

MENTAL HEALTH MEMO

MAY 2022 | STRESS AND SELF-CARE



WHAT IS STRESS

Stress is a feeling of emotional or physical tension. It is how we react when we feel under pressure or threatened. It is a normal reaction that happens to everyone. Stress is your body's reaction to a challenge or demand.

Create a supportive environment for your children to relax, de-stress, and express themselves. Ensure your child gets enough sleep and proper nutrition. Listen to what your child is saying.

SELF-CARE TIPS

Remember the 4 "Rs"

Relationships

- -Get Support
- -Check-in
- -Connect with others

Routines

- -Limit the news
- -Importance of sleep hygiene
- -Exercise, eat well and stay hydrated

Relaxation

- -Deep breathing
- -Schedule down time. Time to relax and rejuvenate. Add extra time for daily stress relief
 - -Distraction
 - -Engage your five senses

Reflection

- -Practice a balanced response, not under responding, and not over responding.
- -Realize what is in your control, and what actions you can take to keep yourself and loved ones safe
 - -Pray, and engage in an activity that will encourage spiritual growth



- External sources such as bullying, peer pressure, family, or friends
- Over-packed schedules
- Self-imposed pressure such as "not feeling good enough"
- Major life changes
- Media outlets such as world news or social media

