

Mental Health Care Package



With the current circumstances, we understand how hard it can be living through a pandemic. We created this package to help you cope with the situation and share ways to help you take care of yourself no matter where you are across the globe.

Activities

- 1) <u>Deep Breathing:</u> By regularly practicing deep breathing, you will be able to connect with your body and drive the stress away from your mind. During moments of unavoidable high stress, find a quiet place in order to meditate and drive the stress away with deep breathing.
- <u>Click Here</u> to access Apps such as Mindfulness (Available on the iOS app store), which provides free as well as paid deep breathing exercising and meditation that are effective.
- 2) <u>Yoga:</u> It makes you mindful and much more alerted. It also builds up confidence, and helps with your breathing as it also boosts strength and endurance.
- Here are some classes on Youtube to overcome mental disorders that were resulted by trauma. <u>Click here</u> for instructor Mariya, and <u>here</u> for instructor Adriene that focuses on stress and anxiety.
- 3) Exercises: that range from simple walking to salsa dancing have been proved to play a great role in mental health. They not only reduce anxiety, depression, and negative spiraling moods, but they also improve self-esteem, cognitive function, and social withdrawal. Other benefits include distractions, social interaction, and self-efficacy. It improves sleep, endurance, stress relief, mood, and mental alertness.
- 4) Play a friendly game of football/volleyball/basketball or any other sport with your family or friends.
- 5) Reading: Reading literary fiction increases our ability to be empathetic towards others. Furthermore, an Oxford University study states that reading sends boosters to our brain that boost up our mental health.
- 6) Learn how to cook some new recipes!

Games

- 1) A game to help cope with anger and help identify anger triggers. "Barometer".
- 2) A game to help cope with anxiety. It helps describe the symptoms of panic attack and provides tips on how to get through it.

 "Anatomy of a Panic Attack".
- 3) A game to help with depression. Helps create a crisis plan, and provides skills to help get out of a tough emotional situation
 "Alice, All Jacked Up".
- 4) A game to help cope with Stress "Squish 'Em"

Arts

Art is a wonderful form of therapy. It is a way of expressing yourself, your emotions and your thoughts. Mindfulness coloring is an effective way of bettering physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

- 1) Here is a list of printable pages for mindfulness coloring:
- Coloring Page 1
- Coloring Page 2
- Coloring Page 3
- Coloring Page 4
- Coloring Page 5
- Coloring Page 6
- Coloring Page 7
- Coloring Page 8
- Coloring page 9
- Coloring Page 10
- 2) Take a <u>virtual tour</u> around the most famous museums!

Music

Music has always been a form of expressing emotions and thoughts. Here is a list of songs to show you that you are not alone:

- 1) <u>"Fight Song"</u> Rachel Platten
- 2) <u>"Recovery"</u> James Arthur
- 3) <u>"Freaking Out"</u> A RIZONA
- 4) <u>"They Know My Name"</u> Big Little Lions
- 5) <u>"Help!"</u>— The Beatles
- 6) <u>"Rose-colored boy"</u> Paramore
- 7) <u>"Home"</u> Meg Hutchinson
- 8) <u>"Unwell"</u> Matchbox Twenty
- 9) <u>"Now I'm in it"</u> Haim
- 10) <u>"Warrior"</u> Demi Lovato
- 11) <u>"24/7"</u> Kehlani
- 12) "Breathe Me" Sia
- 13) <u>"Shake It Out"</u> Florence + The Machine
- 14) "Drown" Bring Me The Horizon
- 15) "Spirits" The Strumbellas
- 16) <u>"Migraine"</u> Twenty One Pilots
- 17) <u>"Eet"</u> Regina Spektor
- 18) <u>"Hit The Switch"</u> Bright Eyes
- 19) <u>"Mad World"</u> Gary Jules

Helping others

1) Perform some "Small Acts of Kindness" to make someone's day. It will have a positive impact on both of your lives.



- 2) Donate to your local charity organization/local food banks.
- 3) Consider Donating blood.
- 4) Check in on your neighbors, family, or friends.
- 5) Promote small local businesses.
- 6) Feed cats/dogs in your neighborhood.
- 7) Give away any leftover food you have.
- 8) Spread awareness about some struggles that the world is facing right now.

Self-Care

- 1) Being present in the moment eases anxiety and worry. Here are some <u>free</u> <u>mindfulness exercises</u>.
- 2) Here are some tips on how to <u>cope</u> and stay emotionally well during COVID-19 related school closures.
- 3) Drink 8 glasses of water daily.
- 4) Workout for at least 30 minutes daily.
- 5) <u>Drink some detox drinks.</u>
- 6) Pray and give thanks. Have a gratitude journal. Write at least 3 things you are grateful for.
- 7) Write & Recite affirmations everyday and plan your goals for the day.
- 8) Avoid social media for at least one hour a day.
- 9) Meditate everyday. You will find some meditation apps below.
- 10) Listen to positive <u>audio</u>.
- 11) Here are some simple ways to eat healthier.
- 12) For girls, go get your nails/makeup/hair done to uplift up your mood.
- 13) Get a planner to keep track of your work and help keep things organized.
- 14) Start a 30 Day Self-Care Challenge.

Nature

- 1) Go for a walk around your neighborhood or park and breathe the fresh air.
- 2) Purchase a baby plant or an office planet to brighten up your house or office.
- 3) If you have a garden, plant fragrant flowers or start a vegetable garden.
- 4) Go to the beach for a walk or a swim.
- 5) Get exposed to sunlight; as it helps stabilize the mood and well-being.

Connecting With Others

- 1) Host a Netflix Party with your friends/family.
- 2) Play online games together such as skribble, among us, minecraft, or playstation.
- 3) Have a virtual game night with games such as Cards Against Humanity.
- 4) Start a blog, podcast, or make a public instagram account.
- 5) Get a pet home (if your parents allow you ofcourse). Pets are benefitting from our increased time at home.
- 6) Host a dinner party with friends/family over houseparty/zoom/google hangouts.
- 7) Go old school and call a friend.

Resources

- 1) 800-4673 or (800-HOPE): A free national helpline to support mental health in the UAE. Established by Minister Ohoud al Roumi, minister of state for happiness and well-being.
- 2) <u>Mental Health AE</u>: Platform for mental health resources in the UAE.
- 3) COVID-19 Resource Library: <u>American Academy for Child and Adolescent</u> <u>Psychiatry</u>.
- 4) Meditation Apps: <u>Insight Timer</u>
- 5) <u>Anxiety Canada</u>: Expert tools and resources to help manage anxiety.
- 6) <u>Aware AE</u>: The UAE's first Online Mental Health Magazine.
- 7) <u>Tera</u>: social startup pioneering media & technological solutions for mental well-being in the Middle East, North African and South Asian region.