

WAGTAIL INSTITUTE

# TRAUMA-INFORMED WHITE STAFF WELLBEING

Presented by Megan Corcoran

#### Who is this?

## MEGAN CORCORAN

#### **DIRECTOR AT WAGTAIL INSTITUTE**

Trauma-informed wellbeing consultant.
Bachelor of Education.
Masters in Applied Positive Psychology.
Lecturer at Monash.
Boxing addict.

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## WHATIS WELLBEING?

## 1 minute activity

# What is wellbeing?

#### **Option 1: Write a definition**

Write a short definition of the word "wellbeing"

("how would I explain it to my colleagues/clients?")

#### **Option 2: Draw a picture**

Draw a picture that represents your definition of "wellbeing"

("how could I show my colleagues/clients?")

# FEELING GOOD FUNCTIONING

# WELLBEINGIN WORKPLACES



#### VICARIOUS TRAUMA

#### BURNOUT

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#### VICARIOUS TRAUMA

A shift in world view after exposure to trauma. It can lead to similar reactions as those who directly experience the trauma.

(Collison, Filson, Gillard, Kennedy & Sweeney, 2018)

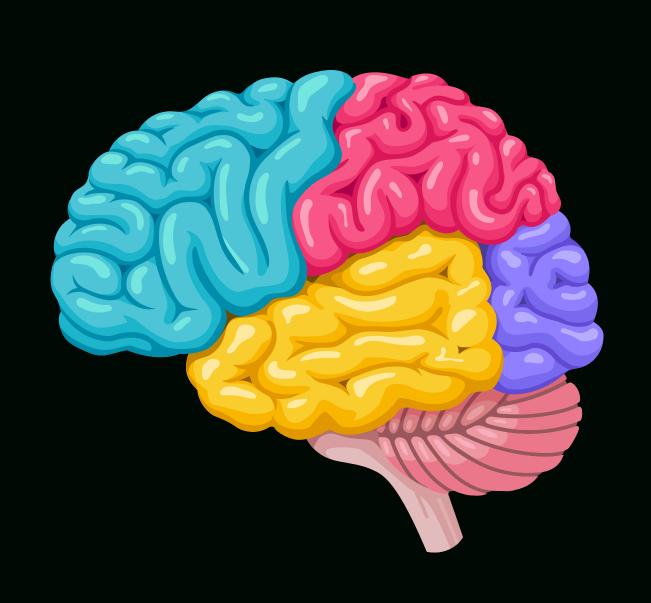
#### Vicarious Trauma

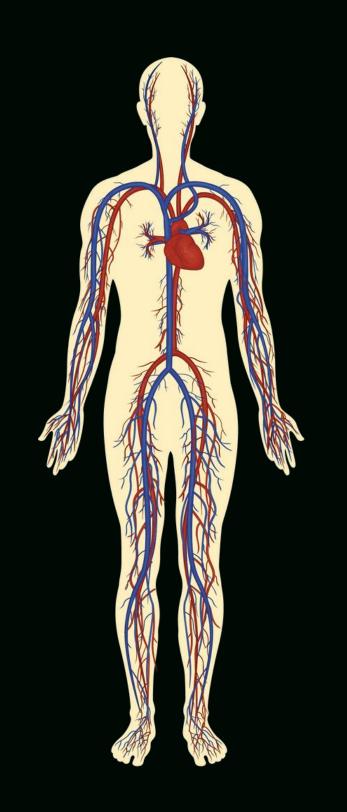


#### Vicarious Trauma



#### Vicarious Trauma





#### BURNOUT

The prolonged physical and psychological exhaustion that workers can experience from continuous exposure to emotional demands, structural oppression, and social injustice at work.

(Reynolds, V. Riel Dupuis-Rossi, R & Heath, T. 2021)

### Workplace



Physical and emotional toll of caring for others when we have not been able to refuel, reenergise, and care for the self.

(Ludgate & Teater, 2014; Mate,G 2020)



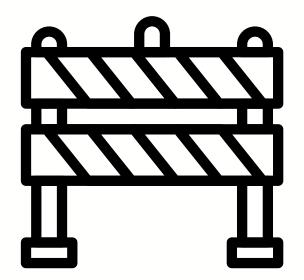




Physical and emotional toll of caring for others when we have not been able to refuel, reenergise, and care for the self.

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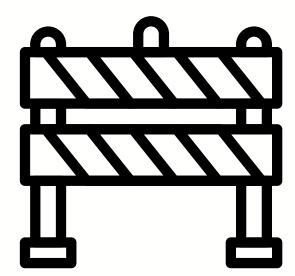
#### PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES



Physical and emotional toll of caring for others when we have not been able to refuel, reenergise, and care for the self.

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#### PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES



What is my role?

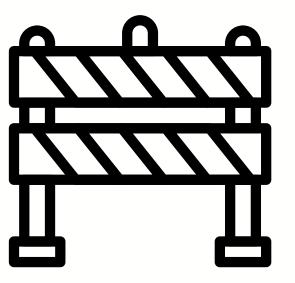
What hours do I work?

(Is this clear to my colleagues and clients?)

Physical and emotional toll of caring for others when we have not been able to refuel, reenergise, and care for the self.

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#### PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES



Communicate your ROLE and your level of contact clearly

Be consistent in your words and actions

What is "yours" to do and what is "the clients" to do?

Seek feedback from a mentor

## 1 minute activity

# Professional Boundaries

Write (or mentally note)

One way you can improve your professional boundaries.

Physical and emotional toll of caring for others when we have not been able to refuel, reenergise, and care for the self.

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#### END OF DAY RITUALS



Physical and emotional toll of caring for others when we have not been able to refuel, reenergise, and care for the self.

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How do I leave work at work?

How do I leave a difficult day behind?

#### END OF DAY RITUALS



Physical and emotional toll of caring for others when we have not been able to refuel, reenergise, and care for the self.

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How do I leave work at work?

How do I leave a difficult day behind?

END OF DAY RITUALS



Create yourself an end of day checklist for disclosures and incidents.

Be intentional in how you finish the work day.

# END OF DAY CHECKLIST FOR INCIDENTS AND DISCLOSURES



#### Your checklist might include things like:

- having a check-in conversation with the young person or client,
  - scheduling a care team meeting,
    - calling a guardian,
    - making a referral to a service,
      - asking a leader for advice,
        - making a CP report,
        - completing case notes,
- providing them with a safe relationship etc.

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### ENDOFDAY RITUAL



#### **Examples of end of day rituals include:**

- a check-out question or conversation with colleagues
  - "What went well (and why)"
    - turn off work devices,
    - remove work clothes,
- wash the day away with a shower or swim,
  - get outside,
  - use some movement,
  - play a particular song etc.

## 2 minute activity

# End-of-day commitment

#### **Option 1: Start your checklist**

Brainstorm all the items you could include on an end-of-day checklist

#### Option 2: Choose a ritual

Write down an end-of-day ritual you will try this week

Physical and emotional toll of caring for others when we have not been able to refuel, reenergise, and care for the self.

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#### SELF COMPASSION ACTIVITIES



Physical and emotional toll of caring for others when we have not been able to refuel, reenergise, and care for the self.

Treat yourself as a good friend who is going through a hard time.

#### **Principles:**

Self kindness
Common humanity
Mindfulness

(Neff, K, 2023)

#### SELF COMPASSION ACTIVITIES



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Physical and emotional toll of caring for others when we have not been able to refuel, reenergise, and care for the self.

Self-compassion practices can include meditation, journaling, intentional breaks, touch, and self-care activities.

SELF COMPASSION ACTIVITIES



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# Self-compassion commitment

**Explore** 

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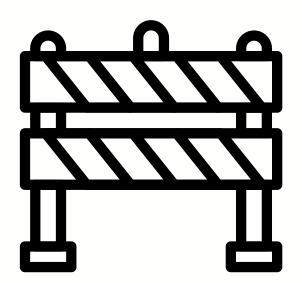
self-

compassion.org

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#### PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES



#### END OF DAY RITUALS



#### SELF COMPASSION ACTIVITIES











Exercise



#### Keep in touch



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