COVID-19: SUPPORTING HONG KONG EMPLOYEES TO STAY MENTALLY HEALTHY



Last updated: March 2020

Our vision at City Mental Health Alliance Hong Kong is to support the creation of mentally healthy workplaces. Since creating our first factsheet in regards to COVID-19, the situation has evolved at great speed. Therefore the CMHA HK team have updated the resources, drawn on lessons learnt from our members and others, and narrowed our focus to the HK community to provide support to companies and the mental health of their employees.

LOOKING AFTER EMPLOYEES' MENTAL HEALTH



Communication

Communicate information from reputable resources in a timely manner. Update regularly on steps taken by the company and how this impacts employees

Individualisation

Certain groups or individuals may be more affected by ongoing events and require extra support, information or adaptations





Support

Ensure that employees are aware of how to reach out for support or information (e.g. **EAP program**). Also see **here** for a list of community resources

BUSINESS UNUSUAL: TIPS TO STAY MENTALLY HEALTHY DURING THIS TIME

Support Employee Choice

Individual circumstances vary and remote working may not be appropriate for some.

Consider options to support their choice

Understand the Disruption

Understanding the disruption and impact that school/office closures have caused to families and home working

Set Clear Expectations

Set clear expectations of working hours and communicate that employees are not expected to stay online after working hours

Provide IT Support

Provide IT support to employees in setting up remote working spaces to ensure that they can fulfil their role to the best of their abilities

Seek Feedback from Employees

Employees experience different challenges so actively seeking and responding to feedback is recommended

Stay Connected

Encourage employees to stay connected and have regular check-ins (either formal or informal) with their teams via digital platforms

A Work Environment

Help employees to create the right work setting with a routine, dedicated workstation and coordinating schedules with household members

Stay Active

Communicate the importance of looking after individual physical health and create tips or company challenges to stay active and healthy

Regular Breaks

Urge employees to break up their day with activities to take care of themselves e.g. healthy snacks or screen time breaks

Source of Truth

Encourage employees to choose a source of truth (e.g. official source) and use this for updates

This document is not and should not be considered as clinical advice or support. Anyone who may have a need for such support should seek professional advice.



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USEFUL RESOURCES



Important Information on COVID-19

[Global Resources]

World Health Organization COVID-19 advice for public

CDC

2019 Novel Coronavirus Situation

Summary

United Nations

FAQ COVID-19

Google

COVID-19 Information & Resources

[Hong Kong Specific]

Hong Kong Government

Coronavirus Dashboard

Department of Health



Family Support

Central Health Partners
Supporting Children Through the Health
Crisis

HK Government

Stress management for caregivers

HKU

Fight COVID-19 Community Page

KELY Support Group

Youth Mental Health

Other Resources

Mitigate the effects of home

confinement on children during the

COVID-19 outbreak



Mayer Brown

COVID-19 and Employer Obligations

Q&A

Managing HR Through COVID-19: A

Practical Guide for Multinational

Employers



Looking After Employees' Mental Health

World Economic Forum

Managing mental health during

coronavirus - experts around the world

share insights

CDC

Mental Health and Coping During

COVID-19

WHO

Mental Health during COVID-19

Mind Hong Kong

Managing our Mental Health & Staying

Well during a Virus Outbreak



We would like to hear your thoughts!

If you need further information, or have feedback, please don't hesitate to contact us on:

info@cmhahk.org

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