



### Resilience and Mental Fitness

Presented By

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## **RESILIENCE & MENTAL FITNESS**

Mental Health Scale: Mental illness → Mental wellbeing → Mental fitness

- → What is stress? Benefits, drawbacks & understanding your stress tendencies
- → Simplifying stressors into 3 categories
- >> Emergency tools & pro-active tools for your resilience toolbox

What does the term 'Resilient' mean to you?

What do you observe about yourself physically, mentally and emotionally when you feel resilient?



# HOW DOES STRESS EFFECT YOU?

## Stress manifests itself differently for different people!

#### **Physical**

- Increased heartrate, breathing & blood pressure
- Aches and pains
- More susceptible to illness
- Mouth ulcers
- Digestive problems
- Skin problems
- Sleep disturbances too little or too much

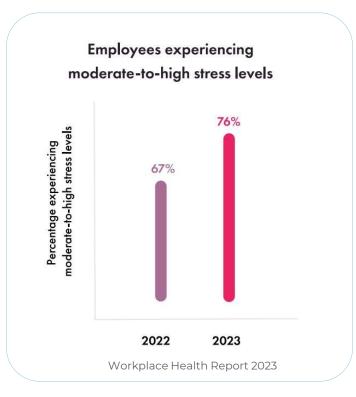
#### Mental & Emotional

- Brain fog/struggle to concentrate
- Self-doubt & indecision
- Poor memory
- Irritability
- Panic/anxiety
- Overwhelm/ frustration
- Withdrawal from others & loss of humor





#### **STRESS & HABITS**



of people polled reported feeling so stressed that they have been overwhelmed or unable to cope in the last year.

(Mental Health Foundation and YouGov)

reported the ate too much or ate unhealthily due to stress

reported they starting drinking or increased their drinking due to stress

reported they started smoking or increased their smoking

Which distraction habit are you more likely to engage in when you're stressed?



## **STRESS & PERFORMANCE**

Is stress always a bad thing?

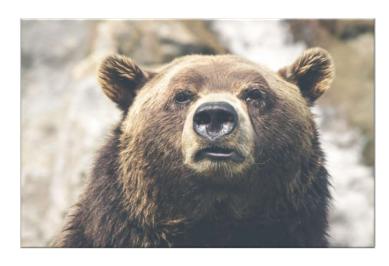
To be "well" is not to live in a state of perpetual safety and calm, but to move fluidly from a state of adversity, risk, adventure, or excitement, back to safety and calm, and out again. Stress is not bad for you; being stuck is bad for you."



#### WHAT ARE YOUR BIGGEST SOURCES OF STRESS?

Not all stressors are out of our control

Internal Stressors



External Stressors

Acute Stressors



### **EXAMPLES OF STRESSORS**

## INTERNAL STRESSORS

- Dehydration
- Lack of movement
- Excess stimulants for all senses
- Poor breathing habits
- Lack of social connection
- Ultra Processed Foods
- Lack of sunlight/ nature
- Poor sleep hygiene
- Lack of silence or space
- Negative thinking

## **EXTERNAL** STRESSORS

- Family
- Relationships
- Work
- Politics
- Weather
- Noise
- News
- FINANCES are a leading cause of stress!

#### ACUTE STRESSORS

- Accident
- Illness
- Extreme Sports
- Scary movies
- Rollercoasters



**INTERNAL STRESSORS** 

**RESIDUAL LEVEL** 

**EXTERNAL STRESSORS** 



THE STORMS





## THE NERVOUS SYSTEM SIMPLIFIED

An anxious mind rarely lives in a relaxed body



SYMPATHETIC NERVOUS SYSTEM

Fight, flight or freeze 'Go-Mode'

PARASYMPATHETIC NERVOUS SYSTEM

Rest & Digest 'Flow-Mode'



### **EMERGENCY TOOLS**

For when your resilience tank is at bursting point

#1 The Magic Question

Am I in immediate danger right now?

#2 Biohacking

Belly breathing Movement (shaking)





# Bonus tip for post-traumatic growth:

Lean into mild-discomfort but never suffer pain (mental, physical, or emotional) alone

## **PROACTIVE TOOLS – FLOW STATE**

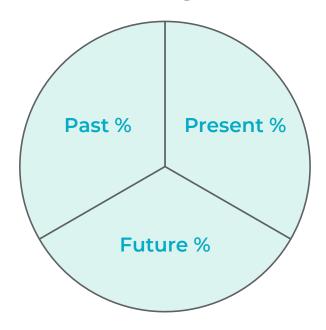
What activities/ hobbies do you do to bring you joy or relaxation?





### DO YOU HAVE A MONKEY MIND?

The Monkey Mind is a Buddhist term that refers to a mind that is restless, agitated, confused or that is hard to control







Exercise = How much (%) of your time, thought, energy, resource, and focus do you invest in ruminating about **the past**, worrying about **the future**, and **being present?** 

#### MEDITATION MISUNDERSTANDING...



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ksp3iSUDqfo

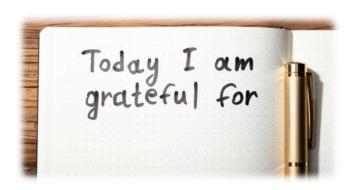
# 1% PROGRESS EXPERIMENT?

## Brain training to become mentally fit for your life



#### **SCHEDULE FLOW TIME**

- 1. Add it to your calendar
- 2. Do it mindfully, conscious actions without judgement
- 3. Invite loved ones into your world



#### DAILY GRATITUDE PRACTICE

- 1. Start your day?
- 2. Before you eat?
- 3. Dinner table 3:2:1

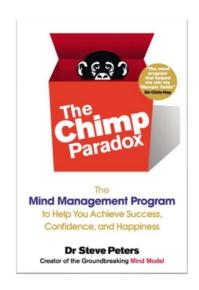
3 things you're grateful for,2 things you did for someone else today &1 best thing that happened today?

## **ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

For those who love data, for book worms and for those who are curious...



Elite HRV



The Chimp Paradox



Headspace



## LET'S RECAP

'Sleep is the single most important thing we can do to reset our brain and body health each day" Matthew Walker

- 1. **RECOGNISE YOUR WARNING SIGNS** Self-awareness is the first step to change
- 2. SUPPORT YOUR NERVOUS SYSTEM Which internal stressors could you address first?
- 3. **EMERGENCY TOOLS** The magic question, biohacking & talk to others
- 4. **PRO-ACTIVE TOOLS** Prioritise flow time, experiment with gratitude ©



'Empowering people to live their best lives'



Scan the QR Code to get access to the **Optimal Wellbeing Checklist** 





# What was the most useful thing for you from this session?

We all need support...

Follow Wellbeing People Ltd on <u>Facebook and Instagram</u> for more resources, support and habit upgrade experiments!



# **Event times**



#### MONDAY 22 TUESDAY 23

#### **WEDNESDAY 24**

#### **THURSDAY 25**

#### FRIDAY 26

Habits and the

**Future You** 

Virtual

9-10am

9-10am

**Building Resilience** 

RBH Seminar Room 5

10-11am

Poole Lecture Theatre

10.30-11.30am

**Chronic Stress and** 

**Burnout Workshop** 

RBH Seminar Room 5

12-1pm

**Power of Your Plate** 

**Beat Stress With** 

Breathing

8.30-8.45am Start Well, End Well Virtual

9-10am

Thriving in a Hybrid

Environment

Virtual

What is

Virtual

8.30-8.45am Start Well, End Well Virtual

9-10am

Resillience and

**Mental Fitness** 

Virtual

8.30-8.45am Start Well, End Well Virtual

9-10am

Bounce-back-ability

9-10am

**RBH Seminar Room 2** 

**Beat Stress With** 

Breathing

**Burnout and** 

Virtual

11.30am-12.30pm **Chronic Stress** and Burnout Poole Hospital Lecture Theatre

12-1pm

12-1.30pm

2.30-3.30pm

Poole Lecture Theatre

3.30-3.45pm

Start Well. End Well

Understanding

Menopause

and virtual

Virtual

**Attention Seeker** 

Poole Hospital. Lecture Theatre

and virtual

Understanding

ADHD at Work

Virtual

**Autism at Work** Virtual

12.30-1.15pm Menopause and Movement

Poole Lecture Theatre

1-4pm Bereavement and loss Virtual

Workplace **Ergonomics** 

and virtual

Virtual

9-9.45am Workplace **RBH Seminar Room 5 Ergonomics** Poole Lecture Theatre

9-10am Winter Immunity Virtual

9-9.45am How Behaviours Shape Wellbeing RBH Seminar Room 5 and virtual

10-11.30am Understanding Burnout Virtual

11am-12pm Move to Recharge Poole Lecture Theatre

11am-12pm The Science of **Better Rest** Virtual

12-1pm The Power of Your Plate

12-1pm Understanding

1.30-2.15pm RBH Seminar Room 5

FRIDAY 26

8.30-8.45am Start Well, End Well

3.30-3.45pm Start Well, End Well Virtual

Virtual

10am-12pm **Talk Cancer** Virtual

12-1pm

neurodiversity and

why does it matter?

1-2pm

2-3pm

Financial Wellbeing

Distress, Trauma

and PTSD

Support and

**Guidance for** 

Virtual

Virtual

10am-10.45am The Value of an **Active Workforce** Virtual

11am-12pm

12-1pm

Understanding

Virtual

Supporting

Move More

Virtual

Colleagues to

Dyslexia at Work

2-3.30pm

9.30-11.30am **Beat Stress** With Breathing Awareness Virtual Virtual

5 Steps to Suicide

10-11am **Building Resilience** Poole Hospital Lecture Theatre

10.30-11.30am Move Well, Feel

Better (Exercise for Menopause) RBH Seminar Room 2

