How is my child's privacy protected?
Information shared through ICANS is protected under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPPA"); federal regulations governing confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records, 42 C.F.R. Part 2; 45 C.F.R. Parts 160 & 164; and the Medicaid Act, 42 C.F.R. Part 431, Subpart F.

ICANS and participating providers use a combination of safeguards to protect your child’s health information.

Technical safeguards include encryption, password protections, and audit logs that track every participant’s use of the system.

Administrative safeguards include written policies that require limited access to information through ICANS. All participating providers must agree to follow these policies.

All participating providers are also regulated by HIPAA, and other federal and state privacy laws. They must have their own policies and other safeguards in place, including policies to train their staff and limit access to those who have a need to know.

Have questions not covered by this brochure or have concerns?

Please speak with your local Idaho Department of Health and Welfare Children’s Mental Health office.

http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/
What is ICANS?
ICANS is an electronic, internet-based system used to administer and manage the Children and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) Assessments in Idaho.

Why would I want my child’s information available in ICANS?
The Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) is a tool for measuring your child needs and strengths, as well as the family’s. The CANS will be used in Idaho to help determine a child or youth’s level of functional impairment and guide treatment planning decisions. In Idaho, the ICANS will also help clinicians and other providers of children’s mental health services to recommend, and plan for the appropriate level of care. Identification of functional impairment and informing treatment decisions are key pieces to the use of the ICANS in Idaho.

Permitting your child’s information to be entered into the ICANS allows it to be available to authorized providers and staff to make more informed, collaborative decisions regarding your child’s mental health services and care.

To participate in or receive certain state-funded programs (e.g. YES Program) a child/youth will need to complete a CANS Assessment. The ICANS is the state-approved platform to administer and score the CANS, and as such, by not allowing your child’s information to be available in ICANS your child may not be able to access certain state-funded services or programs.

Who will have access to your child’s information in ICANS?
Only authorized users will have access to your child’s information in ICANS.

Examples of potential authorized users may include, but are not limited to:
- Division of Behavioral Health Children’s Mental Health staff.
- Medicaid and/or Optum staff who are responsible for the coordination, payment, and quality management of behavioral health services in Idaho.
- Independent Assessment providers, who are contracted by Medicaid, who will assess children for eligibility for some state-funded children’s mental health services.

ICANS users must also abide by the ICANS policies and procedures which include HIPAA privacy and security standards. Use of the ICANS system for any other reason is strictly prohibited.

What is an authorized user?
An authorized user is an individual designated by an Agency or Idaho Department of Health and Welfare Division of Behavioral Health needing to access ICANS for their job.

Who may input my child’s information in ICANS?
The agency that you have named at the top of the informed consent has permission to add your child’s information to ICANS.

What information may be viewable by ICANS authorized users?
- Last Name
- First Name
- Birth Date
- Social Security Number
- Gender
- Race
- Ethnicity
- Address
- Identifiers (other number such as Medicaid ID number)

Why do I need to complete and sign the informed consent?
By completing and signing the informed consent, this allows the agency listed on the informed consent to release, use, receive, exchange and communicate with and disclose information with authorized agencies and/or users with access to ICANS.

Without the completed and signed informed consent, the provider named on the informed consent cannot enter your child’s information in ICANS.

Can I revoke the informed consent?
You may revoke the informed consent at any time. The only exception is if action has already taken place using the informed consent.

After the informed consent has been revoked, the informed consent is no longer valid from that date forward. Copies or exact reproduction of the completed and signed Informed Consent will have the same force and effect as the original.