2020 Applied Learning Communities

Getting to the Heart of Virtual Contact



**Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional** 

**Development System** 

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## **Session One**

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## **Right Now**

It may be hard to focus.

It might feel like it takes you twice as long to get things done.

You might be more irritable, overwhelmed, and exhausted than usual.

You may be grasping to stay in control.

Planning for the future is the furthest thing from your mind right now.

You may forget the meeting you scheduled, or the deadline set.

You only have enough mental energy to focus on the immediate.

It's likely you're craving connection.

## This is normal, because...



You are not unstable or irresponsible or forgetful.

It's ok to "just be" and feel the way you feel about what's happening around you and/or to you.

You do not need to emerge from this a "better person."

It's ok to "just be." We are experiencing individual and collective trauma on a global scale.

The COVID-19 outbreak is a crisis that threatens both our physical and psychological wellness.



## **Self-Care Inventory**

This job aid helps the child welfare professional take inventory on self-care practices during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Rate the following areas in frequency:

- **5** = Frequently
- **4** = Occasionally
- **3** = Rarely
- 2 = Never
- 1 = It never occurred to me

Physical Self-Care		
 Eat regularly (e.g. breakfast, lunch and dinner)		
 Eat healthy		
 Exercise consistently		
 Get medical care when necessary		
 Take time off when sick		
 Take time to be sexual		
 Get enough sleep		
 Wear clothes you like		
 Make time away from phone		
 Other		

Psychological Self-Care
 Make time for self-reflection
 Engage in personal psychotherapy
 Write in a journal
 Read literature that is unrelated to work or COVID-19
 Do something in which you are not an expert or in charge
 Cope with stress in personal and/or work life
 Notice inner experience (e.g., listen to and recognize thoughts, judgments, beliefs, attitudes and feelings)
 Provide others with different aspects of self (e.g., communicate needs and wants)
 Try new things
 Practice receiving from others
 Improve ability to say "no" to extra responsibilities
 Other

Emotional Self-Care
 Allow for quality, virtual time with others whose company you enjoy
 Maintain contact with valued others
 Give self affirmations and praise
 Love self
 Reread favorite book or review favorite movies
 Identify and engage in comforting activities, objects, people, relationships and places
 Allow for feeling expression (laugh, cry, etc)
 Other

Spiritual Self-Care
 Allow time for reflection
 Spend time with nature
 Participate in a spiritual community
 Open to inspiration
 Cherish own optimism and hope
 Be aware of nonmaterial aspects of life
 Cultivate ability to identify what is meaningful and its place in personal life
 Meditate/pray
 Contribute to causes in which you believe
 Read inspirational literature (lectures, music etc)

	Workplace or Professional Self-Care		
Allow for breaks during the workday			
	Engage virtually with co-workers		
	Provide self quiet time/space to complete tasks		
	Participate in projects or tasks that are exciting and rewarding		
	Set limits/boundaries with computer, clients and colleagues		
	Balance workload/cases		
	Arrange work space for comfort		
	Maintain regular supervision or consultation		
	Participate in virtual peer support group		
	Other		

<sup>\*</sup>Review assigned numbers. Appreciate areas of strengths while making positive changes in areas with significantly low scores to improve balance in life.



saturated nervous system

bias & away from critical thinking

feeling helpless, hopeless & that one can never do enough hypervigilance & always serious anger and cynicism	complicated grieving	sense of persecution fight/flight/ immobility response	dissociative moments	inability to see options & diminished creativity	physical ailments, depression, anxiety, & other mental health considerations	austion &
loneliness/isolation/ feeling helple strained relationships that one can n s		WHEN EXPERIENCING OVERWHELM & TRAUMA				pulled toward confirmation chronic exhaustion &
lone strain addictions sub-impeccable/toxic conduct & compromised impulse control	difficulty empathizing/ minimizing/numbing	negativity bias & not assuming well grandiosity	disheartened & dispirited	intense/rigid/controlling/ unable to embrace complexity	lack of presence/deliberate avoidance/cognitive overload	pulled tov

# THE TRAUMA STEWARDSHIP INSTITUTE'S TWASSURVIVAL GUIDE

PROTECT YOUR MOKNINGS
[or whenever you wake up]
less cortisol, more intentionality.



something larger than this. (27) GO OUTSIDE

[or look outside] perspective, context +



BE ACTIVE
[avoid stagnation] in body, mind, spirit.

# CULTIVATE RELATIONSHIPS

those that are edifying + healthy.

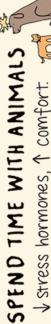
# NURTURE GRATITUDE

what is one thing, right now, that is going well?



if navigating addictions be wise + safe

limit news + social media.



# & stress hormones, 1 comfort.

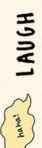
METABOLIZE NO 40 AT EXPERIENCING re-regulate your nervous system.

## SIMPLIFY Smayer?

fatique + cognitive overload. [less is more] be aware of decision

## ADMIRE ART

the gift of feeling transported.



pure humor =  $\alpha$  sustaining force.

## & EXTEND GRACE FOSTER HUMILITY

self-righteousness + hubris = unhelpful.



## SIEEP

to cleanse + repair brain + body.

## CLARIFY INTENTIONS

how can i contribute meaningfully? how can i refrain from causing harm,

# BE REALISTIC + COMPASSIONATE

be mindful of the quality of your presence it means so much to others.



## ACCAU even now. especially now.

date	i am grateful fo	V
		psyched abou
Jesss !		
paying attents	•	taking a moment
o j saireal	on to	A The Trauma Ctelliardehia Inchitute

## **Quarantine B-I-N-G-O**

This job aid was created by staff at Brown County Human Services. It reinforces several self-care strategies and supports team building and connection.

Welcome to Quarantine Bingo! Complete these simple directions in order to participate in the game!

- 1. Print your blank bingo card
- 2. Fill your bingo squares with things from the list below that you have done or experienced while in quarantine!
- 3. Follow along and mark the squares that are called throughout the game! Be sure to either print multiple blank cards or use removable markers (pennies, pieces of paper, candy, etc.) as we will be having several rounds and several winners!!

Try a new recipe	Play yard games
Craft with family	Participate in an online training
Go on a hike/walk	Do an at-home workout
Go into the office	Were hired/training during COVID
Have a video chat failure/malfunction	Go for a run
Walk with a pet	Yoga
Family game night	Virtual work event with your team
Play puzzles	Take a virtual exercise class
Watch Church online	Wash your car
Virtual chat with family	Build a fort
Watch a new series/movie	Re-arrange furniture/change home décor
Ride a bike	Paint a room in your house
Work at home with your spouse	Play a sport
Eat lunch away from workspace	Have a birthday during quarantine
Learn a new skill	Decorated windows with rainbow/hearts
Do yard work	Stocked up on toilet paper
Participate in virtual happy hour	Sent a meme/GIF on TEAMS
De-clutter	Do a random act of kindness
Celebrate an event/holiday virtually	Sidewalk chalk in the driveway
Send a letter/card	Virtual game night
Read a book	Bake something new
Home improvement project	Film a TikTok
Teach your kids	Stick to a new schedule
Have a bonfire	Start or attend a book club
Have a picnic	Listen to a new podcast
Scavenger hunt	Bird watching
Discover a new hobby	Gardening
Spring cleaning	Watch Disney+

BING free