Wellness and Resilience Strategies: Mind



The Wellness Compass Practices Assessment

"Self-care is not an indulgence. Self-care is a discipline. It requires tough-mindedness, a deep and personal understanding of your priorities, and a respect for both yourself and the people you choose to spend your life with." – Tami Forman

The following worksheet is meant to be a reflection tool on how you care for yourself. It has many wellness practice options for your consideration. Feel free to add areas of self-care that are relevant for you, your family, and community culture and mark those that are not with N/A. When you are finished, look for patterns in your responses that are clues about how you have been taking care of yourself recently. Are you more active in some areas of self-care but ignore others? Pay attention to your likes and dislikes. What items did you find interesting that you might want to try or do more of? Celebrate your areas of strength in your self-care. What do you say to yourself about making yourself a priority? Consider who you might talk to about this self-assessment that would listen to your reflections and reinforce your chosen self-care practices.

Rate the following areas according to how well you think you are doing:

3 = I do this well (e.g., frequently)	0 = I never do this
2 = I do this OK (e.g., occasionally)	? = This never occurred to me. I might be interested
1 = I barely or rarely do this	N/A = doesn't apply or it's not of interest to m

HEART	Relationships	Spend time with others whose company I enjoy Stay in contact with important people in my life Make time to reply to personal emails/letters; send holiday cards Allow others to do things for me Enlarge my social circle Ask for help when I need it Share a fear, hope, or secret with someone I trust Resolve a conflict with people in a productive way If relevant, spend time with my companion animals If relevant, schedule regular dates with my partner or spouse If relevant, schedule regular activities with my children Other:	
	Emotions	Give myself affirmations, praise myself Practice self-compassion Practice being mindfully present Re-read favorite books, re-view favorite movies Seek out comforting activities, objects, people, and places Allow myself to cry Find things that make me laugh Notice my inner experience – my thoughts, beliefs, attitudes, feelings Express my outrage in social action, letters, donations, marches, protests Use emotional regulation strategies Other:	

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SPIRIT	Core Values	Identify what is meaningful and notice its place in my life Find a connection/community that shares my values Have experiences of awe Contribute my time or other resources to causes in which I believe Read books or listen to talks/music that inspire me Choose to focus my attention on ideas, people and situations that nurture my optimism and hope Be aware of the non-material aspects of life that I value Be curious and engage in conversations with other people about their values Other:
	Rest & Play	Explore how to maintain balance in my work and non-work life Make time for reflection to balance time spent doing Take vacations Take day trips or mini-vacations Do something that makes me laugh Take rest breaks in the day – a walk at work, brief nap, etc. Spend time in nature Sing Meditate Dance, swim, walk/run, play sports, or other physical activities Other:
STRENGTH	Stress Resilience	Make time away from telephones, email, and the Internet Make time for self-reflection Have my own personal support — professional or peer Write in a journal Read about things that are unrelated to work Do something at which I am not an expert or in charge Attend to minimizing stress in my life Learn something new Say no to extra responsibilities sometimes Practice accepting discomfort Practice gratitude Other:

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STRENGTH	Care for Body	Eat regularly (e.g., breakfast, lunch, and dinner) Eat healthily Exercise on a regular basis Explore new ways to exercise Get regular medical care for prevention Get medical care when needed Take time off when sick Get regular comforting, relaxing and/or healing touch If relevant, take time to be sexual — with myself, with a partner Get enough sleep Wear clothes I like Make healthy decisions around use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs Other:
MIND	School/Work	Take a break during the workday (e.g., lunch) Have intentional conversations with co-workers Make quiet time to complete tasks Identify projects or tasks that are exciting and rewarding Set limits/boundaries with colleagues and people you serve Balance work so that no one day or part of a day is "too much" Get regular supervision or consultation Negotiate for my needs Have a peer support group Other:
	Organization	Make a budget for how I plan to spend and save money Keep track of how I spend my money Use a calendar to plan my day, week, month, year Prioritize how I spend my time Arrange my living space so it is comfortable and comforting Arrange my workspace so it is comfortable and supports my efficiency Accomplish the tasks I plan each day Other:

Overall Balance

_____ Maintain balance among work, family, relationships, play, and rest

Adapted from Saakvitne, Pearlman, & Staff of TSI/CAAP (1996). Transforming the pain: A workbook on vicarious traumatization. Norton. The compass model is adapted from the work of <u>The Samaritan Family Wellness Foundation</u>.