Edgewood Children's Center

Notice of Crisis Intervention Policy and Procedures

Child's Name_____ Birthdate_____

In a crisis involving harmful behavior by a child, it is Edgewood's policy to first attempt to diffuse the crisis by providing enough staff to deal with the immediate situation. The goal is to enable the child to come to a resolution of the problem, to help the child accept responsibility for his/her own actions, and to use the crisis as a therapeutic learning experience. Generally, physical means for controlling crisis situations are avoided.

When other methods have failed to resolve a crisis, Edgewood does utilize physical interventions in three (3) specific methods.

(1) To prevent a child from injuring himself or herself;
(2) To prevent a child from injuring another child or others;
(3) To prevent extreme destruction of property

In all cases, physical intervention is used only to the extent necessary. The physical intervention is always non-punitive, non-damaging, and is gentle as the crisis allows. The single goal in physical intervention is to assist the child needing help, and it lasts only as long as required: until the child is able to regain self-control. All physical interventions are made under the guidance of the child's therapist or other treatment staff specially trained in non-physical methods of managing crisis as well as therapeutic holding and restraint. At no time are other children, volunteers, or others involved in a physical intervention.

In extreme crisis situations, the child's therapist or an administrative staff member will determine if psychiatric pr psychological consultation is necessary. In such cases, parents or legal guardians are notified as soon as possible. Other alternative actions in extreme situations may include enlisting the Police or transporting the child to an appropriate psychiatric hospital or juvenile court detention facility.

Edgewood staff are required to complete and submit a report following any use of physical intervention. The entire treatment team working with the child, including the parents, or legal guardians, will make the decisions regarding follow-up, after the immediate crisis is over. Parents or legal guardians will be notified, first verbally, and later in writing, when a crisis intervention procedure has been issued.

I certify that I have read the above form; its contents have been explained to me; and I have had an opportunity to discuss them.

_____	_____	_____
Date	Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian	Relationship to Child
_____	_____	
Date	Signature of Child	
_____	_____	
Date	Witness	