SELF-CARE ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

This assessment tool provides an overview of effective strategies to maintain self-care. After completing the assessment, you can move on to developing a full self-care plan.

Using the scale below, rate the following areas in terms of frequency: 5 = Frequently 4 = Occasionally 3 = Rarely 2 = Never 1 = It never occurred to me

Physical Self-Care

___ Eat regularly (e.g. breakfast, lunch and dinner)

- ___ Eat healthy
- ___ Exercise
- ____ Get regular medical care for prevention
- ____ Get medical care when needed
- ____ Take time off when needed
- ___ Get massages
- ___ Dance, swim, walk, run, play sports, or do some other physical activity that is fun
- ___ Take time to be sexual—with yourself, with a partner
- ____ Get enough sleep
- ____ Wear clothes you like
- ____ Take day trips or mini-vacations
- ___ Other:

Psychological Self-Care

- ____ Make time for self-reflection
- ___ Have your own personal psychotherapy
- ___ Write in a journal
- ___ Read literature that is unrelated to school
 ___ Let others know different aspects of you
- --- Notice your inner experience—listen to your thoughts, judgments, beliefs, attitudes, and feelings
- ___ Engage your intelligence in a new area, e.g.
 go to an art museum, history exhibit, sports
 event, theater performance
- ____ Practice receiving from others
- ___ Be curious
- ____ Say "no" to extra responsibilities sometimes
- ___ Other:

Emotional Self-Care

- ___ Spend time with others whose company you enjoy
- ____ Stay in contact with important people in your life
- ____ Give yourself affirmations, praise yourself
- ___ Love yourself

____ Re-read favorite books, re-view favorite movies

____ Identify comforting activities, objects, people, relationships, places and seek them out

- ___ Allow yourself to cry
- ___ Find things that make you laugh
- ___ Express your outrage in social action, letters
- and donations, marches, protests
- ___ Play with children
- ___ Other:

Spiritual Self-Care

- ____ Make time for reflection
- ___ Spend time with nature
- ____ Find a spiritual connection or community
- ____ Be open to inspiration
- ____ Cherish your optimism and hope
- ____ Be aware of nonmaterial aspects of life
- ____ Try at times not to be in charge or the expert
- ___ Be open to not knowing
- ___ Identify what is meaningful to you and
- notice its place in your life
- ___ Have experiences of awe
- ___ Read inspirational literature (talks, music, etc.)
- ___ Other:

Adapted by BWell Health Promotion from: Transforming the Pain: A Workbook on Vicarious Traumatization. Saakvitne, Pearlman & Staff of TSI/CAAP (Norton, 1996)

DEVELOP A SELF-CARE PLAN

1. List the self-care habits you are using now to manage stress and stay healthy: (I get at least 8 hours of sleep at night)

2. List the self-care habits you would like to use but are not currently practicing: (Practicing yoga regularly)

3. Identify the obstacles keeping you from practicing these habits: (I don't practice yoga regularly because I don't have the time to)

4.What solutions can you come up with to address the obstacles you listed: (I could free up time for myself by watching less TV or waking up earlier)

5. Reread the self-care habits you wrote down for item 2. Select one of the habits you would like to begin practicing and complete the sentences below.

Today, I commit to...

I want to do this because...

I will accomplish this by...

