**STAFF AND VOLUNTEER ADVOCATE**

**CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY**

As a staff member or volunteer advocate of the Liberal Area Rape Crisis and Domestic Violence Service, Inc. (LARC DVS Inc.) you engage in advocacy work. As such K.S.A. 65-6302 defines your work as “professional activity of helping individuals, groups, or communities to enhance or restore their capacity for physical, social, and economic functioning.” Because no statute specifically addresses domestic and sexual violence advocacy work, programs, or agencies, we consider our agency and its representatives to be governed by the standards of social-work practice. Therefore, we are obligated to maintain client-worker privilege in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 65-6310 and K.S.A. 65-6315 which revise Kansas statutes on privileged and confidential communications.

**Under the following conditions, however, information may be released:**

1. If a client reveals the intent to harm themselves and/or others.
2. If there are reasons to suspect child abuse.
3. If a client records or testimony of staff are subpoenaed by the court.
4. If the information pertains to criminal acts or violations of the law.
5. If the client has signed a *Consent for the Release of Confidential Information* form. In the event consent has been signed, the information released will only pertain to specifics indicated on the consent form; information which has no bearing will not be released.

**LIMITS TO CONFIDENTIALITY**

A PRA has limits regarding confidentiality, some of which are stand and some due to the unique nature of this position.

1. If an arrest is made, we must inform the victim that we could be subpoenaed to testify.
2. We are not mandated reporters if child abuse is disclosed. (Although we may report).
3. We are mandated reporters if the person is harm to themselves or others.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Executive Director: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Computer/director/human resources/confidentiality policy