

We here at JL Billing Services hope that you and your families are enjoying this warm summer. Before you know it, winter will be here and there will be snow on the ground. So get out there and enjoy it while you can!

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Thank you for all the feedback that we have received and for sharing your thoughts/ concerns with us. Keep them coming.

~Be sure to check out Ms. Nettie on the back page. If you need a coffee jolt, you'll want to check it out.

All new business with a signed contract with JL Billing Services in the month of August, will receive a free fan.



\*\* Don't forget to check out MV Technology on page 2 for all your computer support. \*\*

## Helpful Information...

## **Reimbursement for Telehealth Services**

The term Telehealth services may refer to all interactions between health care professionals and their patients that do not happen in-person. Here's a quick summary of how Medicare, Medicaid and private payers are handling reimbursement for these services.

Medicare: Psychologists are included on the list of qualifying practitioners who may bill Medicare for "telemedicine" services under specified conditions. The billing codes available for telemedicine reimbursement include psychotherapy as well as health and behavior services. Under Medicare, telemedicine reimbursement is on par with reimbursement for the same service when provided face-to-face. Yet a number of limitations apply, including eligibility for reimbursement is limited to services provided to a Medicare beneficiary located at an eligible site in specified geographic areas– either a "rural health professional shortage area" or a county outside a Metropolitan Statistical Area. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), limits the sites where a Medicare beneficiary may be located when receiving Telehealth services. Eligible sites include a provider's office, hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, rural health clinics and federally qualified health clinics. Additional information is available online at the Medicare Learning Network (<u>cms.gov/MLNMattersArticles</u>)

<u>Medicaid</u>: CMS has not formally defined telemedicine for the Medicaid program. Because the federal government does not mandate reimbursement for telehealth under Medicaid, states have the option to reimburse for Medicaid services furnished through telehealth. It's up to each state to specify what telemedicine/telehealth services, if any, are eligible for Medicaid reimbursement.

<u>Private Payers</u>: To date, 12 states have enacted legislation requiring private sector insurance companies to pay for telehealth services. These states are: California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas and Virginia. While all of these states mandate coverage, not all require reimbursement rates on par with rates for face-to-face services. A 2007 Michigan State University survey indicated that 130 private payers were reimbursing for telehealth services. Based on the results, Blue Cross/Blue Shield has been identified as a leading payer for these services. While private payer reimbursement varies by insurer and state, there is a growing trend toward reimbursement for telehealth services, especially among the larger health insurance companies.

<u>Important Caution</u>: Check with any applicable payers to find out their reimbursement policies before providing and billing for telehealth services. For example, a payer may cover "telemedicine" services that do not include the psychological services you may be interested in delivering via telehealth.

\*\*\*FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING TELEHEALTH SERVICES GO TO: http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Telehealth\*\*\*



## Featured Clinic of the Quarter

Temenos Counseling Services Diana Dietzman, MA, MFT 7741 W. Greenfield Ave, Ste 107 West Allis, WI 53214 (414) 771-0322 or (414) 545-9838 <u>dianadietzman@gmail.com</u>

"Your Vision will become clear only When you look into your Heart Who looks outside Dreams Who looks inside Awakens" CG Jung

Temenos means Sacred Space that allows for an Awakening. Temenos Counseling Services provides each client with the sacred space for psychotherapy, training and consultation.

As a seasoned psychotherapist with 20 years experience, I hold a Masters in Psychology with a Marriage & Family (MFT) License in WI & CA and BS in Education & Psychology. In addition to general therapy practice with children and adults. I also hold the distinction of having the good fortune of training personally with early founders of Jungian Psychology:

Dr. Joseph Henderson in Man & His Symbols Frau Dora Kaiff, Creator of Sandplay Therapy Marion Woodman, Body Soul Rhythms CG Jung Institutes in Switzerland, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Chicago for further study

One of the therapeutic modalities that I use and teach is Sandplay Therapy. Sandplay is based on the Free and Protected Space that allows the sandtray to act as a waking dream to connect with heart and soul. Sandplay utilizes the symbolic and mythic to guide one in their inner awakening and journey into wholeness. I am available for individual Sandplay process, training and group consultation.

In my therapeutic practice, I work with children, teens, adults, couples and groups in the areas of PTSD, Addictions & Recovery, Abuse, Sexual Assault and Victims of Crime. Additionally, I consult with Criminal Justice, Fire Depts., First Responders and Community & Social Service Agencies providing education, collaboration and consultation for groups and individuals.

Dream Group for Therapists starting in September, 2011

Sandplay Training for Therapists starting in October, 2011

Call in a DREAM to begin your AWAKENING!

#### Any interest? Contact Diana Dietzman at the number or email above.

# Ms. Nettiquette (Syndicated Column)

### Dear Ms. Nettie:

I work in a open concept office. My co-worker insists on playing voicemails loudly over their speaker phone. In addition, whenever they are on hold they put the call on speaker phone and the music Is too loud. It is so annoying because it's loud and disruptive. I don't want to be a complainer but how can I get my co-worker to see what a distraction they are being?

~Disrupted at Work

#### Dear Disrupted:

Working with co-workers in an open concept requires a great deal of diplomacy and tact. Often times our co-workers can be so engrossed in their own "to do lists" they forget to consider others around them. The best way to handle this is to speak directly, discreetly but assertively to the

offending co-worker. A quick phrase like "Trina, would you mind taking your phone off speaker phone? It makes it hard to concentrate" should do the trick.

Do you have a question for Ms. Nettie? Something bothering you in your work environment? Email Ms. Nettie today at <u>nettie@wrighttechnologies.com</u> if we publish your question we will send you a **Starbucks gift card**.



Until Next Month

Ms. Nettie



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