# Creating a Positive Work from Home Experience





Thursday, April 15,, 2021



WWW.EASTRATEGICPARTNERS.COM



#### **Anita Morson-Matra**

Lead Consultant

INFO@EASTRATEGICPARTNERS.COM



#### **Eryn Johnson**

**Lead Consultant** 

INFO@EASTRATEGICPARTNERS.COM

#### Tech Review

Things to keep in mind for this workshop:

- This session will not be recorded
- Closed captioning will be provided.
- There will be interactive components in this session.
- The slides will be available after the session.



## Learning Objectives

Session #1 Thursday, April 15th, 2:30pm - 4:00pm

At the end of these sessions, participants will be able to:

- 1. Identify furniture needs and space options
- 2. Create a functional workspace
- 3. Establish and maintain a routine
- 4. Create boundaries and maintain balance



## Related Workshops

- Creating A Positive Work from Home Experience
   Session 2 Thursday, April 29th from 2:30 4:00pm
- The Legal Considerations of Having a Remote
   Workforce Thursday, May 6th from 2:00 3:30pm



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## Agenda

Session #1 Thursday, April 15th 2:30pm - 4:00pm



- 2. Icebreaker
- 3. Work from Home Spaces

#### 4. Break

- 5. Integrating healthy practices into the work from experience
- 6. Closing



#### Agreements

Make space, Take Space

Confidentiality

Be Open.

Assume best intent, be accountable for impact.

Self Care and Community Care

Help balance the verbose and and reticent.

Take the lessons. Leave the details Be open to learning and to someone else speaking your truth. Listen from the inside out. Value the process.

Pay attention to your needs. Pay attention to your neighbor.



Adapted from: adrienne maree brown, "Emergent Strategy," 2017

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#### **EA Values**

1. Racial and Social Justice

2. Community Voice

3. Teachers as Learners & Learners as Teachers



#### Icebreaker

- Rename yourself: Make sure you include name, organization and pronouns
- 2. **Find Three Things:** You have about 2 minutes to find:
  - a. Something alive
  - b. Something cozy
  - c. Something that brings you joy





# The Space



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## Current Work from Home Space

Using one or two words, please describe your current work from home experience.



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## Current Work from Home Space

What percentage of the work week are you currently working from home?















# Break back at 3:20pm

# Healthy Practices



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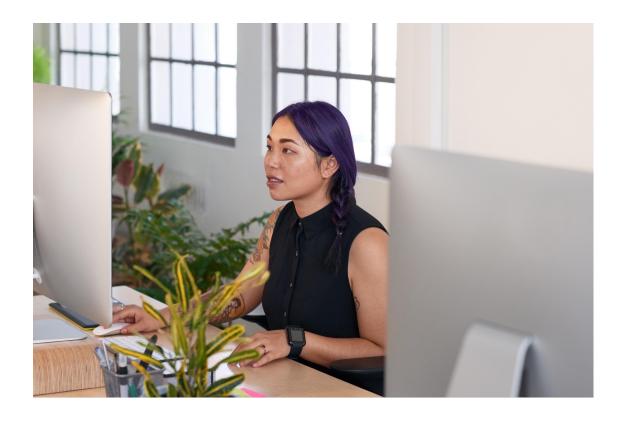
## Healthy Practices

What ways are maintaining your health during this time?



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#### The New Normal



- Start of day routine
- Visible schedule of work-day
   (Be mindful of over-booking)
- Short To-Do List
- Intentional breaks & out of office time
- Sticking to a clock-out time



## Finding Balance

- Checking in with co-workers (virtual water cooler)
- Camera-on during virtual meetings
- Intentional breaks & out of office time



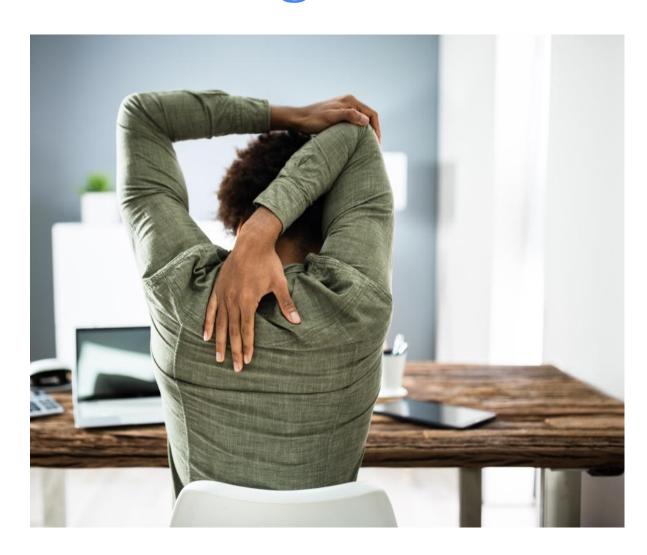


## Healthy Practices

How are you checking in with yourself and others?

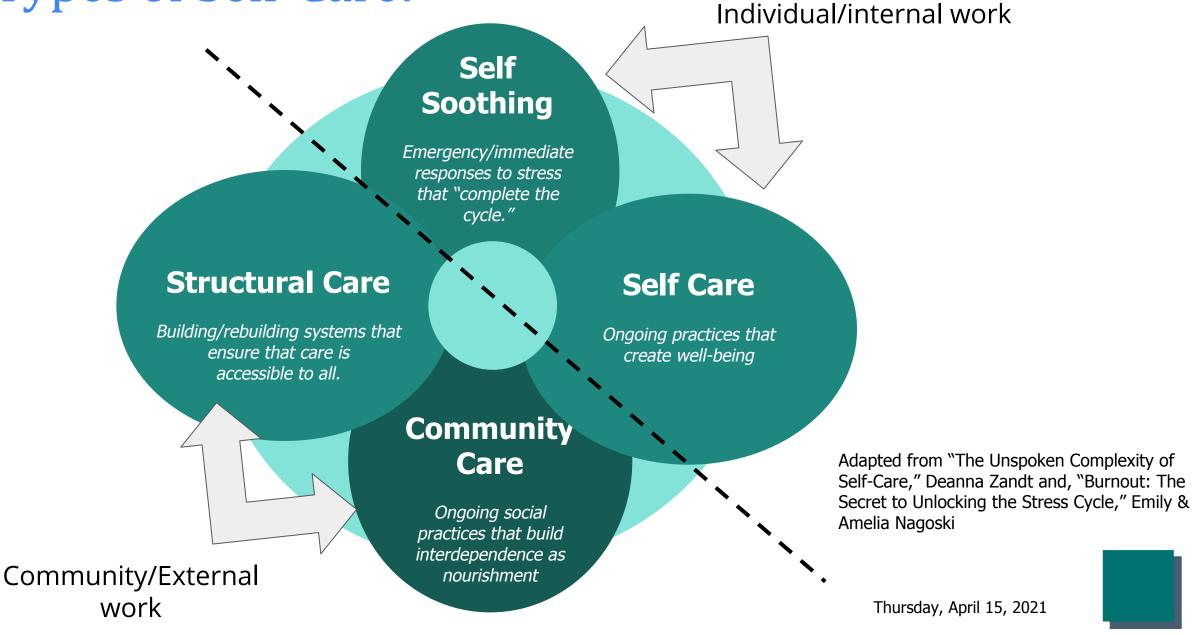


#### Checking In with Yourself & Others



- Checking in with yourself
- Acknowledging when your needs have changed
- Communicating with your supervisor / board

Types of Self-Care:



# **Self Soothing**

Emergency/
immediate
responses that
"complete the
cycle."

#### **Working from Home Examples:**

- Step away from the computer/take a break to:
  - Go outside
  - Eat a healthy snack
  - Practice meditation & breathing
  - Stretch
  - Drink water or a favorite beverage
  - Extend a kindness gesture text a friend
  - Journal
  - Listen to music
  - Inhale a pleasant scent
  - Positive Social Interaction (20 sec hug!)
  - Engage in a creative activity
  - Use a Mindfulness Technique (5 things etc.)

Adapted from Dr. Charmain Jackman, www.innopsych.com



#### Mindfulness Resources

1. UMass Memorial Health Care Center for Mindfulness, <a href="https://www.umassmemorialhealthcare.org/umass-memorial-center-mindfulness">https://www.umassmemorialhealthcare.org/umass-memori

2. Cambridge Health Alliance Center for Mindfulness and Compassion, <a href="https://www.chacmc.org/">https://www.chacmc.org/</a>



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# Self Care

Ongoing practices that create well-being

#### **Working from Home Examples:**

- Health & Well-being
  - Keeping an organized and peaceful space
  - Eating healthy breakfast & lunch away from your desk.
  - Setting up an exercise practice
  - Maintaining creative projects
- Scheduling
  - Regular breaks
  - Sticking to work day start & end times
  - "Commuting" to work create a transition
- Relationships
  - Saying YES and NO when you really mean it
  - Setting and keeping boundaries especially with family
  - Regular meetings with supervisor & staff



# **Community Care**

Ongoing social practices that build interdependence as nourishment

#### **Working from Home Examples:**

- Mutual Aid
  - Childcare cooperatives
  - Buy nothing groups
- Virtual social gatherings with colleagues
  - Book groups
  - Group art making
  - Virtual movie night
  - Icebreakers/online games
  - Communities of Practice
- Virtual & connective collaboration
  - Building & maintaining partnerships
  - Facilitating community meetings
  - Daily family meetings
- Trainings/Facilitated Learning



# Structural Care

Building/ rebuilding systems that ensure that care is accessible to all.

#### **Work from Home Examples**

- Building fair organizational policies:
  - Living wage
  - Comprehensive health care
  - Child & elder care for all
  - Paid family leave
  - Reasonable workload expectations
- Creating programming promotes:
  - Racial equity & justice
  - Gender & sexuality liberation
  - Educational justice
  - Economic justice
  - Building on the assets/addressing the needs of your community



#### Closing: What's one thing you are taking away with you?



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# Thank you!!!!!

#### Contact Info:



Eryn Johnson / Anita Morson-Matra



info@eastrategicpartners.com



www.eastrategicpartners.com

