

BURNOUT

HEATHER DAVIS, LMHC, ATR-BC



WHAT IS YOUR WHY?

DEMAND VS. RESOURCES

When you're exhausted but there's still like 3 hours of work left to do today:



BURNOUT DEFINED

• "Burnout is a psychological syndrome of emotional exhaustion, depersonalization and reduced personal accomplishment"

(Maslach, 1982; Maslach & Goldberg, 1998; Maslach & Leiter, 2003)

Burnout occurs when the perceived resources don't meet the internal & external demands

SIGNS OF BURNOUT

In myself...

- Cynical
- Dread
- Fatigue
- Dissatisfaction
- Self-soothing (food, substances)
- Procrastination
- Judgmental

In my employees...

- Blaming
- Likes client less
- Mentions leaving
- Not meeting deadlines
- Lying
- Poor boundaries
- Disengaged



YOUR WHY & BURNOUT

- Perceptual maturation
 - What if work owes us nothing other than the opportunity to practice our 'why'?
 - The outcomes are none of our business!
 (For the record, we can care about them!
 We just ultimately can't control them.)
- Important to understand that we are responsible to our, not responsible for



THE STRESS CYCLE

STRESS VS STRESSOR

Stressors

- Interpreted by your body as threats
- External work, home life, being a parent, money, etc.
- Internal self criticism, identity, issues, memories, "the future", etc.

Stress

 Physiological & neurological response when you encounter the threat of a stressor



IMPLICIT & EXPLICIT RESPONSES

- Deal with the stressor
- Not the same as dealing with stress
- Stress cycles are left open all day long, day after day
 - Chronic stress impacts all organ functioning (digestion, immune system, hormone balancing, blood pressure, etc.)

Me trying to cram self-care into my schedule.

COMPLETING THE STRESS CYCLE

Lavender Reduces Stress

- Fight, flight & freeze
 - Fight & Flight → "GO" response
 - Freeze → "STOP" response; last ditch effort;
 parasympathetic swamps sympathetic
- Lion-free options for completing the cycle
 - Physical activity*
 - Progressive Muscle Relaxation
 - Deep breathing
 - Affection (pets! Spirituality!)



- Creative expression (singing/dancing/anything)
- Positive social interaction
- Laughter
- A good cry

STRESSORS... BUT WHAT ABOUT THOSE DEMANDS?

- Set boundaries
 - Your company is a vampire (even if you run it!)
- The art of triaging the key is not giving equal value to everything (sign of burnout)
 - What is actually a demand? What can wait?
- For your employees support this process, ask questions, model balance (taking lunch, PTO, not working while sick, etc.), offer quality insurance (covers mental health)



REVISIT YOUR WHY

Me practicing self-care but the serotonin still ain't hit

