Self Care Skills

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WHY do you volunteer?

- What do you do at New Hope?
- Do you also volunteer at other places?

Tell us Why!



Volunteering



- Purpose
- Meaning
- Improve something personally important
- Physical health
- Social Life
- **Emotional Health**

Volunteers make the world better!



 44,155 volunteer hour

Served 2,711 families

 \$3.9 Million value to community!

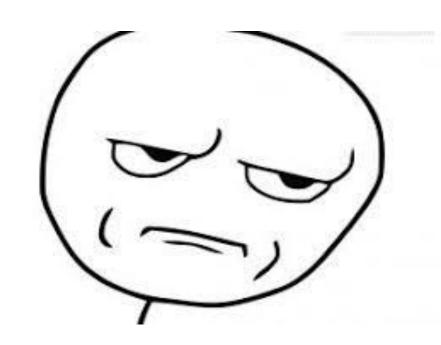
Self Care

- Self care require maintenance
- It is a lifestyle practice not a special event
- EXTRA needed if you are a caretaker, giver, healer, volunteer



Warning Signs

- Forgetfulness
- anxiety
- restlessness
- cynicism
- appetite changes
- sleep disturbances
- irritability



Example

- "Phillip" volunteers at the homeless shelter.
- This year with bad weather it has been extra busy.
- Phillip is starting to get impatient & annoyed.
 He feels hopeless that this problem can ever be solved.



Warning signs

- impaired concentration
- Isolation
- detachment
- gastrointestinal issues
- increased illness
- Impaired work performance
- Tired /fatigue



Example



- "Janet" volunteers to drive Cancer patients to appointments.
- Lately she does not feel like talking or getting to know themlike she used to.
- She feels exhausted and sick after helping people who are so sick.

Compassion Fatigue

"We have not been directly exposed to the trauma scene, but we hear the story told with such intensity, or we hear similar stories so often, or we have the gift and curse of extreme empathy and we suffer.

We feel the feelings of our clients. We experience their fears. We dream their dreams.

Eventually, we lose a certain spark of optimism, humor and hope.

We tire. We aren't sick, but we aren't ourselves."

What's your experience?

 Take a minute to think about a sad or frustrating or unfair story that you have heard from New Hope clients or colleagues.

How did way fact?

How did you feel?

What did you do with the feelings afterwards?

Burnout

Journal of Occupational Health Psychology:

- Exhaustion
- Cynicism
- Reduced Ability



Let's check in

Lifestyle assessment

Burnout measure

Self Care checklist

How are you doing?

- What was the last self care activity you engaged in?
- Frequency?
- Do you prefer solo or shared self care?
- What barriers to regular self care?



Choosing self care that suits you



- Think of a "menu"
- Know which type of self care is needed!

The future

 Time and resource allotments for self care as with other important tasks Build in regular calendar items to look forward to

Self care is not procrastination or "cheating" it is intentional for the purpose of reconstitution

A day trip, meal out, time alone, time with loved ones, concert, community event, art exhibit

THANK YOU

