Personality Disorders Crisis Intervention Women's Issues Guilt-Forgiveness Issues Guilt-Forgiveness Issues Grief-Loss-Bereavement Issues Personal Growth and Development Dealing with Traumatic Events (EMDR) Bipolar Disorder Dissociative Disorders

#### For Families and Couples:

Marital or relationship issues Pre-marital Therapy Blended/Step-Family Issues Adoptive Issues Parenting Issues and Education Conflict Resolution Communication Skills and Education Intimacy Issues / Sex Therapy Divorce Recovery