Stress: Learning Today for a Better Tomorrow

Presented by: Kristen Dickerson, PhD, MPH, RN, MLT(ASCP)

Statewide Health, Wellness, and Special Programs Manager-BWC

Objectives

Current situation

Types of stress

Symptoms of stress

Stress Management

Toolkit

Mindfulness

Health and Wellness

Teleworking tips

Current Situation

- Pandemic
 - Teleworking
 - Isolation
 - Possible illness
 - Traumatic event
- CHANGE
 - Children at home
 - Job status and security
 - Routines and schedules
 - Economy
 - How we interact with people



- Emotional or physical tension
- Is a normal feeling
- Your bodies reaction
 - Challenge
 - Demand
- Acute or chronic
- Stressor
- Anxiety

- Acute Stress
 - Short term stress
 - Least damaging
 - Can be positive
 - Most Common
 - Examples
 - WebEx not working
 - Call in number is wrong
 - Late for a meeting

- Chronic Stress
 - Long term stress
 - Emotional pressure
 - Individual feels they have no or little control
 - Association with traumatic events
 - Chemicals in the body are released
 - Corticosteroids
 - Norepinephrine/epinephrine
 - Build up over time
 - Flight or fight all the time

Impacts of Chronic Stress

High blood pressure (stroke)

Damage to muscle (heart attack)

Growth inhibition

Suppress the immune system

Anxiety, depression

Headaches

Sleep problems

Concentration problems

Weight gain



Symptoms

- Change in bowel habits
- Trouble sleeping/sleeping too much
- Upset stomach
- Use of drugs or alcohol
- Change in weight
- Forgetfulness
- Tiredness
- Inability to concentrate



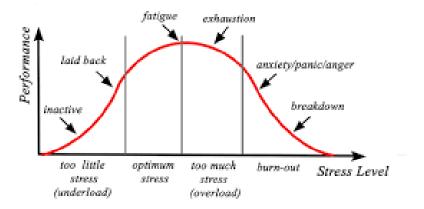
Classifications

Routine

Change

Traumatic event

Stress Curve



Your Feelings

Feelings you may be experiencing

- Sadness
- Guilt
- Loneliness
- Isolation
- Fear

- Anger
- Despair
- Panic
- Anxiety
- Confusion

IT'S OK TO HAVE THESE FEELINGS

- Everyone is experiencing similar feelings right now
- Time for processing

Managing stress

- Be observant
- Talk to your provider



Managing stress

- Regular exercise
 - 30 minutes a day
 - Help boost your mood
 - Helps you sleep better
- Relaxing activities
 - Meditation
 - Breathing exercise
 - Mindfulness



Stress management

Eat healthy
5 fruits and veggies a day
More food cooked at home

Sleep well

Develop a sleep routine
Stop electronics 60 minutes prior to bed
Keep your bedroom for sleeping



SET GOALS 1. 2. 3.

Managing stress

Set goals and priorities

Say no

Note what you have accomplished

Stay connected
Stay connected
Consider community groups

Managing Stress

- Be positive
 - Assertive
 - Accept that you can not control everything
 - Write your feelings down
 - Celebrate the small stuff





Avoid

Take control of surroundings

Avoid people

Say no

Ditch the list



Alter

Ask for a change
Communicate feelings
Manage time better
Limits in advance



Accept

Talk to someone

Forgive

Positive self-talk

Learn from mistakes

Adapt

Adjust standards

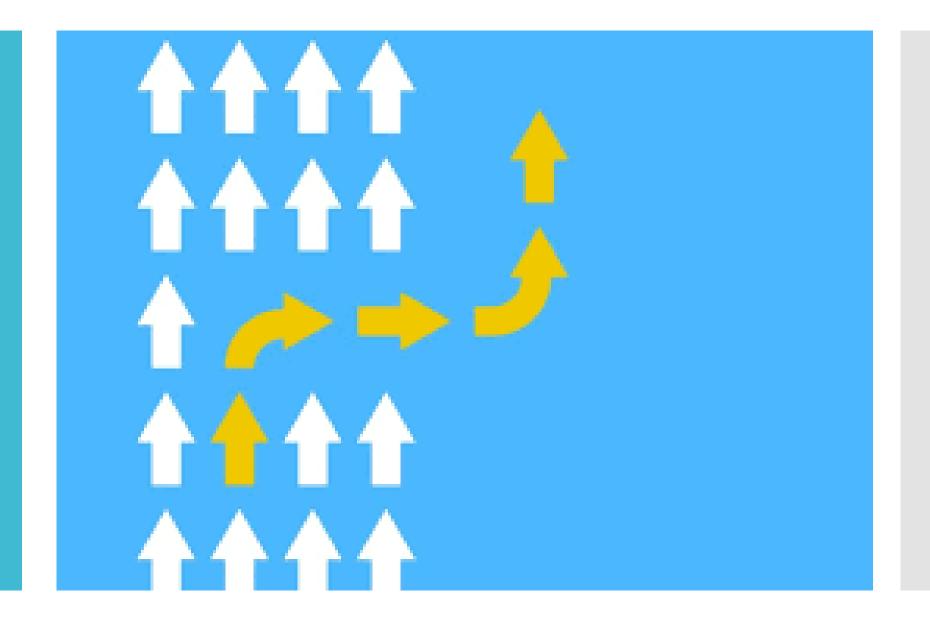
Thought stopping

Rethink the issue

Adopt a mantra

Create an assets column

Look at the big picture

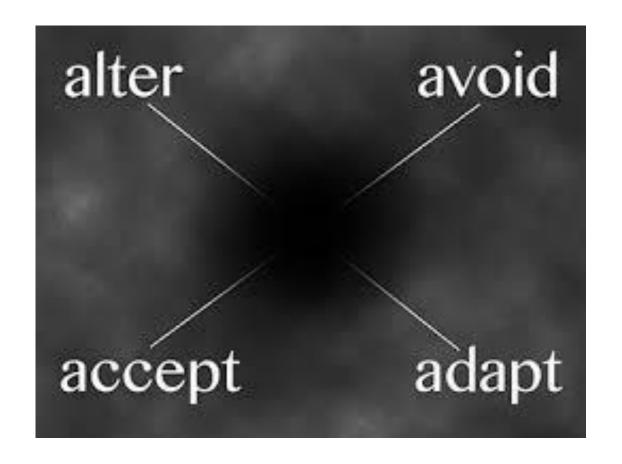


Thought Break

Think about it

A true example

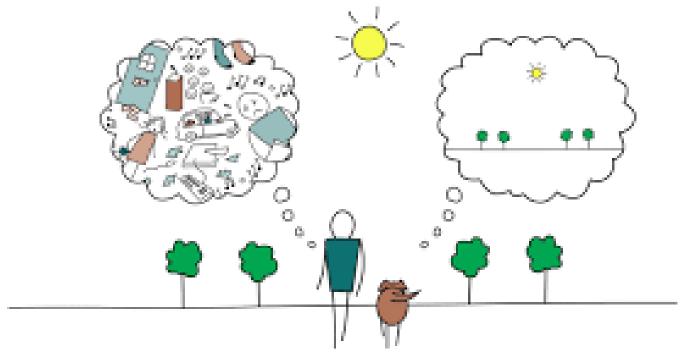
What A would work



Mindfulness

- Quality of being aware
- Mental state
 - Focus awareness
 - Accept feelings





Mind Full, or Mindful?

Mindfulness

Aware of your thoughts

Stop immediate reaction

Being Mode

Aware of your needs

Mindfulness

- Aware of emotions
- Compassion
- Reduces brain activity
- Better able to focus
- Switch your attitude to stress





Live mindfully

Mindful wakeup

Mindful eating

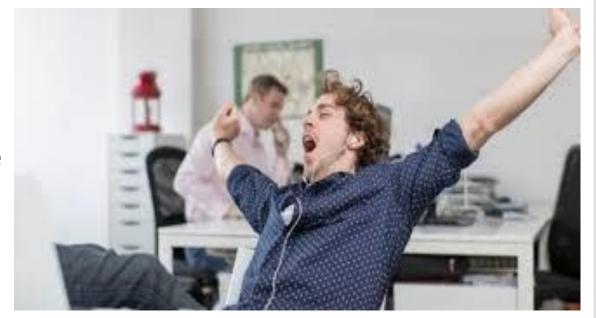
Mindful pause

Mindful workout

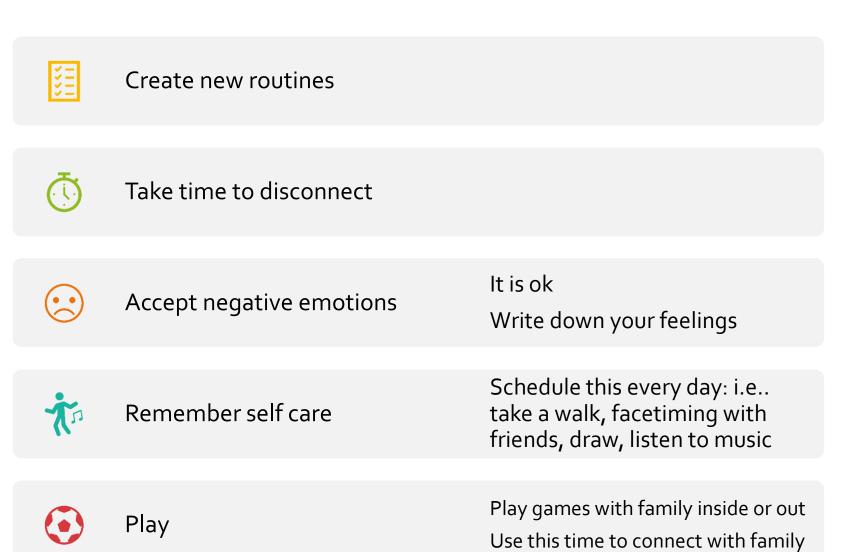
Mindful driving

Minute Activities

- Yawn and stretch
- Three hugs, three breaths
- Stroke your hands
- Mindfully eat
- Clench and breath
- STOP
- Breath for a minute
- Love/kind
- Aspirations



Health and Well Being



Health and Well Being

Meditate

Complete mindful activities

Reduce exposure to social media

Avoid complaining and gossiping

- You invite criticism and unwanted advice
- You increase negative stress hormones

Tips for Teleworking



Have a morning routine



Try to have a schedule for you and children



Engage when you can by video



Schedule breaks



Get outside or at least leave your office space

Tips for Teleworking

Have a firm quitting time

Your office space is your office space

- Only work from this space
- The rest of your house should remain work free
- When possible, the workplace should be outside of your bedroom

Share thoughts with co-workers

Click <u>here</u> for the Adult Resource page that the state has prepared.

 There is information about mental health services, recovery and addiction support, health and fitness information, and resources for financial concerns as well. Click here to be taken to the CDC website about managing stress and anxiety during the pandemic.

•It offers information to help with children that may be experiencing stress as well. Click here to be taken to the CDC website about dealing with a traumatic event.

• It also offers resources for others in your family.

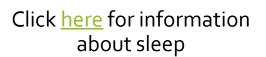
Click here to see SAMHSA and their information about mental wellbeing during an infectious disease outbreak.

Click here to watch a video that discusses stress and management.

They also have provided information <u>here</u> about dealing with a traumatic event.

Resources







Click <u>here</u> for information about nutrition



Click here for information about physical activity



Click <u>here</u> for more information about Mindfulness

Resources

Questions

Kristen Dickerson

K.dickerson.1@bwc.state.oh.us

Office: 614-466-7053

Cell: 614-512-2842