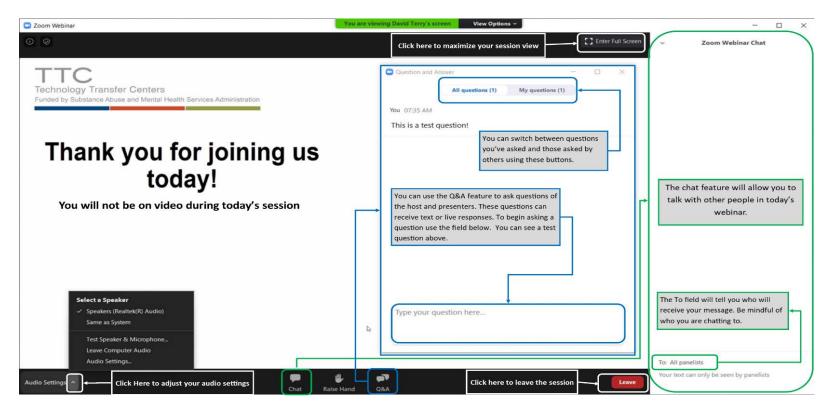
### The Zoom Interface



All attendees are muted. Today's session will be recorded.

# Peer Support Approaches for Healthcare Providers

Session 4: Peer Support Skills and Competencies (Part 2)

Peggy Swarbrick, PhD, FAOTA

**December 14, 2021** 



### About Us ...

The Northeast and Caribbean MHTTC received 5 years (2018 – 2023) of funding to:

- Enhance capacity of behavioral health workforce to deliver evidence-based and promising practices to individuals with mental illnesses.
- Address full continuum of services spanning mental illness prevention, treatment, and recovery supports.
- Train related workforces (police/first responders, primary care providers, vocational services, etc.) to provide effective services to people with mental illnesses.

### Supplemental funding to:

- Support school teachers and staff to address student mental health
- Support healthcare providers in wellness and self-care activities



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https://bit.ly/3IU0xF4

### We Want Your Feedback!

Our funding comes from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), which requires us to evaluate our services. We appreciate your honest, ANONYMOUS feedback about this event, which will provide information to SAMHSA, AND assist us in planning future meetings and programs.

Feedback about this training will assist us in developing future trainings that are relevant to your professional needs. Therefore, your feedback counts!

## Video Recording Information

### Please Note:

We will be recording this webinar and posting it to our website along with the presentation slides and any relevant resources.

### Disclaimer

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At the time of this presentation, Miriam Delphin-Rittmon served as Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use at SAMHSA. The opinions expressed herein are the views of the speakers, and do not reflect the official position of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), or SAMHSA. No official support or endorsement of DHHS, SAMHSA, for the opinions described in this presentation is intended or should be inferred.

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### **Your Interactions With Us**

### **Question and Answers**

- Q & A will occur at the end of the call.
- Type your questions in the Q & A feature in Zoom located on the task bar (hover over task bar).
- Note: your question is visible to all participants.

#### **Chat and Polls**

- Throughout the webinar, we will be asking for your input.
- Use the Chat or Poll features in Zoom located on the task bar.
- You can control who can see your chat comments.

The MHTTC Network uses affirming, respectful and recovery-oriented language in all activities. That language is:

STRENGTHS-BASED AND HOPEFUL

INCLUSIVE AND
ACCEPTING OF
DIVERSE CULTURES,
GENDERS,
PERSPECTIVES,
AND EXPERIENCES

HEALING-CENTERED AND TRAUMA-RESPONSIVE

INVITING TO INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATING IN THEIR OWN JOURNEYS

PERSON-FIRST AND FREE OF LABELS

NON-JUDGMENTAL AND AVOIDING ASSUMPTIONS

RESPECTFUL, CLEAR AND UNDERSTANDABLE

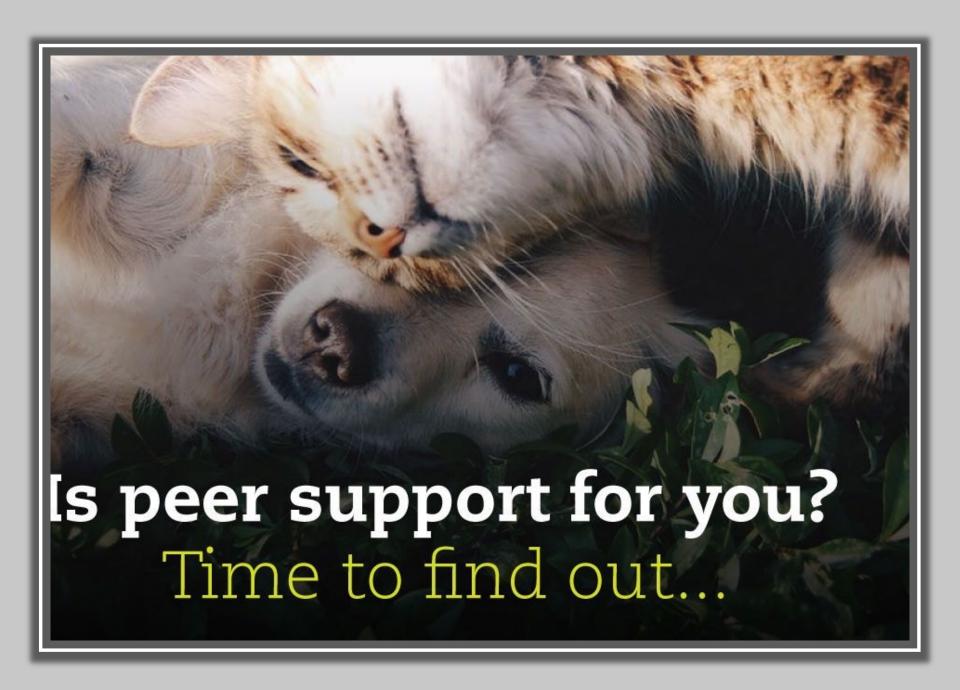
CONSISTENT WITH OUR ACTIONS, POLICIES, AND PRODUCTS

Adapted from: https://mhcc.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Recovery-Oriented-Language-Guide\_2019ed\_v1\_20190809-Web.pdf

### Our Presenter:



Peggy Swarbrick, PhD, FAOTA



### Review: Peer Support Skills and Competencies Part 1

Why Peer Support & Benefits

Core Peer Support Competencies

Peer Support flow

Strengths-based focus

Blocks to connecting and skills for effective engagement

# **Today:** Peer Support Skills & Competencies, Part 2

Core listening skills: focus on strengths and support self-care

How to linkage to wellness/self-care resources

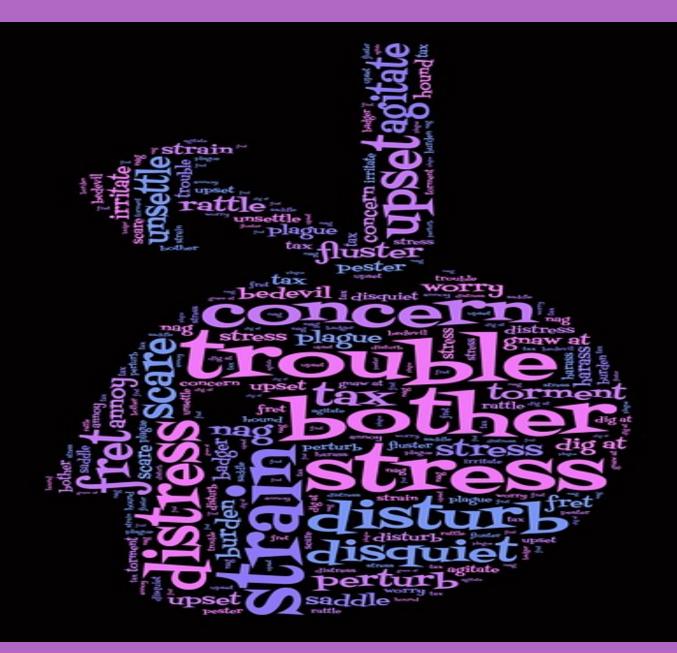
Strategies for becoming a workplace wellness champion.

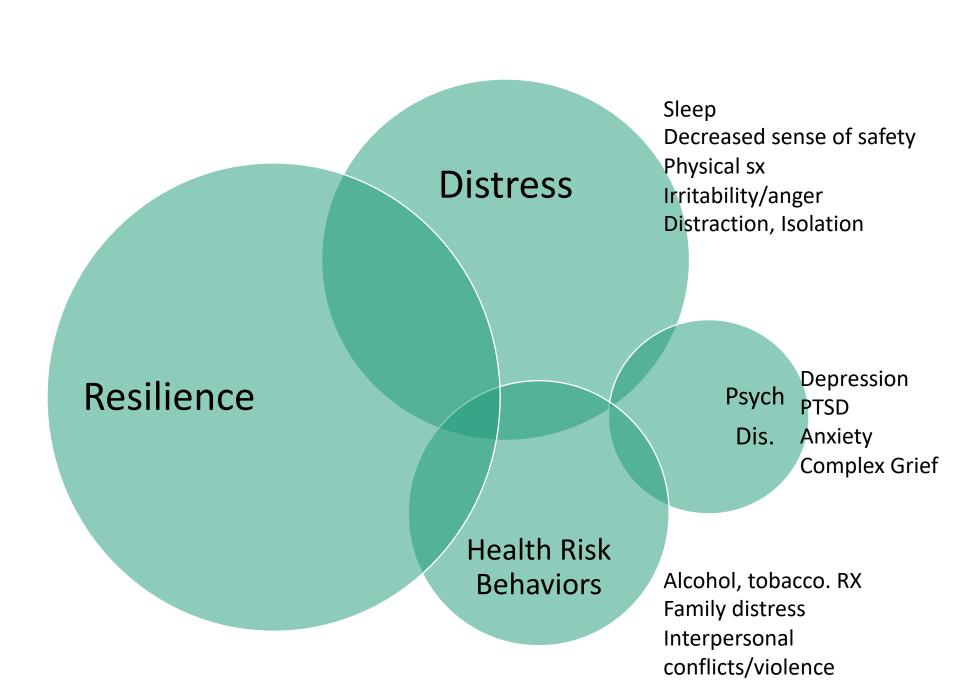
# Supporting Caregivers During COVID-19: Transforming Compassionate Care From a Way of Doing to Being

The expectation by colleagues that fellow clinicians deftly manage the stresses of practice often predisposes healthcare professionals involved in an adverse event to experience isolation, blame, and shame. The peer support model has since been recognized as an important component of institutional wellness and follows a well-described and structured method. Although peer support programs have traditionally been established to support caregivers involved in

adverse medical events, the relevance and applicability of these programs have found substantial traction across broader crisis domains. Interventions, including peer support, help mitigate the 3 components of burnout: emotional exhaustion, depersonalization (cynicism), and reduced efficacy.

Keywords: Burnout, COVID-19, intervention, substance abuse, wellness.





### Burnout

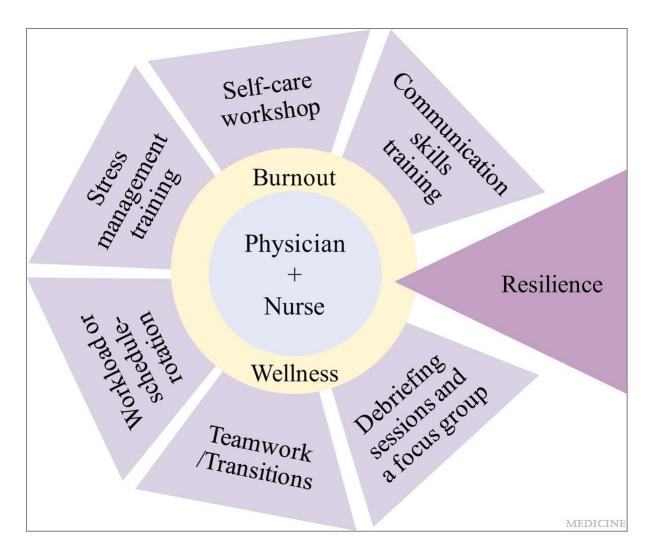
has reached rampant levels among United States (US) healthcare professionals, with over one-half of physicians and one-third of nurses experiencing symptoms.

is detrimental to individuals, families, communities and populations.

### Interventions

- Often focus on self-care focus such as mindfulness training, cognitive behavioral therapy, and exercise –(yoga).
- System level focused on generating a positive work environment such as ensuring favorable work conditions to improve workflow.
- Godfrey CM, Rodgers J, Pare GC, Alsius A, Ross-White A, Belbin S, Sears K. (2021). Healthcare Provider Burnout: A Rapid Scoping Review. SPOR Evidence Alliance.

Figure 2



<u>Interventions to reduce burnout of physicians</u> <u>and nurses: An overview of systematic reviews</u> <u>and meta-analyses</u>

Zhang, Xiu-jie; Song, Yingqian; Jiang, Tongtong;

Ding, Ning; Shi, Tie-ying

Medicine99(26):e20992, June 26, 2020. doi: 10.1097/MD.0000000000020992

The path of bundle strategy to reduce burnout of physicians and nurses.



### Peer Support defined/competencies continued-

Peer-ness is based on role and shared challenges /vulnerabilities/experiences in that role

Colleagues meet, as equals to give each other <u>connection</u> and support on a reciprocal basis

A peer is in a position to offer support by virtue of relevant experience because and can relate to others who are now in a similar situation

Peer support is reciprocal, transformative and healing.

- Connection, sharing information, and resilience-building are key tasks.
- The core of peer support comes from your heart—connecting with people through similar experiences and situations.

## Peer Support Skills / Competencies



### Connection

Engage

Listen

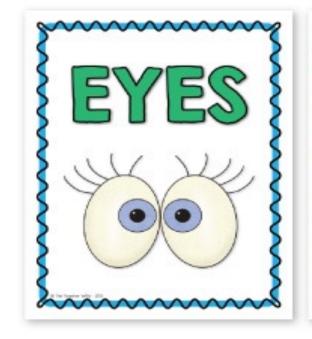
Reflect

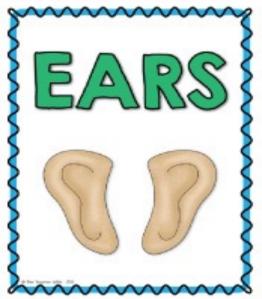
Respond

Exploring

## Listen

I can LISTEN with my...







### Open ended Question

Open-ended questions require a person to pause, think, and reflect.

Answers include personal feelings, opinions, or ideas about a subject/experience.



Open-ended questions may begin with the following words

- Why
- How

What

• Describe

• Tell me about..., or What do you think about...

**Formats** for openended questions and indirect leads:

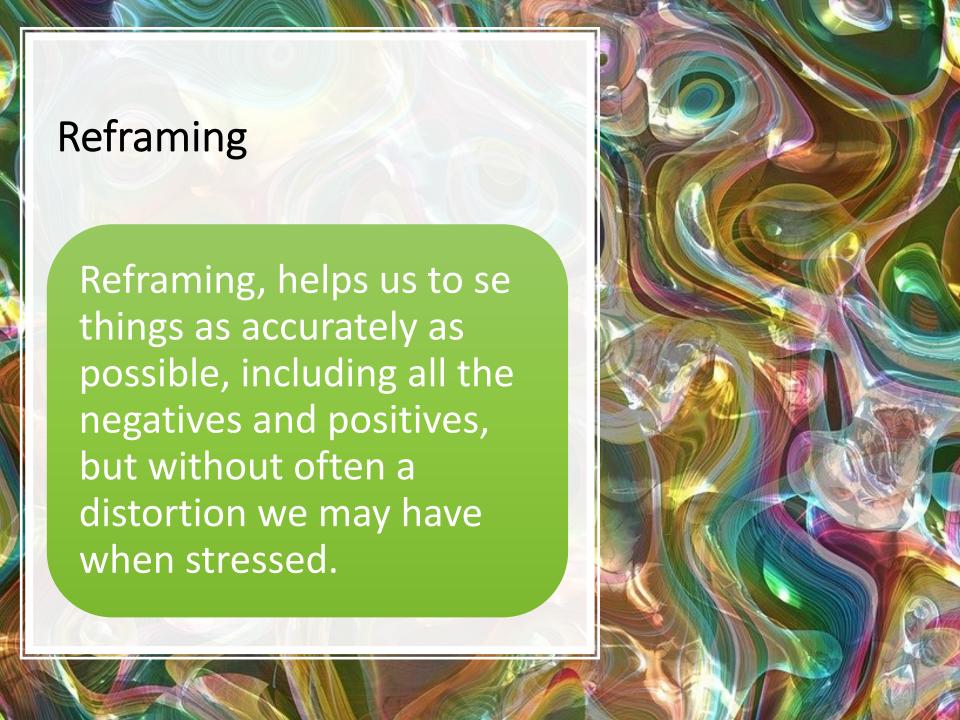
What are some things you like/dislike about (topic)?

Give me an example of a typical day (event, or situation). What exactly happened?

Walk me through what usually happens when (behavior, event, situation) occurs.

It can be hard to (.....). What makes it hard for you?\*





# Help Gain Perspective







### Automatic thoughts that may get in the way

**Emotional reasoning** Anticipate negative outcomes The worst will happen All-or-nothing thinking Personalization Mental filter

Feelings are facts All good or all bad Excess responsibility Ignoring the positive

### Example phrases

- "Thank you for taking the time to meet with me. I am here to support you. Please know that I am a trained volunteer and here to listen. The information that you provide me I will keep in confidence and will not be shared without your knowledge."
- "I am thankful for your willingness to share your story."
- "Hmm"; "Aha"; "It's OK"; "I hear what you are saying."
- "So, it sounds like ..."
- "Sounds like this may have created some feelings of anxiety in you."
- "It is not unusual to feel the way you are feeling."
- "So, it sounds like sleep has been difficult, and you are feeling anxious a lot."
- "In the past, when you were stressed, what have you found helped you with sleep/anxiety?"
- "It sounds like jogging helps distract you and may help with sleep."
- "Here is a list of available resources and contact information for you (Employee Assistance Program, Psychiatry Department, and Spiritual Care Department)."
- "Thank you for sharing your story. Would it be OK if I reached out sometime soon to see how you are doing?"

## Peer Support Skills / Competencies

Linkage to wellness/self-care resources



# Discuss self care, elicits personal coping strategies

Help access resources and services if needed

Be sure to listen to needs rather than impose your ideas/solution

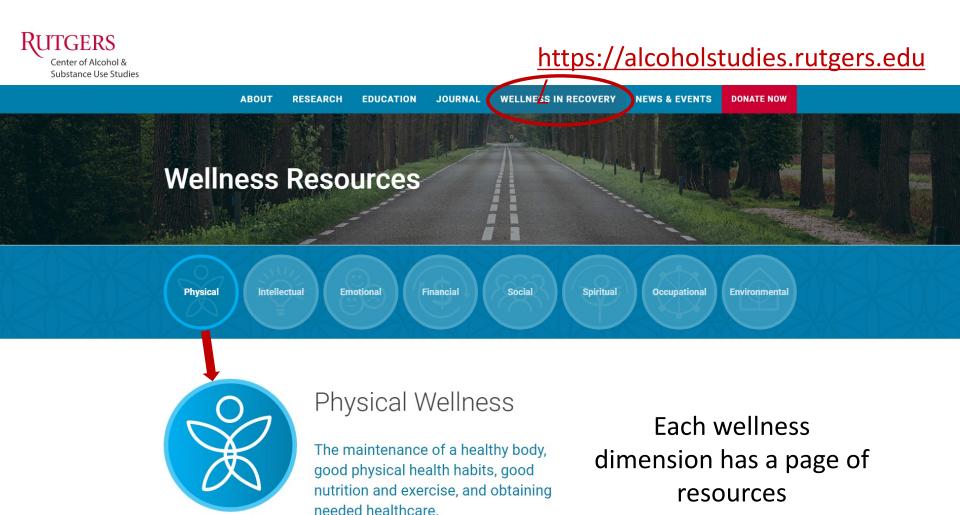
## Focus on Strengths/Self Care

Be kind to yourself and others. Take time to check in with your **physical** and emotional weather as you go through each day.

Notice how you are feeling—don't judge it as good or bad. Just be aware. Notice your thoughts. Are you being kind to yourself?

Mindfulness moments: stop and notice how your body feels right now; focus on something around you--the view from a window, an item you treasure...





Peer Support Skills and Competencies

Become a workplace wellness champion.



#### Create a Culture of Wellness

Short connections are important and can be powerful

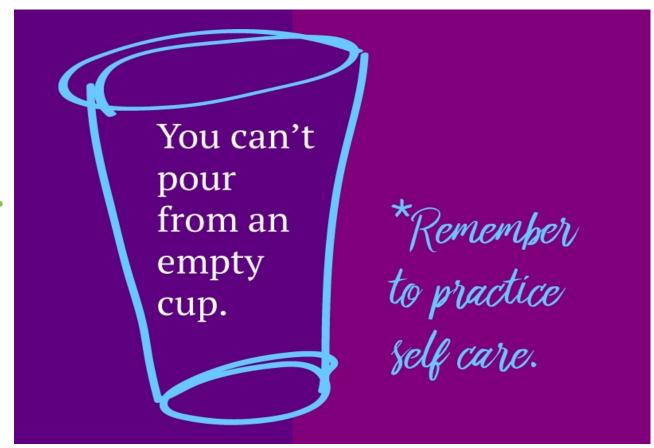
Create opportunities- place and spaces where people can share and support one another





# Wellness Culture

# What did you do today for your own Wellness Self-Care?



# Champion

Check in

on your team members and encourage them to do the same with their colleagues to discuss work experiences.

Schedule

your time off and encourage colleagues to schedule time off work

Seek

regular supervision and consultation.

# TAKECAREUN YOURSEL

#### **Guided Reflection for Wellness**

#### Throughout the day, think about your needs:

- Physical, like hunger (need to eat) or stiffness (need to stretch) or restlessness (need to move)
- Emotional, like wanting to share your feelings with someone else (or just to scream or laugh)
- Intellectual, like wanting to discuss your ideas or get more information
- Another type of need, like to attend to an urgent personal issue or work task

# Wellness Reflection

- What could you do for your body, besides eat?
- What could you do to refill your heart?
- How could you give your mind what it needs?
- How can you use the break to meet your people needs—time with others or alone?
- What could you do to nurture your spirit?

#### Wellness Reflection

Pay attention to what you are experiencing.

- What does your body want right now?
- What does your heart want right now?
- What does your mind need right now?
- What do you need from other people?
- What does your spirit need?

# References/Resources

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- For more contact me at <u>swarbrma@rutgers.edu</u>



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https://alcoholstudies.rutgers.edu/wellness-in-recovery/

# **Question and Answer**



### **Evaluation Information**

The MHTTC Network is funded through SAMHSA to provide this training. As part of receiving this funding we are required to submit data related to the quality of this event.

At the end of today's training please take a moment to complete a **brief** survey about today's training.



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