



Your **EAP** Newsletter!

October 2017

Get a Daycare Stress Checklist



Most parents worry about the safety and security of a daycare center before using its services for their child. Although visiting and talking with other parents can alleviate concern, consider a checklist. Gather a few examples and develop a customized checklist of items that are important to you. Are hazard controls like covered sockets important? What about staff management of angry or whiny children? Is plenty of floor space available for children who crawl? Checklists can help you quickly choose the environmental, emotional, learning, and child management needs to make inquiry about. Doing so will help you stay focused at work and feel satisfied about those caring for your child. Search online “parent daycare concerns checklist pdf.”

Is Your Child the Bully?



The federal government has established a dedicated Web site to help stop bullying in schools. It combines the best of the best tips in a simple helpful resource. You will find other bullying resources online, but guidance can be inconsistent across the net, produced by freelance writers who are not experts in what they author. A phone call from the school informing you that your child is bullying others can be a shocker, but don't panic. Instead, consider the right intervention by relying upon resources your school can offer, and easily explained tips found at www.stopbullying.gov

Teens and Steroids: A Bad Combo



Warn your teen about the dangers of using anabolic steroids to promote muscle growth. These substances can lead to serious health problems, even death. Anabolic steroids of questionable quality are sold over the Internet and on the street. Rich Paina, a famous anabolic steroid-using bodybuilder with a million young followers, died last month from a heart attack at age 46—toxicology results are still pending. Paina's death is a warning to young bodybuilders—stay away from drugs. Learn the possible signs of steroid use and how to educate others about these high-risk substances.

Source: FDA.gov [search "teens and steroids"].

YOUR! EAP NEWSLETTER is published monthly by the Arlington Employee Assistance Program (AEAP). It is intended for general information purposes only. For help with personal concerns, contact your Employee Assistance staff. The EAP operates under provisions of Federal confidentiality laws and EAPA Core Technology.

The EAP is conveniently located in the Marshall Building, 2847 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22201. If you wish to speak with an EAP professional, please call the main number **703-228-8720**, during business hours (7:00am – 5:00pm).

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www.apsva.us/eap

Caring for yourself when caring for others

Joy Walker, RN, BSN, from Capital Caring will be presenting at the October Care-giver's Support group. She is a graduate of the University of Kansas, holding a degree in Advertising and Journalism. Years later, she returned and earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing. For the past 24 years, Joy has worked as a nurse, spending 15 of those years in pediatrics. Joy has also spent nearly a decade as a home health and hospice case manager. It was through this work that she uncovered her calling, educating the community on palliative and hospice care. Her role as the Clinical CARE Representative for Capital Caring's Arlington region, helps to ensure that all residents have information to make informed decisions about care for their loved ones.



Wednesday, Oct. 11th, 2017 4:45 - 6:15 pm

Marshall Bldg. 2847 Wilson Blvd. (Access EAP from Rear Entrance)

Free to all ACG and APS employees and their family members.

Free parking in lot on N. Fillmore Street

Helping Someone Addicted to Opioids ... or Other Drugs

An opiate addiction health emergency exists nationwide. Here's how to help someone addicted to these or other substances of abuse: 1) Accept that enabling is initially part of any close relationship with an addict, 2) Learn how enabling helps addicts avoid seeking help or admitting they need it. 3) Stopping enabling is a learned skill with a shift in mindset. Discover how 12-step groups like Al-Anon help members make the switch. 4) Encourage the opiate addict to get treatment. Coordinate your attempts with a proper treatment program. Your company EAP can help you find one. (Note that motivation to accept help will at first be low.) 5) Expect crises, drug incidents, and legal problems to continue or increase because addiction is a chronic illness. The good news is that each event is a "go-opportunity" to offer help. Make it easy to accept and with simple steps for doing so. 6) Make treatment non-negotiable in your relationship—anything less requires enabling. 7) Repeat #5 until help is accepted.



Soft Skill to Know . . . Staying Energetic

Being energetic at work is more than avoiding the sluggish feeling after lunch. When you're energetic, you possess and exhibit energy in abundance that's an obvious part of a vigorous work style and temperament. Employers value energetic employees for a key reason—their energy is contagious as they engage, create, and participate effectively with teams. You don't have to undergo a personality transformation to be more energetic. 1) Start with regular exercise and stress management techniques. 2) Have a proper diet that maximizes your energy and that contains fewer food substances that weigh on metabolism. 3) Get enough sleep. 4) Practice positivity to help you feel energetic. Good physical health and nutrition influence a positive mood, but this works both ways. Combine this with reducing negative self-talk scripts that bring you down. 5) Practice work-life balance so you nurture yourself with activities you enjoy, and participate in social activities that renew your spirit.



New Resource: Health and Happiness: Your Guide to Proper Physical Fitness, Healthy Nutrition and Leading a Positive and Balanced Lifestyle; 2017 by Brittany D. Costa.

Is It Burnout or Depression?

"Burnout" was first coined in 1970 by an American psychologist who applied the term to exhausted health professionals. Now it is applied to almost any job or professional. Be cautious. Research published by the National Institutes of Health this year showed that there is really no clear definition of burnout. Consequently, what it is and how it is diagnosed are not consistent from one researcher to the next. And this makes it impossible to say how common it is! Some experts think many people mistake depression for burnout. This can be a roadblock to getting treatment for the disease. So, if you feel burned out, start with an assessment from a mental health professional and then formulate your intervention plan.

