MANAGE STRESS REACTIONS

- Limit your exposure to media and social media coverage of the event.
- Educate yourself on the pandemic through credible sources.
- Maintain a routine as much as possible.
- Get plenty of rest.
- Engage in regular physical activity.
- Eat a well-balanced diet.
- Keep a sense of humor.
- Maintain contact with friends and family through technology, when possible.

If you or someone you know appears to be experiencing persistent stress reactions or is having a difficult time managing emotions, seek help from your healthcare provider or a behavioral health specialist.



COVID-19 INFORMATION

KY COVID-19 Hotline: (800) 722-5725

KY COVID-19 Website: kycovid19.ky.gov

Center for Disease Control and Prevention: cdc.gov/coronavirus

CONTACT US

KCCRB 111 St. James Court, Ste. B Frankfort, KY 40601

> (502) 607-5781 kccrb.ky.gov

24-hour Response Request Line (888) 522-7228

#TeamKentucky
#TogetherKY
#Patriot
#HealthyAtHome

EMOTIONAL WELLNESS

Coping with stress during the COVID-19 Pandemic

"We will get through this. We will get through this together." Governor Andy Beshear



Kentucky
Community
Crisis
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Board



COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Public health emergencies, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, are unlike natural disasters. In natural disasters impacted communities have sensory cues to guide them in assessing the threat and planning a response. In a public health emergency the "threat" is invisible and may not provide any sensory cues.

During times of uncertainty it is normal to experience anxiety or worry. Stress reactions during uncertain times are common and can be managed.

This brochure is intended to provide some basic information on possible stress reactions and suggestions to manage the stress.



COMMON REACTIONS

PHYSICAL:

- Headaches
- Fatigue, tiredness
- Rapid heart rate
- Nausea, stomach issues
- Appetite changes
- Elevated blood pressure
- Unexplained aches and pains
- Sleep difficulties

EMOTIONAL:

- Feeling isolated
- Panic
- Anxiety
- Distrust
- Fear, uncertainty or apprehension
- Intense anger, irritability or agitation
- Sadness or depression
- Feeling overwhelmed
- Intense worry about others
- Denial

BEHAVIORAL:

- Feeling suspicious
- Inability to relax / rest
- Increase in alcohol and/or drug consumption
- Being overly cautious

COGNITIVE / MIND:

- Confusion
- Poor concentration
- Preoccupation with the pandemic
- Poor decision making
- Memory issues
- Disturbed thinking

SPIRITUAL:

- Doubt
- Questioning beliefs or values
- Crisis of faith