

## **Quick Stress Awareness**

Stress can manifest itself in different ways. Be sure to watch for:

## **PHYSICAL**

Tiredness, headaches, back pain, difficulty sleeping, indigestion, tight muscles

### **MENTAL**

Forgetfulness, poor concentration, boredom, worry, poor teamwork

### **EMOTIONAL**

Irritability, depression, anxiety, fear, apathy, increased sensitivity to criticism

### **RELATIONAL**

Loneliness, withdrawal, intolerance, relationship problems

#### **BEHAVIORAL**

Procrastination, eating problems, risk-taking, substance abuse, poor time management

## **SPIRITUAL**

Emptiness, loss of beliefs and sense of meaning, cynicism, compassion fatigue



# Calm is Contagious

Coping strategies in the moment to get you through:

## **SENSIBLE EATING**

Reduce the amount of caffeine and stimulants you may be consuming. Schedule and take lunch and snack breaks. Eat the RAINBOW and keep a nutritious balanced diet. Keeps healthy foods on hand along with water and gum.

## **PUSH PAUSE**

Take breaks and walk outside. If your concentration is off take a break and do something that calms and centers you. Being cooped up inside can intensify isolation feelings. Identify a designated stop and start time for your work day and follow it.

## **RELAXATION**

Deep breathing is one of the most effective relaxation techniques. It can be performed anywhere, anytime. Breathing helps reduce the stress in the moment. Visit www.go.osu.edu/justbreathe. Repetitive activities can also be calming, such as cleaning and organizing, playing solitaire, art expression. Take a minute to yourself, even if it is just one minute.

### **EXERCISE**

Practice chair yoga, take a quick walk, do some jumping jacks in place.

## COMMUNICATE

Tell someone how you're feeling and ask for help. Tell others when you are reaching your limit. Debrief after a difficult situation. Stay in touch via phone, social media, email, facetime.

## **REMIND YOURSELF**

You are brave and empathetic enough to withstand this distressing time and you make a difference to each person who you help. Affirm that you can and you will get through this.

## We Are Here For You!

**Ohio State EAP** (800) 678-6265 EAP@osumc.edu osuhealthplan.com/OhioStateEAP

**NEW!** Connect by using Tess, our Chatbot! Start chatting with Tess by texting "Hi" to +1 (415) 360-0023 Start Code: buckeyes or via osuhealthplan.com/OhioStateEAP



