

## INFORMATION FOR NEW CLIENTS

Welcome to ***At Home Speech & Language Services, Inc.*** Our private practice offers assessment and treatment services for preschool and school-age children with speech and/or language difficulties in the privacy and convenience of their own home. With consent, we also provide services within preschool facilities, private schools, and other approved settings. Clinicians Susanne Duggan (Owner), Taylor Broda, Kim Reyno-Briscoe, Cara Rhyno, and Michelle Hebert-Moore, are nationally certified Speech-Language Pathologists, and follow the code of conduct as stipulated by our national organization, Speech-Language Audiology Canada (SAC). We are also registered providers with Blue Cross.

### **What happens during the initial evaluation?**

The parent/caregiver will complete an intake form, release of information form, and a payment agreement, prior to the first session. A confidential client file is created. These forms can be mailed or e-mailed to you so that you may complete them ahead of time. The initial evaluation session is typically 1 hour. During the initial evaluation, there will be an interview with the parent/caregiver to obtain medical history and identify specific concerns. Following the interview, the therapist will begin the direct evaluation. Additional assessment sessions, such as for further formal testing, may be recommended depending on the nature of the problem. Most therapy sessions are 1 hour in length. Some exceptions may apply once regular treatment sessions begin, such as for preschoolers who have short attention spans.

### **How do I know if therapy is indicated?**

At the end of the initial 1 hour evaluation session, results and recommendations are discussed. Your clinician will discuss with you whether or not further formal assessment is needed, as well as whether or not it is felt that therapy is indicated for your child.

**How much will the service cost?**

The fee for clinical service is \$110.00 per clinical hour. Sessions are on average one hour in length. Travel to you is free within HRM. Travel charges outside the Halifax area must be negotiated with the practice owner. All parents/caregivers must sign a payment policy agreement. Parents/caregivers are responsible for checking with their own insurances for coverage, as well as submitting their own claims. The therapist maintains a confidential clinical file with documentation. Please note that *formal* report writing is billed at \$1 per minute (\$60.00 per hour). Please discuss with your therapist early in the process whether a formal written report is required.

**What is our cancellation policy?**

Parents/caregivers are required to give 24 hours notice to cancel an appointment. Failure to inform the practice will result in a 50% charge of the planned fee.

To cancel an appointment with Susanne, please call 902-292-8799 and leave a message, or e-mail [susanne@homespeechservices.ca](mailto:susanne@homespeechservices.ca).

To cancel an appointment with Taylor, please call 902-210-6965 and leave a message, or e-mail [taylor@homespeechservices.ca](mailto:taylor@homespeechservices.ca).

To cancel an appointment with Cara, please call 902-499-0201 and leave a message, or e-mail [cara@homespeechservices.ca](mailto:cara@homespeechservices.ca).

To cancel an appointment with Kim, please call 902-220-7126 and leave a message, or e-mail [kim@homespeechservices.ca](mailto:kim@homespeechservices.ca).

To cancel an appointment with Michelle, please call 902-456-3051 and leave a message, or e-mail [michelle@homespeechservices.ca](mailto:michelle@homespeechservices.ca).