### Supporting Students in Temporary Housing



Trauma-Informed
Approaches in Your
Liaison Role:
Self-Care and Coping

Self-Care and Coping with Secondary Traumatic Stress



Presented By: NYS TEACHS

March 17, 2022

• 9:30-11:00 a.m.



### Who is in The Room?

#### Are you a...

- New McKinney Vento Liaison (1st Year)
- McKinney Vento Liaison (2-4 years)
- McKinney Vento Liaison (5 9 years)
- McKinney Vento Liaison (10 + years)
- Transportation Director
- Other School/District Staff



#### Which region are you from?

- \* Western Region
- \* Finger Lakes
- \* Central Region
- \* Southern Tier
- \* Mohawk Valley

- \* Capital Region
- \* Hudson Valley
- \* New York city
- \* Long Island
- \* North Country





# Norms for Today's Session

- "Lessons leave but stories stay" respect the confidentiality of each participant
- Think critically about the content and how it can be applied to your work
- Participate to the best of your ability
- Keep your mic muted when not speaking
- Camera may be on or off
- Use the chat box for questions and comments throughout the training
  - Note that, unlike previous webinars, all participants will be able to see comments put into the chat box





# Housekeeping



Today's session will be recorded.

We will ask you poll questions periodically throughout the session.

• We won't be able to answer questions about specific situations in the chat but we welcome your help line calls to discuss these issues at 800-388-2014.

 The help line is open 24 hours a day. If you leave a message you will be called back by the next business day.





# Learning Objectives



- In this session, I will:
  - Reflect and share experiences, including facilitators and barriers, within the liaison role.
  - Define self-care and explore approaches to reflection and regulation.
  - Connect and share support strategies, including resources and services offered by NYS TEACHS.





# **Opening Activity**

In your breakout room, share which strategy you chose to focus on since the last session.

Discuss any reflections, insights, or questions you had about the experience.

As a reminder, some suggested reflection questions were:

- When did I notice opportunities to use this strategy?
- How did using this strategy impact my work or relationships with others?
- How easy or difficult was it to incorporate this strategy into my work habits?





# Why is it important to discuss self-care?

 Working closely in, or with people experiencing, challenging circumstances can put you at risk for:

- Burnout
- Compassion fatigue
- Moral distress
- Secondary or vicarious trauma





#### Similarities and Differences

Compassion fatigue, vicarious trauma, burnout: source of stress in external Moral distress: source of stress is internal

Moral distress, compassion fatigue, vicarious trauma: risk inherent in work Burnout: risk related to workplace

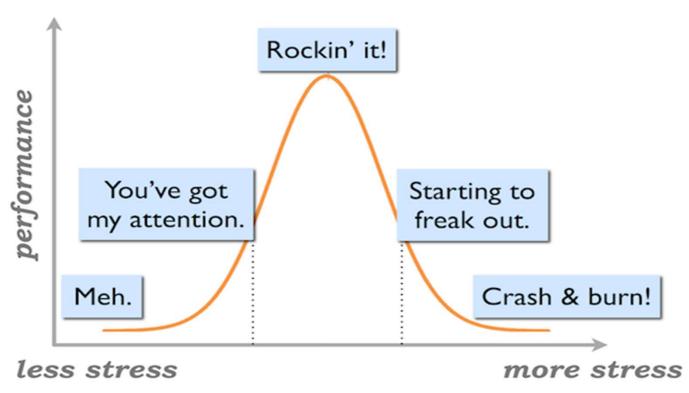
Moral distress, vicarious trauma: often characterized by intrusive thoughts, heightened reactions

Compassion fatigue, burnout: often characterized by disengagement





#### **Eustress vs. Distress**







#### Signs that Something is Amiss

- Persistent or recurring:
  - Intrusive, negative thoughts
  - Anxiety or dread
  - Guilt or shame
  - Feelings of isolation
  - Frustration and irritability
  - Apathy, helplessness, or disengagement
  - Excessive exhaustion, fatigue, or other somatic complaints





#### **Breakout Room Discussion**

Have you ever experienced any of these feelings in the course of your work?

How else do you know you're experiencing distress?







# A Note About the Strategies







#### What is Self-Care?

Ideally proactive
Individual
Multi-faceted
Active practices AND mental habits
Not always pleasant!







#### **Barriers to Self-Care**

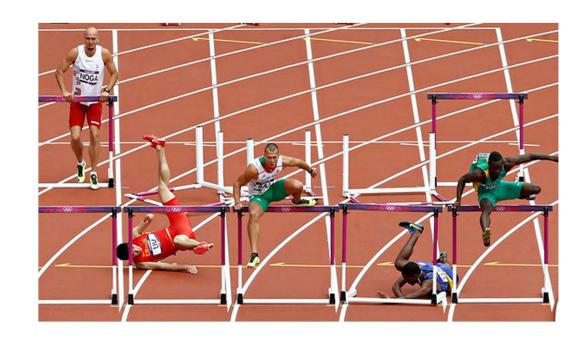
Not enough time/feeling like an obligation

Perception that self-care will lead to more work

Feeling selfish/burdening others/letting others down

Unsure of support of others

Worried about evaluation/job security







#### **Breakout Room Discussion**

Do you experience any barriers to self-care?

If so, what strategies have you identified to overcome these barriers?





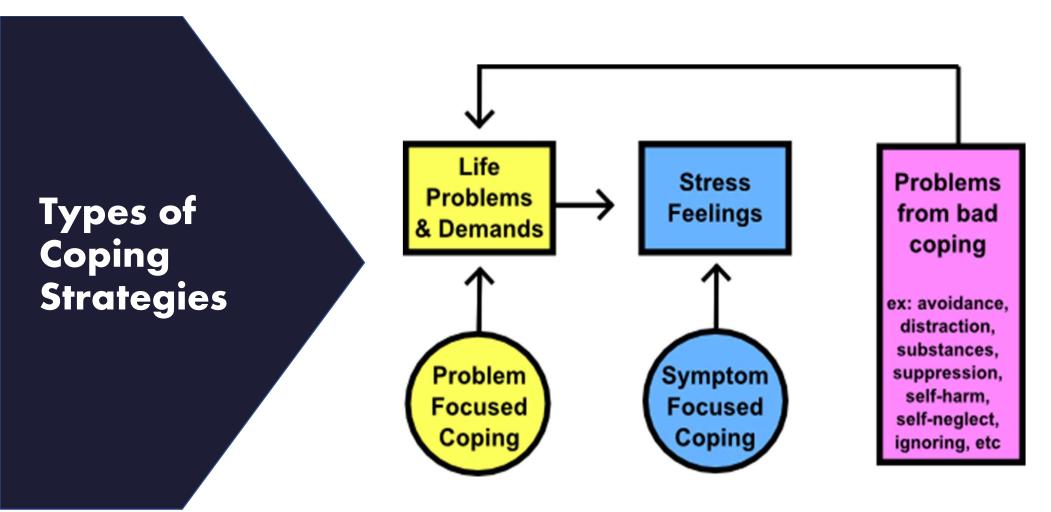


# **Coping Strategies**

- Responsive: how we deal with difficult emotions or situations after they've occurred
- Help build resilience
- Like self-care, must be authentic and individualized
- Can be practical (things you do) or cognitive (how you think)











# Practical Coping Strategies

- Take inventory: identify what's causing you harm
- Dialogue/debrief
- Journal or find another expressive outlet
- Assess and reinforce boundaries
- Have an end-of-day/leaving work routine
- Formal counseling
- Other common coping strategies: mindfulness practice, exercise, time in nature, time with others (friends, significant others, pets)





# Cognitive Coping Strategies

- Remember your purpose and your impact (compassion satisfaction)
- Maintain perspective
  - Understand your circle of control
- Identify the lesson or make meaning from the situation (vicarious resilience)
  - What are my emotions telling me? What can I do differently? Why did this happen?
- Practice self-compassion and maintain a growth mindset
- Make a plan for addressing the situation in the future





# Discussion

What are some of your favorite or most helpful coping strategies?







# **Community Care**

Self-care is essential, but we also need supportive systems and relationships to do our work effectively.

How might NYS TEACHS be a source of connection and care?

What resources would be helpful to see from NYS TEACHS?





# **Questions?**







# **Session Survey**

Please take a few moments to complete our survey.

https://mi-surveys.com/webinar-traumasensitivity031722

Responses are used in the planning of upcoming Professional Learning sessions.









# Technical and Educational Assistance Center

- Help Line (800-388-2014)
- Website (<a href="https://nysteachs.org">https://nysteachs.org</a>)
- Web-Based Trainings
- Outreach Materials
  - For outreach materials, email Ailin Mendoza: amendoza@measinc.com



The New York State Technical and Educational Assistance Center for Homeless Students





# Thank You!





