

Dear Parents:

My name is Dr. Fredrick Capaldi and I am the Executive Director of Outreach Concern. If you are a parent of a returning student at *St. Mary Catholic School*, you may already be aware of the various services Outreach Concern provides. For those of you who are new parents to the school, I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce you to our program and the various support services we provide students at *St. Mary Catholic School*.

Outreach Concern was founded in 1993 and has provided over 600,000 children and families in over 1,000 schools throughout Orange and Los Angeles Counties access to a variety of pupil personnel services aimed at positively impacting a child's academic performance. We are pleased to be a part of the curriculum at *St. Mary Catholic School* and believe that should you find the need to utilize any of our services, you'll be impressed with the impact they have on your student.

St. Mary Catholic School strives to provide its students and families with as much supportive assistance as possible and is aware that today's stressful lifestyle makes that support more and more necessary. By incorporating the Outreach Concern program, students at *St. Mary Catholic School* who experience difficulties with academics, behavior, or personal problems have access to trained counselors on campus, where and when they might need them.

Outreach Concern's counselors possess a wide variety of experience, including undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate, doctoral, and professional backgrounds. Because our counselors are "intern-counselors," each counselor works under the supervision of one of our Regional Field Supervisors whom they meet with weekly to discuss their cases, in addition to ongoing supervision from their Outreach Concern Clinical Supervisor and their university program.

Outreach Concern is a behavioral intervention program designed to provide additional support to students whose learning is negatively impacted by emotional intelligent factors such as, an inability to manage emotions, resolve conflicts, and engage in successful school relationships. The purpose of our program and the counselor's activities will be to engage students in settings accomplishing short and long-term academic and personal goals to improve grades and attendance and to decrease disruptive or counterproductive behavior. Of course, all counseling services provided by Outreach Concern is confidential. Records are retained by Outreach Concern and do not become a part of a student's school file. As you might suspect, it's essential to protect each student's confidentiality. Please be assured that our goal is not to shield important information from parents. It's always our goal to involve parents and consult with your child's teachers or school administrators when necessary in order to maintain a strong partnership aimed at positively impacting the students' performance and behavior. Any situation where a student may be involved in behavior that could be identified as dangerous to either themselves or others, or where the reasonable suspicion of child abuse is identified, our counselors are mandated by law and by the ethics of the counseling profession to take all responsible steps necessary to protect the student, including informing appropriate authorities.

If your child/adolescent is under the age of 18, you must sign and return the attached consent form in order for him/her to use the counseling services provided through our program. Students are never solicited for counseling – your consent is only to assure that your child may use the counseling services if you, your child, or the school administration deems it necessary.

Students are referred for counseling in three ways: a school faculty member or official, by you, the parents, or by the students themselves. It is a mark of the effectiveness of our program that over 60% of the children we see are self-referred, seeking out the counselors on their own. To make a referral to have your child seen, simply speak to one of our counselors in the school counseling office in your child's school.

Outreach Concern also provides each school and student access to our 24-hour Crisis Hotline, **1-800-4-CONCERN**, our Crisis Response Team, a variety of inservice programs for students and teachers, parent education programs, monthly newsletters for parents and teachers, and access to our Multi-County Referral Network for additional support services.

Thank you for caring enough about your children to have the Outreach Concern program be a part of your school.

Fredrick Capaldi, Ph.D., M.F.T.
Executive Director

NOTICE TO CLIENTS The Board of Behavioral Sciences receives and responds to complaints regarding services provided within the scope of practice of (marriage and family therapists, licensed educational psychologists, clinical social workers, or professional clinical counselors). You may contact the board online at www.bbs.ca.gov, or by calling (916) 574-7830.

**PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN TO YOUR CHILD'S/
SCHOOL ASAP**

Outreach Concern, Inc.

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CONSENT FOR COUNSELING St. Mary Catholic School 2021-2022 School Year

Parent's signature confirms consent for their student/students using the counseling services if referred. An absence of a signature indicates that a student does not have permission.

Name of student/students (please print)

Grade in school

Name of parent/legal guardian (please print)

Relationship to student

Parent/Legal guardian's signature

Date

Parent contact information: Phone (cell/home): _____

E-mail: _____

Your signature authorizes Outreach Concern to review your child's grades to assist the counselor in supporting academic progress and to utilize this data for the purpose of research and accountability studies.