

Covid-Related Stress, Mental Health Concerns and Available Resources for Stony Brook Students

Faculty A&S Senate Meeting Monday November 8th, 2021 at 3:45 pm

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<u>Agenda</u>

- Introduction
- Know the Available Resources at CAPS
- Pre-Pandemic College Mental Health Concerns
- Covid-19: Shock, Disparities and Languishing
- Finding Help, and Finding Hope
- Questions and discussion





Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

- CAPS provides free and confidential mental health services, including individual and group therapy, workshops, and psychiatry. This fall, CAPS is offering both in-person and telecounseling sessions.
- To get started at CAPS, visit our <u>website</u> and click on the tab that says "Schedule Initial Consultation" to schedule on the Wolfie Health Portal a brief initial consultation with a CAPS counselor.
- Important: If the self-scheduler does not have a time option that fits, or you need to speak to a counselor immediately, please call CAPS at 631-632-6720 to speak with someone that can assist you.





Stony Brook University | Counseling and Psychological Services





Need to talk when CAPS is closed?

CAPS After-Hours Counselors are available to speak 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year

If you are in crisis or need to speak with a counselor after hours please call

CAPS After Hours at

(631) 632-6720 or (855)-509-5742



Pre-pandemic College Mental Health Concerns

- Cause for concern:
 - Suicide rate (10-24 years) increased 57% from 2007 to 2018
 - 41% of students report a lifetime mental health diagnosis
 - 37% of students report "serious" suicidal ideation in their lifetimes, 13% had serious ideation in the past year
- Campuses, including SBU, expanded resources. Utilization rose 42% from 2010 to 2018. More students getting help, but
 - Students are seeking counseling for wider range of concerns and
 - Are we reaching those who most need the help?
- Hiring more staff, alone, cannot solve the demand issue. SBU ahead
 of curve on a public health model, emphasizing prevention and early
 intervention to address mental health (CPO will elaborate)





Covid-19 and Mental Health: The Big Issues

- 1. Trauma (Physical, Economic, Emotional) and Loss
- 1. Domestic Violence, Substance Abuse
- 1. Healthcare and Mental Health Workers, First Responders, Essential Workers, Vicarious Trauma, Compassion Fatigue
- 1. Prolonged Isolation and Loneliness
- 1. Disparities (Educational, Economic, Healthcare)





Languishing: "Life is at once overwhelming and not engaging enough."

- The opposite of "flourishing"; Sense of stagnation and emptiness
- Symptoms Include: Burnout, lack of motivation, numbness, not enjoying things you normally would
- More: Delayed reactions, loss of milestones, increased divisiveness, supply chains, The Great Resignation
- What is languishing good for? Something to take seriously, respect why it is there, be mindful of 6X likelihood of a more formal diagnosis.



Finding Hope and Help

- The typical advice (Take Time Off, Give Yourself Permission to Enjoy Yourself, Change Your Scenery) can be difficult to apply to the concerns of a Stony Brook Undergraduate; What is your optimal self-care routine?
- Ways to Take Care of Yourself
- CAPS has so many options!!! At the first meeting, the counselor helps you find the <u>best</u> plan; and it can be adjusted at any time
 - Main Website: https://www.stonybrook.edu/caps
 - MAKE AN APPOINTMENT ONLINE using the Wolfie Health Portal
 - Explore options: (<u>Individual Therapy</u>, <u>Groups</u>, <u>Medication</u>)





Other Resources

- All CAPS events on CORQ app, including workshops and PALS
- <u>CARE Team</u>: For when a student is causing concern and seems confused or unwilling to get help
- STUDENT SUPPORT TEAM: Part of the Office of the Dean of Students, Call 631-632-7320 for an appointment or e-mail
- Have questions (Who do I call, and when?) or want to see someone off-campus? CAPS can always clarify and help, call <u>631-632-6720</u>

