

## Town Mental Health Companion A Workbook for Self-Reflection, Growth, and Support



#### DISCLAIMER

This workbook is not a substitute for professional mental health care.

Please consult a licensed therapist or healthcare provider for medical advice or treatment. The tools and activities within are intended for self-reflection and general support, not diagnosis. Always seek the advice of a qualified professional with any questions you may have regarding a mental health condition.

- Luisontheauthor LET'S GET STARTED!

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Discover the purpose of this workbook and learn how to use this as an effective resource

In this workbook, we'll first aim to understand what mental health means to you personally.

OF BUILDING A SELF-CARE FOUNDATION

Crafting your personal self-care foundation is a great way to develop healthy mentally engaging habits.

OF MANAGING EMOTIONS AND THOUGHTS

Framing and re-framing your thoughts

**775** CONNECTION & COMMUNICATION

Determining safe connections and establishing healthy communication patterns

GOAL SETTING AND RESILIENCE
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Establishing healthy routines

- *09* THE WRAP UP -



INSPIRATION

# "YOU DON'T HAVE TO CONTROL

your thouhts

# YOU JUST HAVE TO STOP LETTING

them

CONTROL YOU."

DAN MILLMAN

## LET'S GET STARTED

Welcome to Your Mental Health Companion. This workbook is a space for you to explore your mental well-being, build selfawareness, and strengthen your resilience. It's designed to help you reflect, grow, and reconnect with yourself in an intentional and supported w

A POSITIVE

A POSITIVE APPROACH TO MENTAL HEALTH

VE APPROACH TO MENTAL HEALTH

How To Use This Workbook: Use this workbook at your own pace. Some may prefer daily journaling, others may benefit from weekly check-ins. Choose a quiet space, bring a pen, and let each section guide you toward greater understanding and self-care.

CAN DO IT! YOU CAN DO IT! V

"WHAT MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS IS

MORE SUNLIGHT,

MORE CANDOR,

MORE UNASHAMED CONVERSATION."

- GLENN CLOSE

## CHAPTER 1



UNDERSTANDING YOUR | MENTAL HEALTH



Understanding what mental health means to you personally.

#### UNDERSTANDING YOUR MENTAL HEALTH

There are two questions that you need to ask yourself as you begin this journey:

•	What does "mental wellness" mean to you personally?
•	How do you know when you're mentally and emotionally well?

Do you know how to recognize signals that your mental health needs a little more attention? Here's a suggested checklist:

Mark any that apply:

- Trouble sleeping or sleeping too much
- Loss of interest in activities
- Excessive worrying
- Irritability or mood swings
- Difficulty concentrating
- Feelings of hopelessness or helplessness



Did you know that there are helpful online screening tools, brochures, and fact sheets that can help you determine the state of your mental health?

#### Mental Health America Screening Tools:

https://screening.mhanational.org/screening-tools/

#### **National Institute of Mental Health:**

https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications

#### **Google Health's Self-Assessment Tools:**

https://health.google/consumers/self-assessments/

#### **Beyond Blue's Online Mental Health Check:**

https://www.beyondblue.org.au/mental-health/what-is-mental-health



These tools are not diagnostic:

Self-screening tools can provide valuable insights, but they should not be used to self-diagnose or substitute professional medical advice.

#### Professional evaluation is crucial:

If you are concerned about your mental health, it's essential to consult with a qualified healthcare professional for a proper assessment and treatment plan.

#### Access to mental health services:

These tools can help individuals identify potential issues and encourage them to

Activity: Self-Rating

On a scale from 1 to 10, rate how you currently feel in the following areas:

• Emotionally: \_\_/10

Mentally: \_\_/10

Physically: \_\_/10



#### **INSPIRATION**

"Almost
everything will
work again if you
unplug it for a few
minutes... including

JOU. – ANNE LAMOTT

## CHAPTER 2



**BUILDING A SELF-CARE FOUNDATION** 



Crafting your personal self-care foundation to develop healthy mentally engaging habits.



#### A SELF-CARE INVENTORY

Here's a little experiment for a week that can help you self-assess for healthy habits:

Day 1: Check off the items you've done this week:

- [ ] Drank enough water
- [ ] Ate a nutritious meal
- [ ] Took a walk or stretched
- [ ] Got fresh air
- [ ] Talked to a friend
- [ ] Meditated or prayed

Day 2: Check off the items you've done this week:

- [ ] Drank enough water
- [ ] Ate a nutritious meal
- [ ] Took a walk or stretched
- [ ] Got fresh air
- [ ] Talked to a friend
- [ ] Meditated or prayed

Day 3: Check off the items you've done this week:

- [ ] Drank enough water
- [ ] Ate a nutritious meal
- [ ] Took a walk or stretched
- [ ] Got fresh air
- [ ] Talked to a friend
- [ ] Meditated or prayed

## CONTINUING YOUR SELF-CARE INVENTORY

Day 4: Check off the items you've done this week:

- [ ] Drank enough water
- [ ] Ate a nutritious meal
- [ ] Took a walk or stretched
- [ ] Got fresh air
- [ ] Talked to a friend
- [ ] Meditated or prayed

Day 5: Check off the items you've done this week:

- [ ] Drank enough water
- [ ] Ate a nutritious meal
- [ ] Took a walk or stretched
- [ ] Got fresh air
- [ ] Talked to a friend
- [ ] Meditated or prayed

Day 6: Check off the items you've done this week:

- [ ] Drank enough water
- [ ] Ate a nutritious meal
- [ ] Took a walk or stretched
- [ ] Got fresh air
- [ ] Talked to a friend
- [ ] Meditated or prayed

Day 7: Check off the items you've done this week:

- [ ] Drank enough water
- [ ] Ate a nutritious meal
- [ ] Took a walk or stretched
- [ ] Got fresh air
- [ ] Talked to a friend
- [ ] Meditated or prayed



On a daily basis try to fill-in the blanks at the beginning and end of the day:

#### Morning Check-ins:

Today I feel:
My intention is:
Evening Check-ins:
• One thing I'm grateful for:
One thing I accomplished:
Activity: Create Your Coping Toolbox
List three coping strategies that work for you:
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·

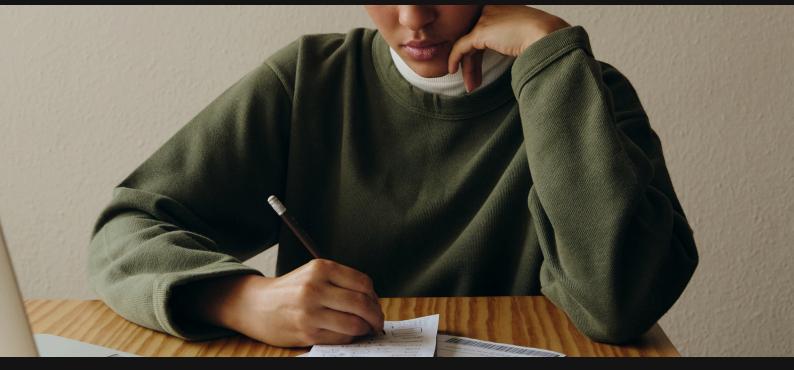
Helpful Apps: Insight Timer MoodMission Youper

#### INSPIRATION

#### "YOU DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU THINK."

- UNKNOWN

## CHAPTER 3



MANAGING EMOTIONS AND THOUGHTS



Framing and re-framing your thoughts for a healthier mind.

## Do you know how to identify

# COGNITIVE DISTORTIONS?

Cognitive distortions are biased or irrational ways of thinking that can reinforce negative emotions and beliefs. They often appear automatically and can lead to unhelpful patterns such as self-doubt, anxiety, or depression. Learning to recognize and reframe these thoughts is a key step in improving mental well-being.

#### Common distorted thinking patterns include:

- All-or-nothing thinking
- Catastrophizing
- Mind reading
- Overgeneralization

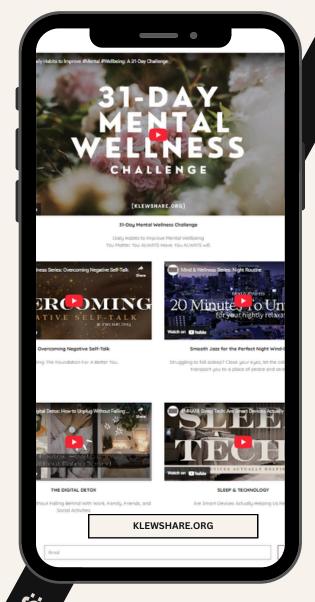
#### ACTIVITY: REFRAME NEGATIVE THOUGHTS

Original thought:

-----What evidence supports it?

What would a friend say?

Reframed thought:



Al-Based Therapy Support:

- <u>Therapist Aid</u>
- Woebot Health

# "Connection is why we're here; IT IS WHAT GIVES PURPOSE AND MEANING TO OUR LIVES."

– BRENÉ BROWN

CHAPTER 4



#### **CONNECTION & COMMUNICATION**



Understanding and determining safe connections and establishing healthy communication patterns



## WHO ARE YOUR SAFE PEOPLE? WHAT MAKES THEM TRUSTWORTHY?

As you embark on a path of developing healthy mental habits, it's important to determine your boundaries as it relates to engaging with individuals who strengthen or weaken your emotional needs, psychological standards and mental safe spaces. Here's a simple chart to help you determine how to zone those you connect and communicate with:

Healthy versus Unhealthy Relationships						
Healthy	Unhealthy					
Demonstrates Mutual Respect	Exhibits Controlling Behaviour					
Promotes and Participates in Healthy Communication Habits	Defaults to Blame Games					
Provides and Accepts Support	Engages in Unproductive and Unwarranted Criticism					



- 2. Be specific: "I'm feeling overwhelmed. Can we talk?" When you do, stay focused on the topic or concern at hand and be honest with your feelings.
- 3. Seek professional or peer support when needed. Don't be afraid to seek advice and remember it's okay to get second, third, or even fourth opinions if you need to.

#### **SUPPORT RESOURCES:**

https://www.nami.org/support-education/support-groups/

https://www.7cups.com

#### **INSPIRATION**

#### "YOU MAY HAVE TO FIGHT A BATTLE MORE THAN ONCE

TO WIN IT."

Margaret Thatcher

KLEWSHARE.ORG

## CHAPTER 5



#### **GOAL SETTING AND RESILIENCE**

The Goal:

Recognizing that a healthy minds requires setting inspiring and achievable goals.

### Oletting S.M.A.R.T. GOALS

A S.M.A.R.T. goals are a structured way to set and achieve objectives by making them Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound. This method helps you clarify what you want, track your progress, stay realistic, ensure your goals support your mental well-being, and set a clear timeline for success.



**\$:** Specific: What exactly do you want to achieve?



M: Measurable: How will you know it's done?



A: Achievable: Is it realistic?



R: Relevant: Does it matter to your mental health?



**I:** Time-bound: When will it be completed?



Setting S.M.A.R.T. Goals can help you re-define your outlook on life but it's also important to recognize that without a healthy approach to your attitude, when times get tough - as is normal in every aspect of life - there will be a need to self-determine your strength, coping skills and recognize that you have resources at your fingertips. A resilience plan is like a reminder of your inner-strength and support structure.

My safe support system:	 
My go-to coping skills:	
Emergency contact or hotline:	 

WHAT HELPS YOU BOUNCE BACK AFTER TOUGH DAYS?

https://www.happify.com

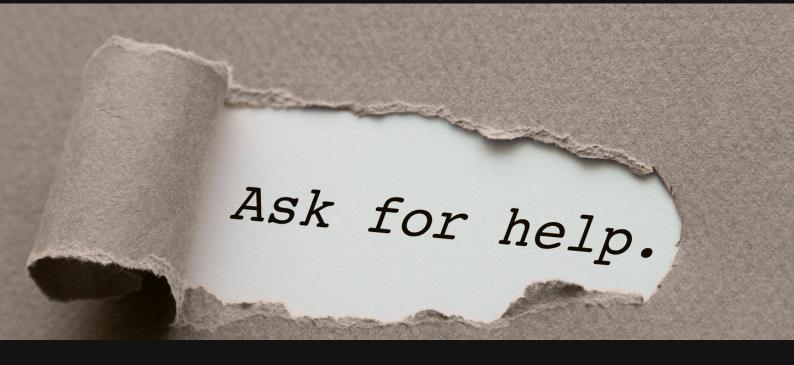
https://www.mindful.org

#### **INSPIRATION**

FOR HELP IS THE FIRST STEP. YOU ARE MORE PRECIOUS TO THIS WORLD THAN YOU'LL EVER KNOW."

- LILI REINHART

## CHAPTER 6



#### WHEN TO ASK FOR HELP

The Goal:

Understanding when professional help is more effective than simple self-care

#### WHEN TO SEEK HELP

Recognizing when to reach out for help is a powerful act of self-care.

While many challenges can be managed with self-guided tools, there are times when professional support becomes essential. This section will help you identify those moments and guide you toward finding the right kind of assistance.

Everyone experiences stress, sadness, or overwhelm from time to time—but if these feelings persist or begin interfering with your ability to function, it's important to take them seriously. Seeking help isn't a sign of weakness—it's a courageous and healthy step toward healing and reclaiming balance. Whether through therapy, support groups, or crisis services, there is always support available and you are never alone.

#### You may want to seek help if:

- Your symptoms last more than 2 weeks
- You're avoiding daily tasks
- Friends/family express concern
- You're using substances to cope
- You've thought about harming yourself

#### **EMERGENCY RESOURCES:**

https://www.wellnesstogether.ca



#### Get Support

More than a helpline. Call, text, chat and more to get support using Kids Help Phone's 24/7 e-mental health services. For all young people in Canada.

Kids Help Phone



#### 988 Lifeline

At the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, we understand that life's challenges can sometimes be difficult. Whether you're facing mental health struggles, emotional distress, alcohol or drug use concerns...

988 Lifeline



#### Befrienders Worldwide - Global Suicide Prevention

If you have emotional concerns that are affecting you, find a centre to call now. Support is available for yourself or someone you know.

Befrienders: Worldwide Support | Sep. 13, 2019

#### Tips for Finding a Therapist:

- Search psychology directories (for example: Psychology Today)
- Ask about sliding scale or virtual options
- Consider cultural or faith-based compatibility

CHAPTER 7



#### **DAILY & WEEKLY PRACTICE PAGES**



Establish healthy routines by keeping a physical or mental track of your gratitude, emotions, mood and energy

#### **20-DAY GRATITUDE CHECKLIST**

Month:							
ONE THING I AM GRATEFUL FOR TODAY:	Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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#### **20-DAY EMOTIONAL CHECKLIST**

Month:	Rate vo	our	emotions	from	1-5
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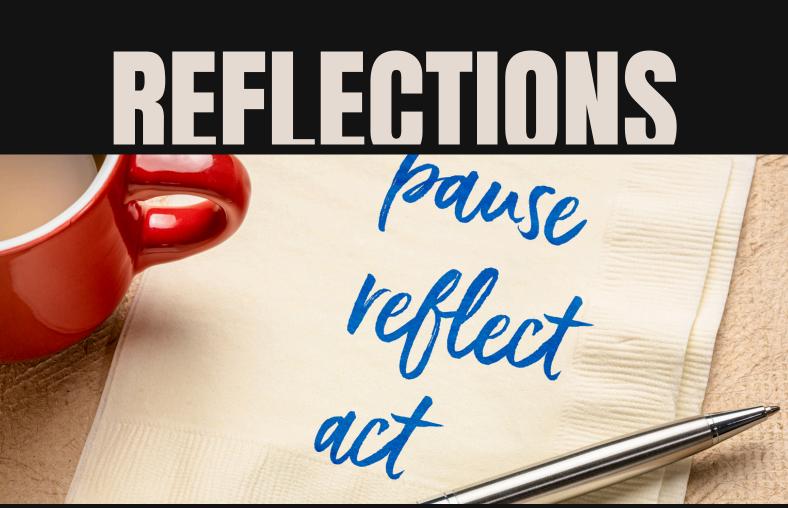
TODAY I FEEL	Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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HAPPY <u>5</u> SAD <u>4</u> ANGRY <u>3</u> CALM <u>2</u> TIRED <u>1</u>		•	0	0			

#### THOUGHT DIARY

TRIGGER:	
THOUGHT:	
EMOTION:	
ALTERNATIVE RESPONSE:	
MOOD AND ENE	RGY TRACKER
USE COLOR CODES OR NUMBERS T ENERGY OV	O REPRESENT YOUR MOOD AND
Color Codes	⅓ Number System
Assign colors to represent different emotions or energy states.  For example: Green – Calm, balanced, content Blue – Sad, low energy Red – Angry or frustrated Yellow – Anxious or overwhelmed	Use a 1–10 scale to track your: Mood: 1 = Very low 10 = Excellent  Energy: 1 = Exhausted 10 = Very energized
Purple - Inspired or energized  You can fill in a small calendar or chart each day with your color to spot patterns in your mood.	Recording these numbers daily (morning and evening if possible) can help you reflect on how your habits, sleep, nutrition, or social

"YOUR PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES DON'T DETERMINE WHERE YOU CAN

NIDO QUBEIN



THE WRAP-UP

The Goal:

Wrapping Up Your Lessons and Writing a Letter To Your Future Self

Looking back at everything you have learned in this workbook, what advice can you give to your future self about the power of finding your inner-strength and new support tools? Be open. Be honest. Be kind. You deserve happiness.





#### MY NEW HABITS:

#### **BOUNDARIES TO SET:**




#### PROFESSIONALS OR TOOLS TO USE:


# A PERSONAL PROJECT TO BOOST YOUR MENTAL HEALTH

**PROJECT NAME:** 

**DAY 01** 

**02** 

**O3** 

**DAY 04** 

**05** 

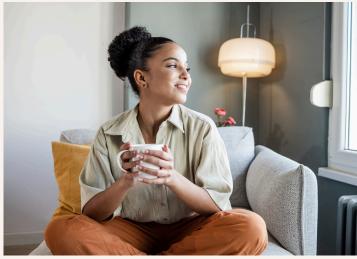
# Remember: YOU DESERVE HAPPINESS & STABILITY. DO IT FOR YOU.



















CONGRATULATIONS ON

PARTICIPATING IN THIS JOURNEY TOWARDS BECOMING HEALTHIER YOU!

A HEALTHY MIND IS A GOLD MINE FOR THE SOUL!



WEBSITE: KLEWSHARE.ORG @KLEWSHARE