Self-Care & Leadership: Is There a Balance?

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 Forbes Magazine and others.

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To put everything in balance is good, to put everything in harmony is better...

Victor Hugo



The "S" Word...Stress

- Stress is how we react when we feel under pressure or threatened.
- Stress triggers your fight-or-flight response and is your natural reaction to a potentially dangerous situation.
- Your body floods with cortisol and adrenaline
- You will feel energized and have heightened awareness to deal with the immediate situation

Natural Responses to Stressors

FIGHT

- Self-preservation
- Outbursts,
 explosive anger
- May look like complaining, being negative or critical of self or others.

- FLIGHT/FLEE
- Over-working
- Micromanaging others
- Can't sit still
- May look like using food to distract, making list that are not completed, or binge watching tv

FREEZE

- Isolating
- Difficulty making decisions
- May look like becoming quiet, feeling confused or dissociating

How You Doin'?

- Chronic pain
- Insomnia or other sleep problems
- Digestive problems
- Eating too much or too little
- Difficulty concentrating and making decisions
- Fatigue
- Feeling overwhelmed, irritable, fearful

Is All Stress Bad?

Avoid	Avoid an accident
Meet	Meet a deadline
Manage	Manage chronic situations
Venture	New venture or opportunity

Burnout: is a psychological syndrome emerging as a prolonged response to chronic interpersonal stressors on the job.

Overwhelming Exhaustion

Feelings of Cynicism & Detachment

Sense of Ineffectiveness, Unaccomplished



Compassion Fatigue

Definition & Risk Factors

Compassion fatigue is a condition characterized by emotional and physical exhaustion leading to a diminished ability to empathize or feel compassion for others, often described as the negative cost of caring. It is sometimes referred to as secondary traumatic stress.



Community Trauma: COVID-19 Pandemic

The pandemic has caused and will continue to contribute to 4x the pre-pandemic rate of burnout experienced by individuals in leadership roles.

Just Breathe

Let's take a moment to pause, intentionally.

Self-Care

- What Is It?
- Why is it important?
- What does it mean for you?



What Is Self-Care?

- Care for oneself
- The practice of activities that are necessary to sustain life and health usually carried out by an individual for themselves
- Looking after yourself so you can give your best and provide value to the world by living out your purpose and sharing your gifts
- Activities and practices we engage in on a regular basis to reduce stress and enhance our well-being

Why is Self-Care Important?

- Self-care will look different for each and every person and it is a personal journey
- ... looks after our mental, emotional and physical health
- ... can improve mood and reduce anxiety
- ... is the key to a good relationship with oneself and others

Physical: Movement & Rest

- Going for a walk on the beach
- Having an Epsom salt bath
- Learning a new dance routine
- Getting enough sleep
- Eating nourishing foods

Psychological: Mindfulness & Creativity

- Practicing mindfulness
- Journaling
- Reading a book
- Learning or teaching a new skill
- Doing a digital detox

Emotional: Stress Management

- Practicing gratitude
- Saying no
- Making time for reflecting on feelings and developing emotional literacy
- Practicing self-compassion
- Being away of your own boundaries

Social: Supportive Relationships

- Belonging to online groups or communities (at this time)
- Honoring your commitment to other people
- Ask for help when you need it
- Connecting with friends and family (online, video chat, phone)

Financial: Conscious Relationship w/ Money

- Knowing your dates of income
- Knowing when your expenses are due and paying them on time
- Budgeting appropriately and adjusting budgets when needed
- Completing your tax responsibilities on time
- Saving money wisely

Environmental: Clutter, Technology Use

- Decluttering your home or work environment
- Recycling as much as possible
- Monitoring technology time
- Cleaning up after a meal
- Maintaining a clean and safe living environment

Spiritual: Beliefs & Values That Guide Your Life

- Meditating, getting quiet and still
- Reflecting in a journal
- Donating to a local organization
- Walking in nature
- Fellowshipping & Gathering with like-minded people

Professional: Clear Professional Boundaries

- Eating a nourishing lunch at work/school (even when working/learning from home)
- Negotiating your needs
- Having clear professional boundaries
- Attending professional developmental courses or being coached

Get Grounded

Let's take a moment to ground.

Who Are You?



Thank You

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