Wondering about confidentiality and the limits to confidentiality?
Here is our policy:

The contents of a counseling, intake, or assessment session are considered to be confidential. Both verbal information and written records about a client cannot be shared with another party without the written consent of the client or the client’s legal guardian. It is the policy of Student Counseling Services not to release any information about a client without a signed release of information. Noted exceptions are as follows:

**Duty to Warn and Protect**
When a client discloses intentions or a plan to harm another person, the health care professional may warn the intended victim and report this information to legal authorities. In cases in which the client discloses or implies a plan for harm to self, the health care professional may notify legal authorities and make reasonable attempts to notify the family of the client. In cases where a student is hospitalized or incarcerated SCS reserves the right to contact that student's parents or emergency contact.

**Benefit of Consultation**
If a student is referred to Medical Services for treatment by SCS, or if the student is referred by Medical Services to SCS, the professionals treating the student in either department may consult with one another to plan appropriate services.

**Abuse of Children and Vulnerable Adults**
If a client states or suggests that he or she is abusing a child (or vulnerable adult) or has recently abused a child (or vulnerable adult), or a child (or vulnerable adult) is in danger of abuse, the health care professional is required to report this information to the appropriate social service and/or legal authorities.

**Prenatal Exposure to Controlled Substances**
Health care professionals are required to report admitted prenatal exposure to controlled substances that are potentially harmful.

**In the Event of a Client’s Death**
In the event of a client’s death, the spouse or parents of a deceased client have a right to access their child’s or spouse’s records.

**Professional Misconduct**
Professional misconduct by a health care professional must be reported by other health care professionals. In cases in which a professional or legal disciplinary meeting is being held regarding the health care professional’s actions, related records may be released in order to substantiate disciplinary concerns.

**Court Orders**
Health care professionals are required to release records of clients when a court order has been placed.

**Minors/Guardianship**
Parents or legal guardians of non-emancipated minor clients have the right to access the clients’ records.