Life with a Full Plate: Recognizing and Overcoming Compassion Fatigue

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Ice Breaker

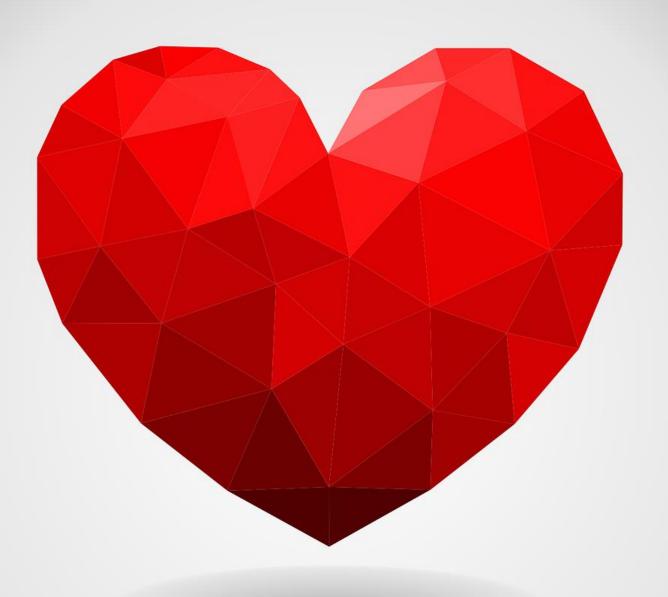
If you could <u>only</u> pick ONE word to describe yourself, what would it be?



Ice Breaker Encouraging Peaceful curious Grounded

Thank you for sharing!











Our Objectives

- Define compassion fatigue
- Recognize signs and symptoms of compassion fatigue
- Identify ways to create balance and improve resilience to compassion fatigue



Raise Your Hand If...

You Have Heard of Compassion Fatigue Before





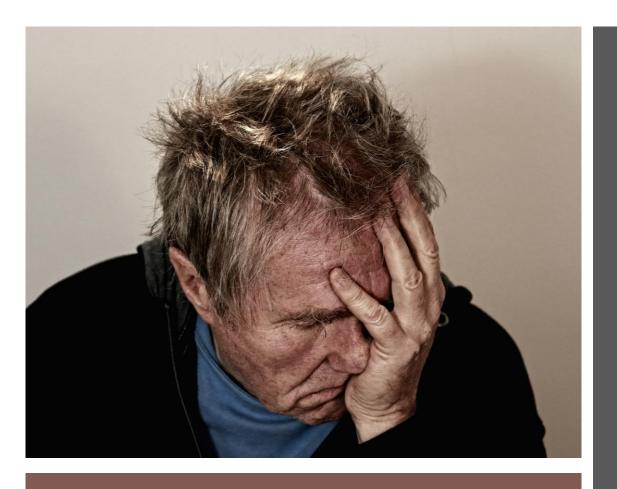
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What Is Compassion?



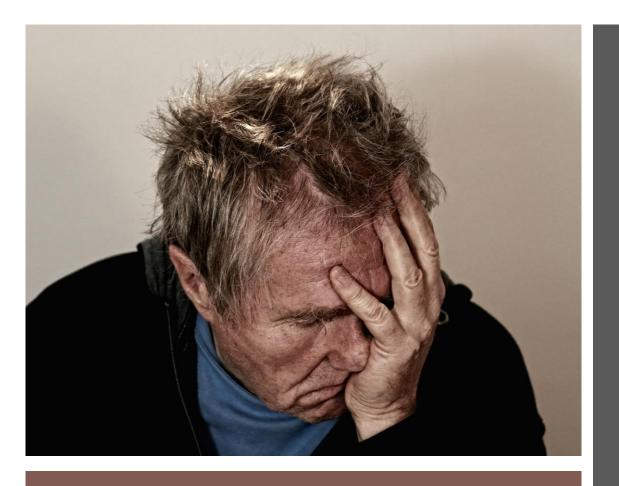
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What Is Compassion?



Fatigue is defined as "the decreased capacity or inability to function **normally** because of excessive stimulation or prolonged exertion"

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What Is Compassion Fatigue?

Also known as empathy fatigue, involves the gradual lessening of compassion—for others and for self—over time



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What Causes Compassion Fatigue?

SYMPTOMS



Physical Symptoms

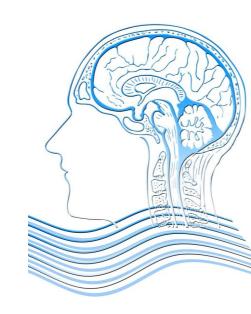
- Chronic exhaustion (emotional, physical, or both)
- Experiencing illness, aches, and pains

Having problems sleeping



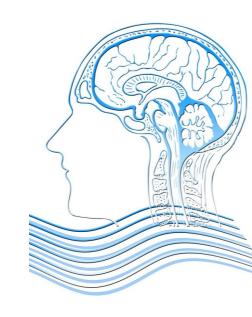
Cognitive Symptoms

- Decreased feelings of sympathy or empathy
- Difficulty concentrating, focusing, or making decisions
- Dreading working for or taking care of another and feeling guilty as a result
- Apathy, sad, depressed, or no longer finding joy in activities normally bring joy
- Diminished sense of career fulfillment



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- Cynicism



Behavioral Symptoms

- Poor self-care
- Difficulty separating personal and professional life
- Anger and irritability;
 excessive blaming
- Exaggerated sense of responsibility
- Isolation from others



Other Signs of Compassion Fatigue

- Regularly waking up tired in the morning and struggling to get to work
- Feeling as if you are working harder but accomplishing less
- Becoming frustrated or irritated easily
- Losing compassion for some people while becoming over involved in others
- Routinely feeling bored or disgusted



Balancing Our Emotional Needs



Ways to Help Prevent Compassion Fatigue



Reducing stressful workloads



Monitoring sleep patterns



Taking regular vacations



Meditation



Journaling



Seeking personal therapy



Regular exercise

Let's Chat!

What is something someone can do to practice self-care?



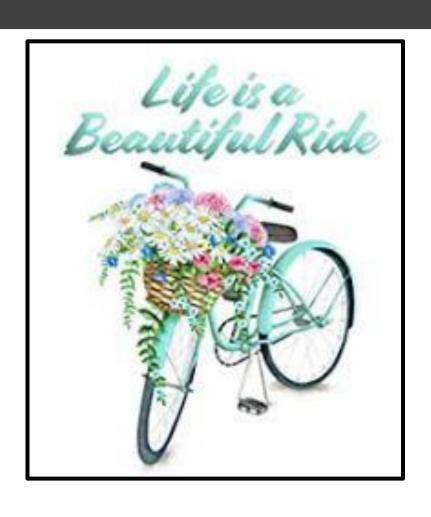
Add Activities That Bring You Joy



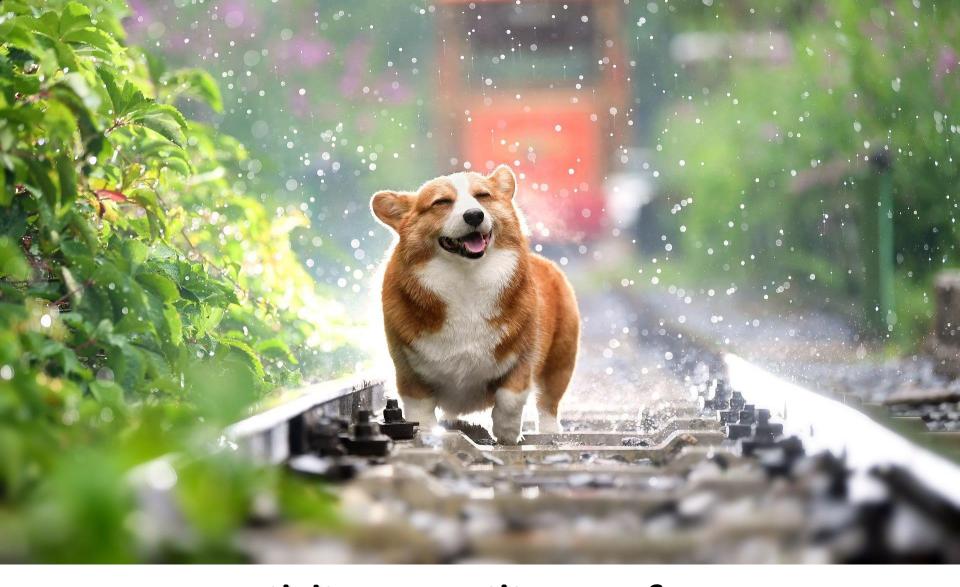
Schedule
 Activities that
 Bring You Joy

 Allow yourself mini-escapes or diversions when able

Challenge Negativity



- Find Meaning
- Challenge Intrusive
 Thoughts
- Find and Practice Gratitude



Building Resiliency from Compassion Fatigue







Healthy Sleep











Taking care of yourself doesn't mean me first, it means me too.

-L.R. Knost

Looking for More Resources?

National Suicide Prevention Phone Number	Crisis Text Line (741741)
988	CDC.gov

Thank You!

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