BUILDING RESILIENCY West Virginia University. Make yourself shine in a trying time!

CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN DISABILITIES POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT PROGRAM

Support Report Spring 2021

Resiliency is learning to dance in the rain. It is all about thriving instead of merely surviving in a difficult circumstance.

The shared trauma of the pandemic is having its toll on society. Everyone needs to practice resiliency building. The more we do it the more children will be able to model and we will know how to give them opportunities to build their resiliency. The effects of adverse childhood experiences can be lessened by increasing a child's positive childhood experiences. We need to ensure we are in a good place to do so and can fully help them.

Ways to build your resilience:

Connect to others: Make at least one friend phone call / text a day; have a family game night

Serve others: Volunteer at a local food bank; donate items; compliment strangers

Get outside: Visit a park; plant a garden

Fun exercise: Yoga, walk or hike; swim; ride a bike; dance; sports

Self esteem: List your strengths; post empowering guotes and read them daily **Self-care:** Get plenty of sleep; eat your vegetables; start new beauty routines

Set goals: What do you want to happen tomorrow, in a week and next month?

Creativity: Write a story, make a fairy garden; draw or paint; play a musical instrument

Optimism: Plan a trip; create a vision board; say specific good things will happen



Resources:

Positive Psychology.com – 27 Resilience Activities https://positivepsychology.com/resilience-activities-worksheets/

American Psychological Association - Building your Resilience: https://www.apa.org/topics/resilience

Fostering Resilience in Youth - http://www.fosteringresilience.com/7cs.php

What is Positive Behavior Support (PBS)?

Positive Behavior Support is a package of evidence-based strategies to improve quality of life and decrease challenging behaviors. It teaches people new skills and alternative responses to replace challenging behaviors. This approach is positive, proactive and focuses on preventing challenging behaviors before they occur.

Purpose of the PBS Program

The purpose of the PBS program is to support youth with serious emotional disturbances who are at risk of out of home placement to be successful in their community environments. We work with the individual's team to assess their individual needs and implement trauma informed positive behavior support. Through a person-centered approach, supportive, motivating and inclusive environments for individuals with complex needs are promoted.

Overview of Program Activities

The following program activities can help you prevent and improve challenging behaviors:

• PBS Brainstorming

• Consulting on how to implement PBS and increase quality of life

Technical assistance and mentoring

- Guidance and feedback to professionals
- Solutions for challenging behaviors

Person-centered planning

- Develop personal goals
- Create an action plan for achieving goals

• PBS Intensive Services

- Serve a very limited number of individuals and families statewide
- Individuals must have dangerous behaviors and no services in place to address them and be at risk of out of home placement
- Services typically last 3-5 months
- Training and continuing education opportunities
 - Limited number of trainings offered for professionals
 - Social work CEU's

To learn more about the PBS Program or subscribe to the quarterly Support Report newsletter, please visit

pbs.cedwvu.org

Questions? Topic suggestions? Phone: **855-558-4296** Email: **pbs@hsc.wvu.edu**

The Positive Behavior Support Program is funded through a grant with the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Behavioral Health. All printed materials are available in alternate formats upon request. WVU is an EEO/Affirmative Action Employer – Minority/Female/Disability/Veteran.