

You continue to provide critical services while under the added stress of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is normal to experience a myriad of feelings - Anxiety, irritation, fear, frustration, sadness, anger, and fatigue, among others. Each person reacts differently. These feelings are a normal response to a very abnormal situation and require us to take care of ourselves. <u>Self-care is essential</u> and a way to ensure we are utilizing healthy coping strategies for the resiliency that is so critical to our health and well-being going forward.

## Here are a few things to reflect on to help you check in with yourself about how you are dealing with the stress of COVID-19 and to establish a self-care routine.

- How have you been decompressing when you leave work and move into your personal life?
- What do you need to transition from the EOC to your regular job and/or personal life?
- How are you feeling? What do you need to help you with any difficult feelings?
- What is your plan for long-term <u>self-care</u>? Consider the following and check the resources on the back of this handout:

Share your thoughts and feelings with someone you trust Take breaks throughout the day – even a moment to take some deep breaths Eat regular meals and healthy snacks to keep you energized Get plenty of sleep Exercise - even a short walk can bring peace of mind Do things you enjoy to recharge emotionally

### EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

# **RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO YOU**

Check out the EAP & Wellness website for helpful resources: <u>www.sfhss.org/eap</u>

https://sfhss.org/covid-19-well-beingresources

Call Employee Assistance to speak with a counselor – (800) 795-2351

Let us know you are activated.

**Call your health plan mental health services** – If you have any difficulty accessing services, let an EAP counselor know right away.

**Check out these online resources:** <u>www.helpguide.org</u> – Helpful articles and videos on mental/emotional health topics including effects of Covid-19 crisis.

https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/ - The Greater Good Science Center offering articles, videos and helpful tips on dealing with the Covid-19 crisis.

#### https://liberatemeditation.com/

A free meditation app developed by and for people of color.

<u>www.headspace.com</u> – Help for anxiety and coping with stress; a special section called *Weathering The Storm.* 

<u>www.calm.com</u> - An app for anxiety, sleep and mindfulness.

#### https://onemomentcompany.com/app/

A free app to learn one moment meditation for stress and anxiety relief.



#### Also consider the following:

- When talking with a loved one, ask for what you need.
- Minimize your use of alcohol or other substances you may use. There are healthier choices for coping.
- Many gyms are offering exercise videos online so you can maintain fitness.
- Ask for help when you need it and don't wait till you feel in crisis.
- Engage family and friends to develop a list of fun things to do while sheltered.
- Make a daily practice of consciously thinking about what you are grateful for and why.
- Remember, you are not alone.

