

### MAKING SELF-CARE A PRIORITY



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## Making Self-Care a Priority

At the end of this Webinar, you'll:

- ♦ Be able to embrace self-care as an essential ingredient of life without feeling selfish
- ❖Identify your unique self-care needs
- ❖Discover low and no-cost self-care practices
- ❖Make and act on your self-care plans



### What is Self-Care?

- Different for everyone
- Anything that nurtures you
  - → Emotionally
  - ♦ Physically
  - ♦ Spiritually
  - → Mentally
- Important to figure out your particular brand



## Our No Self-Care Stories

- If I don't do it, it won't get done/done right.
- I feel guilty.
- I don't feel worthy.
- It seems selfish.
- What will others think?
- \* I've always done it. I can't say no.
- I don't have time.
- I can't afford it.
- Insert yours here...



## Effects of Stress at Work

- Poor judgment
- Difficulty thinking clearly and making decisions
- Higher rate of absenteeism
- Anger/Conflict
- Unpleasant to be around
- Damaged relationships
- Low self-esteem
- Poor job performance





### Effects of Stress at Home

- Family tension and rifts
- Emotional reactions
- Accidents
- Anger/Conflict
- Isolation
- Wounds heal more slowly
- Low self-esteem
- Unhealthy habits
- Low energy





## The Upside of Self-Care

- Self-care helps reduce stress.
- Self-care serves you and everyone in your life, including your employer, your family, your communities.
- Self-care saves money.
- How you treat yourself is how you are inviting the world to treat you.
- Role model: What's the example you want to set for others?



## Making Self-Care a Priority

Self-care is not just a 'nice to do' personal indulgence...

It's a social/economic necessity!



### How Do I Know What to Do?

- Make a list of the things that make you feel good.
- Observe others.
- Ask others for ideas.
- Focus inward:
  - Slow down.
  - Ask yourself: What do I need right now?
  - Listen to your inner voice.
    Focus on positive things.

  - Be compassionate.

# Proactive Examples of Self-Care

- Sleep
- Good Nutrition
- Exercise
- Develop a hobby
- Support
- Spiritual practices
- Take care of physical health
- Have fun
- Down time
- Pampering



## Responsive Self-Care

- Say NO
- ❖ Positive Self-Talk







## Responsive Self-Care

"Self Care is never a selfish act. It is simply good stewardship of the only gift I have, the gift I was put on earth to offer others."

Peter Parker

# Hold Yourself Accountable

- Take small steps.
- Write it in your calendar.
- Look for smoke, blood or tears.
- Ignore your opinion.
- Enlist a buddy.



## Summary

- Know what refuels you.
- Pay attention to the signals your body gives you.
- Carve out 'me' time.
- Learn to say 'No'.
- Turn negative self-talk into positive self-talk.
- Create new habits to replace old habits and routines.
- Be accountable.
- Honor yourself because doing so serves others.



## **Getting Into Action**

What will you do to take care of yourself so you can bring your greatest gifts forth as you were meant to do?



