Learn ways to look after

Campaign Toolkit

Campaign assets and resources for you to use in your community and workplace.



In partnership with

THIS WAY UP 11



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About this toolkit

This toolkit provides information and campaign materials for professionals and community groups to assist Western Australians to increase their personal skills to manage their feelings in response to difficult situations.

The resources in this toolkit have been developed to assist you to extend the reach of the campaign in your community, using messages and materials consistent with the state-wide Think Mental Health campaign, 'Learn to Look After You'.

As a stakeholder, you may wish to use one or all of the supplied materials and strategies in this toolkit. You are in the best position to determine which activities will work best in your community.

The <u>Think Mental Health Style-Guide</u> provides guidance on how the brand and campaign assets should be used at a local level.

The MHC is also supportive of community groups and organisations taking advantage of local media opportunities to further extend the reach of the campaign.

If you have any queries regarding the 'Learn to Look After You' campaign or require assistance promoting it within your local community, contact the Mental Health Commission's Community Support and Development Programs Team at communityprograms@mhc.wa.gov.au



Campaign background

About the campaign

The Think Mental Health (TMH) program has developed a new mental health promotion public education campaign, 'Learn to Look After You', in partnership with specialist mental health provider THIS WAY UP and non-government organisation partner Cancer Council WA.

Research shows people gravitate toward dwelling or 'ruminating' about things that are out of our control (whether that's perceived or actual), which exacerbates negative feelings. 'Learn to Look After You' acknowledges these feelings, and provides practical, evidence-based strategies to help us manage how we feel and reduce stress and anxiety.

The strategies can be implemented as part of our everyday life and will support the community to gain and maintain their mental health and wellbeing.

The 'Learn to Look After You' campaign will be delivered for an initial three-month period from February until mid-May 2022.

Mass reach media channels, such as TV, are being used to provide widespread exposure to the key campaign messages across the state.

Supporting media channels such as digital advertising, social media and paid search are used to further reinforce key messages and direct people within the community to the <u>TMH website</u>, where people can find practical information to enable them to adopt the evidence-based strategies promoted in the campaign to support their mental health and wellbeing. The website will also assist people to seek out appropriate helplines and support services.

Target group

The campaign targets Western Australians aged 18 years and over.

Campaign objectives

The primary objective of the campaign is to increase Western Australian's knowledge of strategies to reduce stress and anxiety, including in situations they feel they cannot control.

Key messages

No matter the hard stuff that is going on around you, there are things you can do to manage how you feel.

There are practical, evidence-based strategies that can help us to manage our mental health during challenging times, including when we feel like things are happening that are out of our control. The campaign promotes six key strategies:

- Treat yourself with kindness and cut yourself some slack.
- Shift your thoughts and focus on the good stuff.
- Do what brings you joy.
- Remember that things change, and you might have to roll with plan B.
- Connect with others.

Key messages

This content can be used for public relations opportunities such as media statements, interviews or newspaper articles. It can also form the basis of organic social media content.

Treat yourself with kindness and cut yourself some slack

When we are faced with difficult situations that are out of our control, it's normal to feel stressed or anxious. Reminding ourselves that it is actually okay to feel the way we feel is an important part of coping with difficult situations. Some helpful things to tell yourself when you're feeling strong emotions:

- 'It's been full on. It's okay if I don't know how to feel about all of this.'
- 'What I'm feeling in this moment is okay.'
- 'Everyone is allowed to feel differently about this situation.'
- 'It doesn't matter how others would feel in my shoes, my feelings are valid.'



Shift your thoughts and focus on the good stuff

Actively shifting our thoughts to focus on the positives and think of <u>solutions</u> can help to break negative patterns of thinking. Shifting your thoughts doesn't mean ignoring or downplaying how you're feeling. It's designed to help you feel more in control of your challenges by shifting your focus to <u>creating solutions</u>.

Some tips for shifting your thoughts:

- Notice when you begin to dwell (thinking over and over again) on the problem and/or how bad it is or might be.
- Ask yourself 'Is there anything I can do about this problem right now?'
- If it is a problem you can do something about now, try to start thinking through a variety of solutions (and be creative).
- Imagine what you might tell a close friend if they came to you with this problem. Give yourself that same advice.
- If it is a problem you can't do anything about, acknowledge how that makes you feel and try to shift your thoughts onto something else entirely.

Key messages

Do what brings you joy

It's important to balance our mood by finding ways to increase positive emotions, including self-care. <u>Self-care</u> involves taking deliberate actions towards caring for your own health and wellbeing. Taking time to do things that bring you joy or give you positive feelings, is an important, evidence-based strategy to look after your mental health and wellbeing.

Self-care can look different for different people, so every day, plan, schedule, and do:

- at least one activity that you find fun, pleasurable, relaxing or enjoyable; and
- at least one activity that gives you a sense of productivity, achievement, meaning or satisfaction.

It doesn't matter how big or small these activities are, the important thing is that they bring you a sense of joy - even if only for a few minutes.

Remember that things change, and you might have to roll with Plan B

Life is full of ups and downs. The way you might have once responded to a problem may need to be adjusted when life throws you a curveball. This can be very challenging, especially if you are someone who likes being in control.

Here are some things you can remind yourself of when things are changing around you:

- I am doing the best I can in this challenging time.'
- 'I may feel disappointed, but it is not forever.'
- 'I would've liked to do things differently, but this will do for now.'
- 'I trust in my ability to cope with the challenges that come up.'

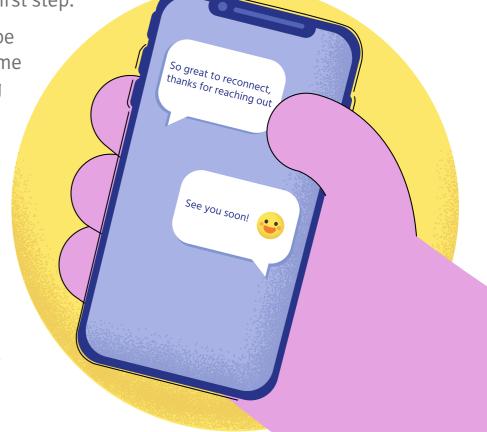
Connect with others

Connecting with others and investing in good relationships is important for both our physical and mental wellbeing. In recent times, we've had to become more creative about ways to strengthen and broaden our social connections. There's no one size fits all solution, but here are some strategies that may help you:

- Make time each day to spend with your family. This might include 'family time' that is at the same time each day, whether that's over dinner or via video calls.
- Swap out watching the TV at night for playing a game with your kids, taking a walk with your partner or try out a new after-work hobby with a friend.
- Do something you enjoy which will increase your chances of meeting like-minded people – joining a club, learning a new skill, staying active or spending time outdoors.

• Take the initiative to smile and make eye contact. While this may seem simple, inviting and friendly non-verbal communication is a helpful first step.

 Remind yourself it's okay to be alone – balance spending time on your own as well as trying to meet people. You might enjoy your own company more than you think.



Key messages

Keep worry at bay – manage COVID-19 anxiety

As COVID-19 becomes a part of our everyday life, it's normal to be experiencing anxiety, and fear about contracting or transmitting the virus or to feel overwhelmed about what could happen.

While some anxiety is normal, and even helpful (as it reminds us to take care and take precautions against bad things happening), it can be unhelpful if these emotions become overwhelming. Focusing on health-specific actions that are within our control can help us to navigate these uncertain times:

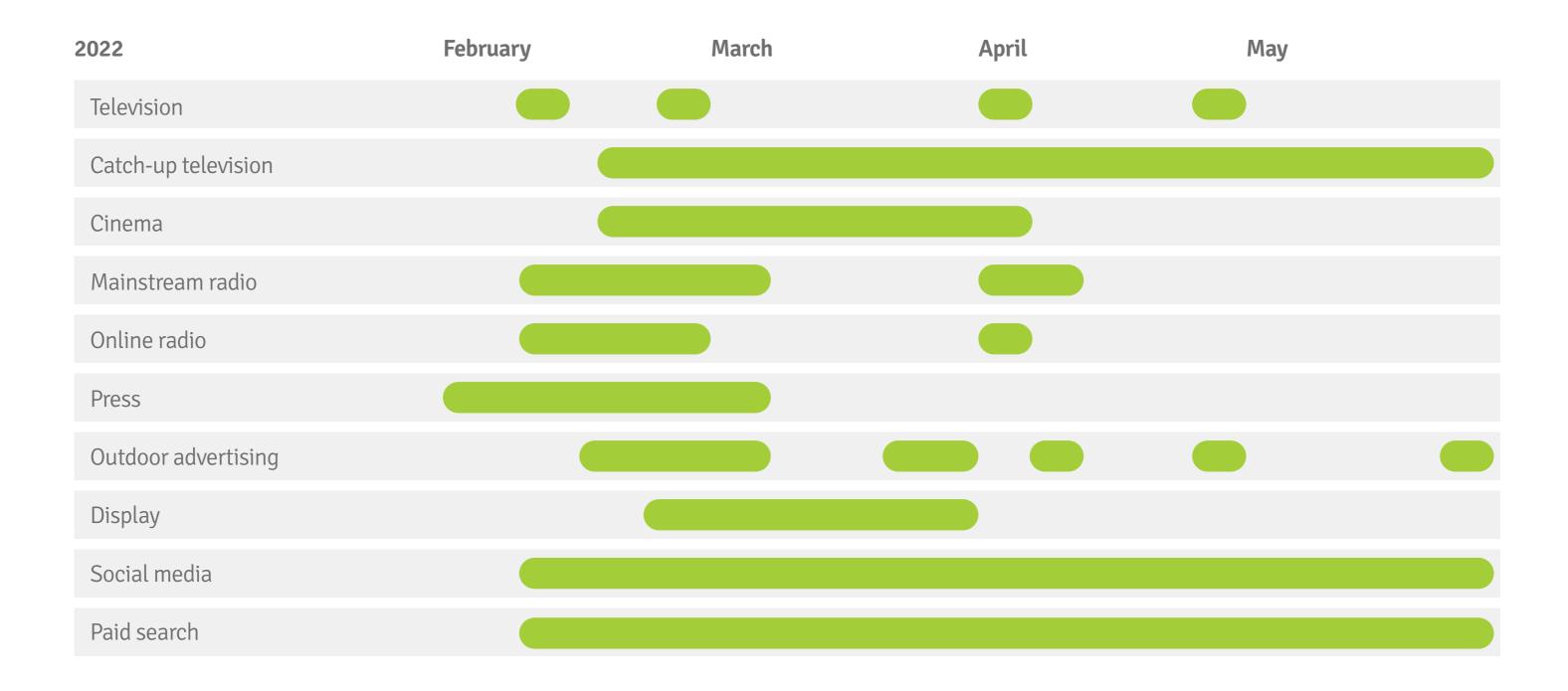
- Put in place physical safety measures. This includes hand washing, physical distancing, staying home when unwell and mask wearing when required.
- Stay informed from credible sources. Keep an eye on what you watch, read, and follow. Seek good quality information from credible and reliable sources, such as official Western Australian Government advice.

- Balance your media intake. Too much negative news can increase our feelings of stress and anxiety. Put a limit on the amount of news you consume, and mute/unfollow accounts that make you feel triggered or uneasy.
- Look after your health. Focus on eating a healthy balanced diet, sleeping well, exercising, and staying socially connected.
- **Seek support.** It's normal to feel anxious, but if your anxiety is overwhelming or getting in the way of your life, it's important to seek help. Speak to your GP if you're unsure of where to start or find what works for you on the <u>mental health</u> support services page.
- If you are in isolation, it is important to look after yourself. Head to THIS WAY UP for a dedicated <u>self-isolation program</u> to keep you on track.

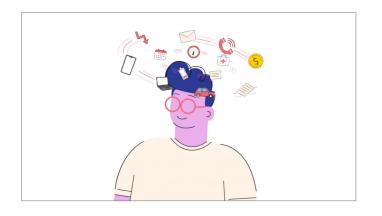
For more information visit

https://www.thinkmentalhealthwa.com.au/supporting-my-mental-health/managing-uncertain-times/

Statewide campaign schedule

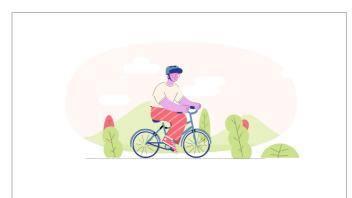


Television Commercial | 30 Seconds

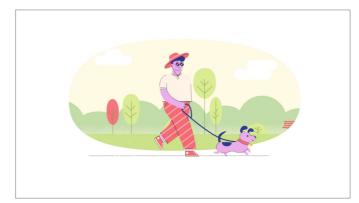




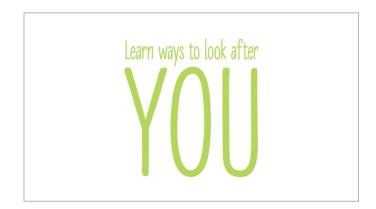














Click here to watch the 30 second Television Commerical

Radio Commercial | 30 Seconds

A. Look after you

B. Do what brings you joy Option 1

C. Do what brings you joy Option 2

D. Connect with others

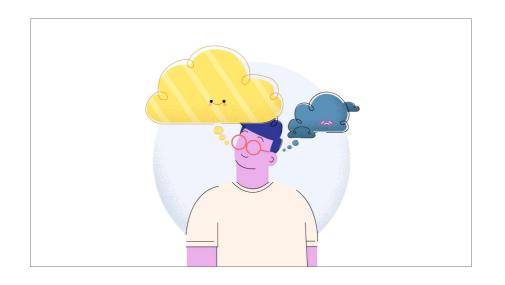
E. Shift your thoughts

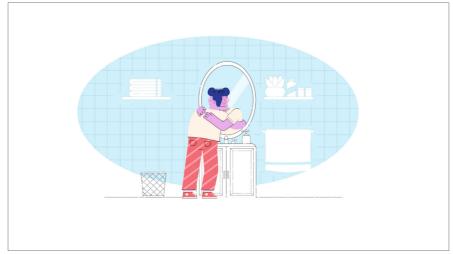
G. Roll with plan B

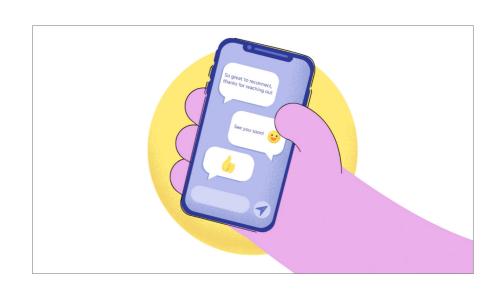


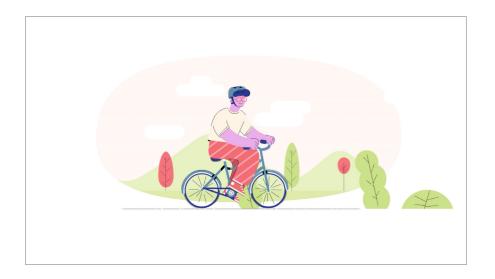
Click here to download the radio commercials

Video | 6 Seconds

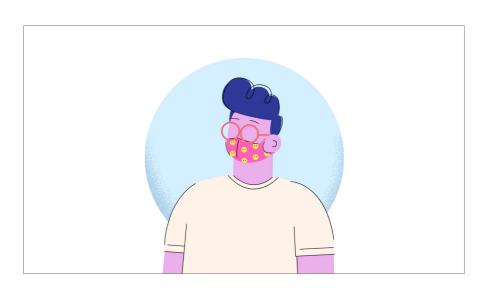








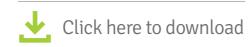




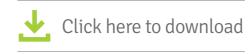
6 Seconds - 16:9

Click here to download

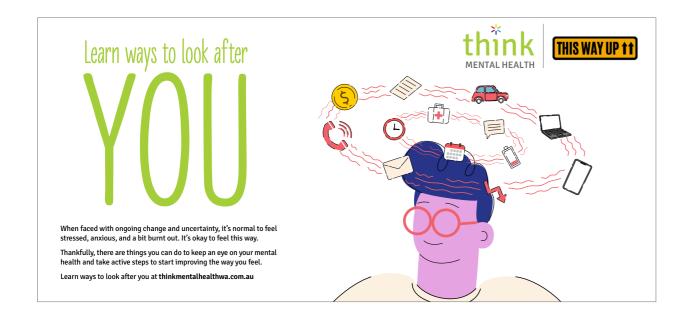
6 Seconds - 9:16



6 Seconds - 4:5



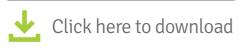
Press | M4x6



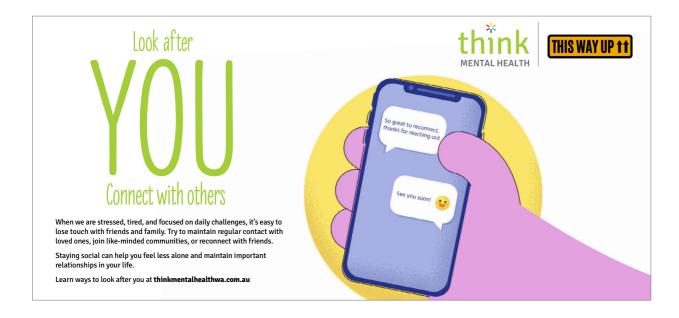






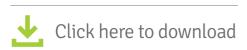


Press | M4x6

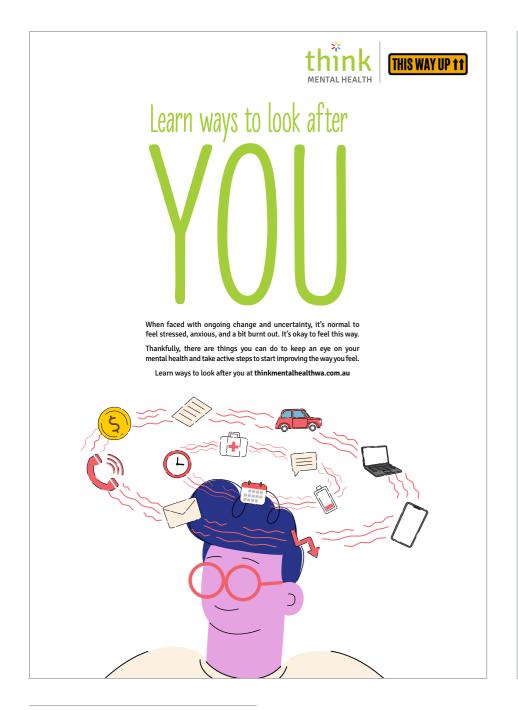


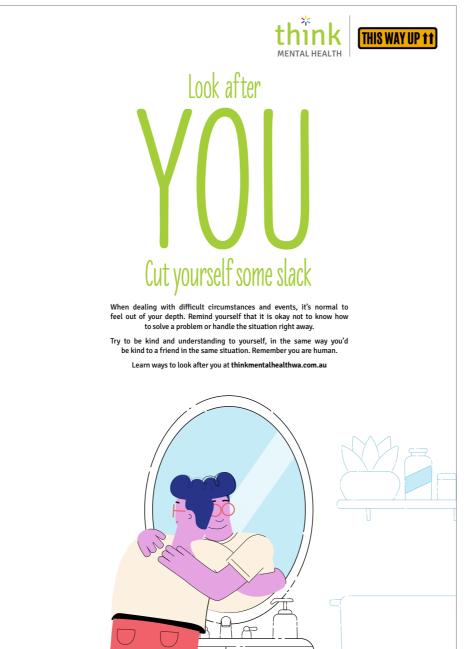




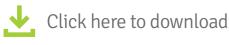


Posters

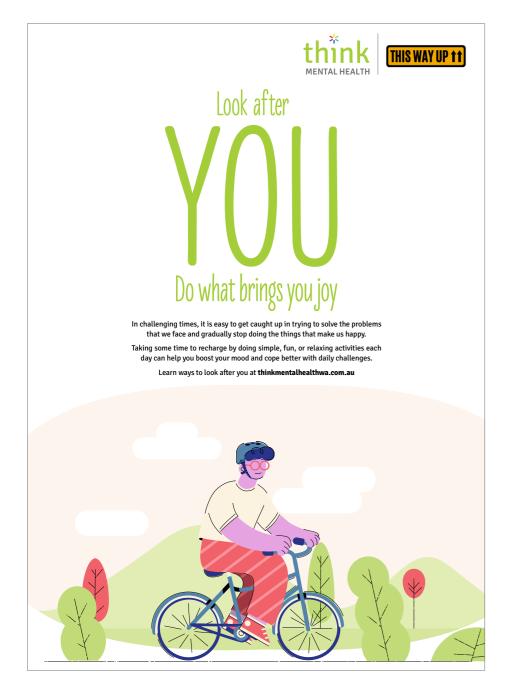


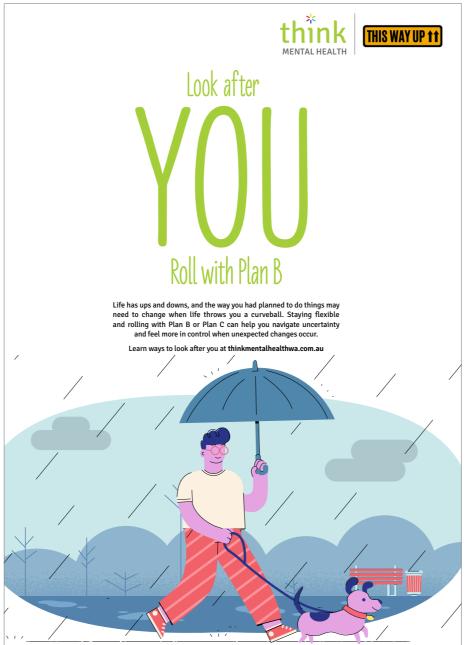


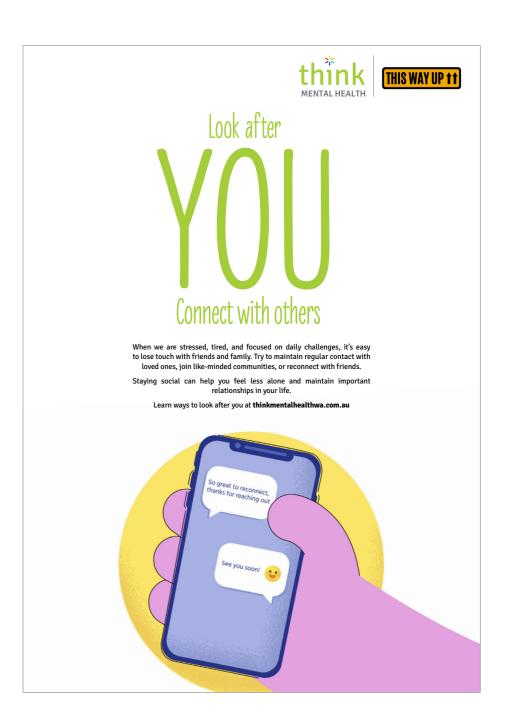


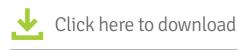


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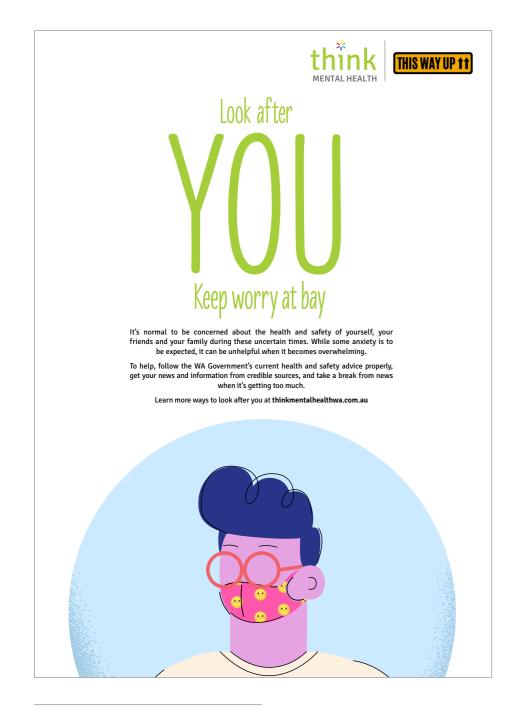






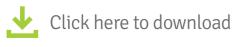


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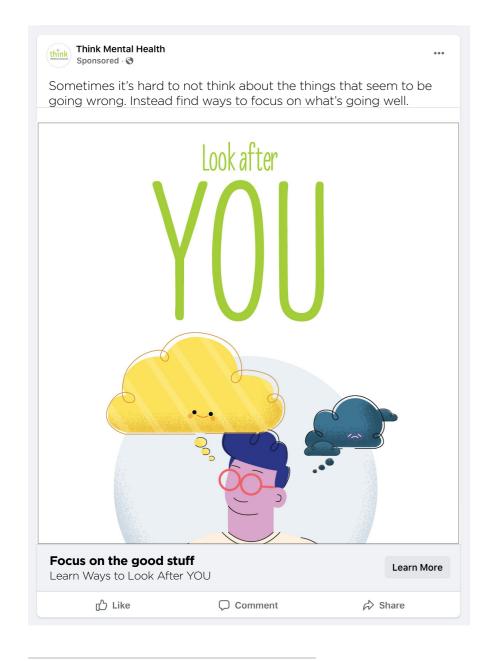


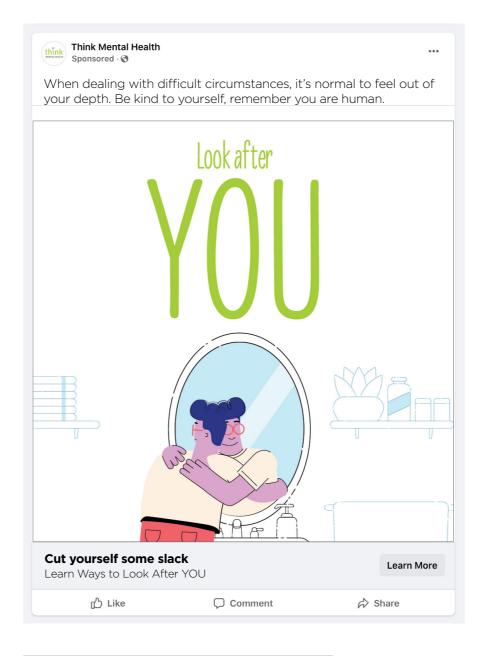


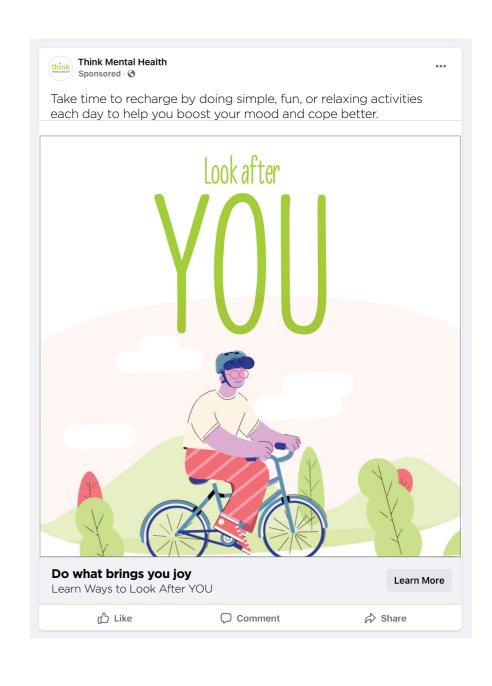


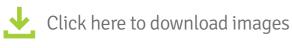


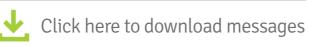
Social Media Assets



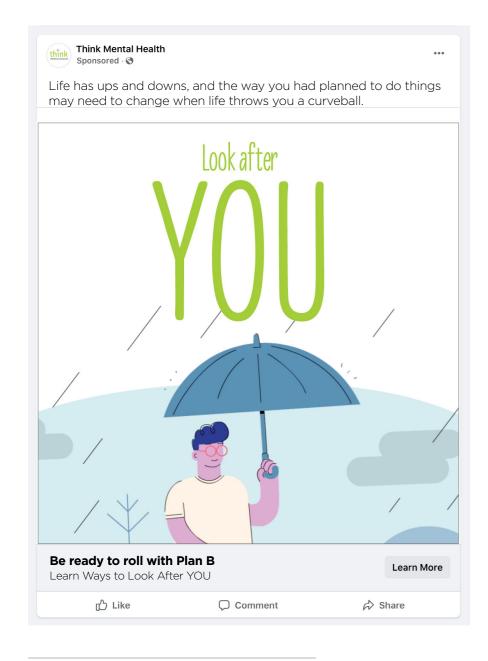


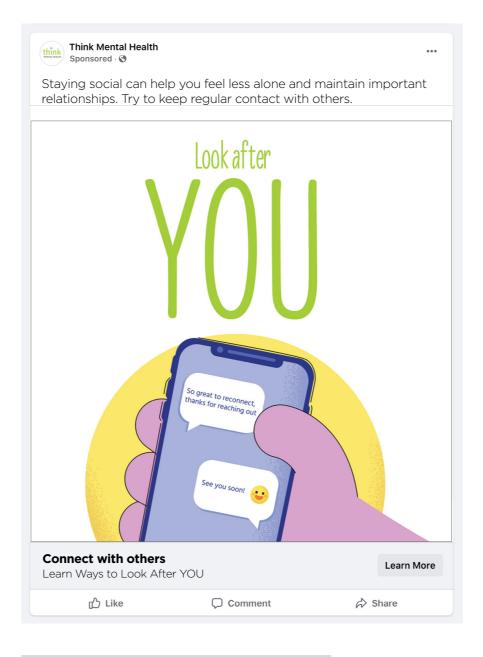


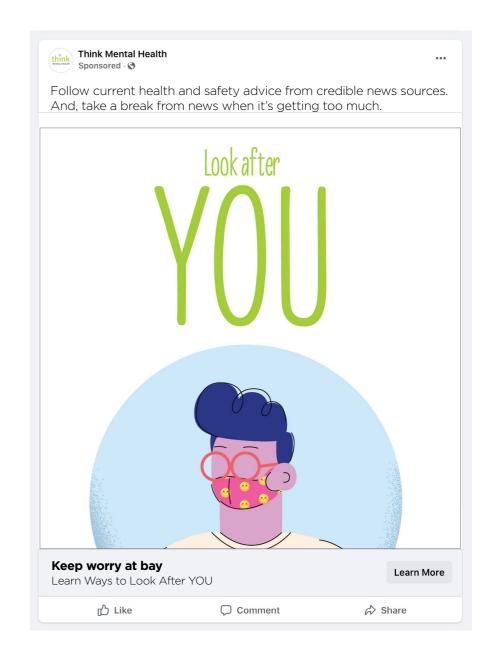


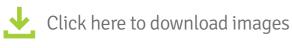


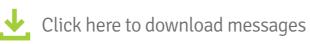
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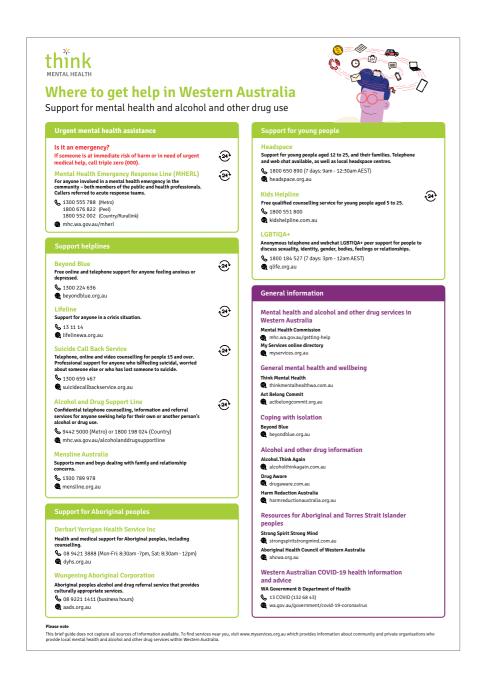




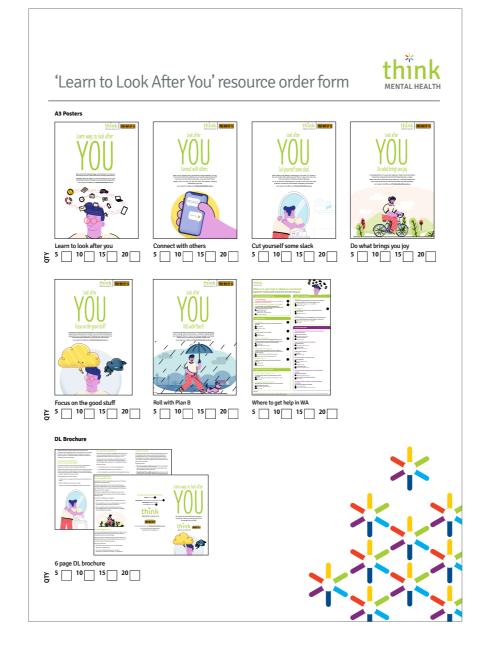


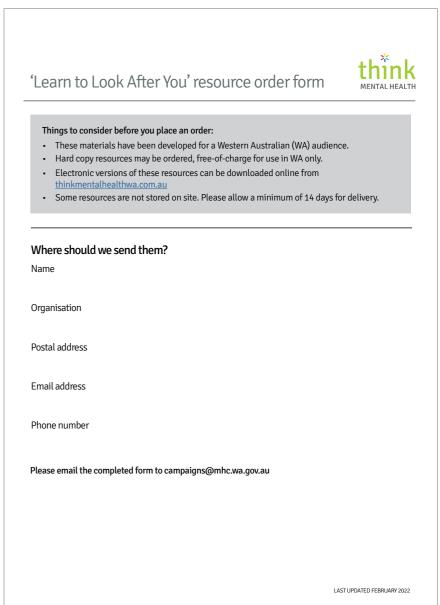


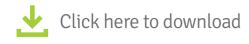
Help Seeking Poster

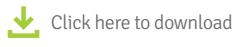


Resource Order Form









DL Brochure

Shift your thoughts and focus on the good stuff

Sometimes it's hard to stop thinking about all of the things that seem to be going wrong.

To help you feel more in control, try to notice the small things you appreciate, focus on what goes well throughout your day and plan to do something enjoyable that helps you stay present in the moment.

Learning to actively shift our thoughts and take a more balanced perspective can help us break free from negative thinking cycles.

Some tips for shifting your thoughts:

- Notice when you begin to dwell on a problem too much.
- If it is a problem you can do something about now, try to start thinking through a variety of solutions.
- If it is a problem you can't do anything about now, acknowledge how that makes you feel and try shifting onto something else entirely.



Do what brings you joy

It can be surprisingly easy to get caught up in trying to solve the problems that we face day to day and gradually stop doing the things that make us happy.

Taking some time to recharge by doing simple, silly, fun, or relaxing activities each day can help you boost your mood and cope better with daily challenges.

Every day, plan to do

- at least one activity that you find fun, pleasurable, relaxing or enjoyable; and
- at least one activity that gives you a sense of productivity, achievement, meaning or satisfactio

For support for yourself or a loved one:

Here For You: 1800 437 348 (7am – 10pm daily)

Lifeline: 13 11 14 24

Beyond Blue: 1300 224 636 or beyondblue.org.au

Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800 or kidshelpline.com.au





For more information visit

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No matter the hard stuff that is going on around you, there are things you can do to manage how you feel.





When faced with ongoing change and uncertainty, it's normal to feel stressed, anxious, and a bit burnt out. It's okay to feel this way. Thankfully, there are things you can do to keep an eye on your mental health and take active steps to manage how you are feeling.

Treat yourself with kindness and cut yourself some slack

If you start to feel out of your depth, remind yourself that it is okay not to know how to solve a problem right away

Be kind and understanding to yourself, in the same way you'd be kind to a friend in the same situation. Give yourself permission to feel what you feel without judgement, such as fear, frustration. or sadness. Remember you are human.

Some helpful things to tell yourself:

- 'It's been full on. It's okay if I don't know how to feel about all of this.'
- 'What I'm feeling in this moment is okay.'
- 'Everyone is allowed to feel differently about this situation.'



Be ready to roll with Plan B

Life is full of ups and downs, and often what we plan may need to change quickly when life throws us a curveball. Stay flexible and feel okay to roll out plan B, C or D.

Focusing our time and energy on the things that we do actually have control over can calm feelings of panic or anxiety triggered by unpleasant or unexpected changes.

- · 'I'm doing the best I can in this challenging time.'
- · 'I may feel disappointed, but it is not forever.'
- 'I trust in my ability to cope with the challenges that come up.'
- 'I would've liked to do things differently, but this will do for now'



Connect with others

When we are stressed, tired, and focused on daily challenges, we may lose touch with friends and family.

Staying social can help you feel less alone and it's important for both your mental and your physical health.

Here are some tips that may help you:

- Swap out watching the TV at night for playing a game with your kids, take a walk or try a new hobby with your partner or a friend.
- Join a club, learn a new skill, stay active and spend time outdoors.
- Remind yourself it's okay to be alone, but balance spending time on your own with also trying to meet people.

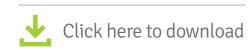
Keep worry at bay

As COVID-19 becomes a part of our everyday life, it's normal to be experiencing anxiety, and fear about contracting or transmitting the virus or to feel overwhelmed about what could happen. Focusing on specific actions that are within our control can help us to navigate these uncertain times and gain a sense of control.

Important advice:

- Put in place physical safety measures. This includes hand washing, physical distancing, staying home when unwell and mask wearing when required.
- Stay informed from credible sources. Keep an eye on what you watch, read, and follow. Seek good quality information from credible and reliable sources, such as official Western Australian advice.
- Look after your health. Focus on eating a healthy balanced diet, sleeping well, exercising, and staying socially connected.
- Seek support. It's normal to feel anxious, but if your anxiety
 is overwhelming or getting in the way of your life, it's
 important to seek help. Speak to your GP if you're unsure
 of where to start or find what works for you on the
 Think Mental Health's website 'mental health support
 services' page.
- If you are in isolation, it is important to look after yourself.
 Head to THIS WAY UP for a dedicated self-isolation program to keep you on track (thiswayup.org.au).





Our partners

The 'Learn to Look After You' campaign is a joint initiative between the Mental Health Commission and its non-government organisation partner Cancer Council WA, in collaboration with trusted, not-for-profit organisation THIS WAY UP.

THIS WAY UP

THIS WAY UP has a range of tailored online courses designed to teach people proven psychological skills to transform your thoughts, feelings, and behaviours so you can make a positive change in your life.

THIS WAY UP is an Australian provider of evidence-based, internet-delivered Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (iCBT) programs and is a not-for-profit and joint initiative of St Vincent's Hospital Sydney Limited and the University of New South Wales.

THIS WAY UP is supported by funding from the Australian Government Department of Health as part of the National Leadership in Mental Health program. Online treatment and support is also available for public access, free-of-charge with referral from a health professional, through THIS WAY UP.

Cancer Council WA

Cancer Council Western Australia (CCWA) enables the planning and implementation of the Mental Health Commission's public educations campaigns.

CCWA is WA's leading cancer charity working across every aspect of every cancer. CCWA delivers work across four main pillars: advocacy; prevention; research and support.

To find more about Cancer Council WA and their work please visit their website.

The Mental Health Commission and Cancer Council WA are proud to partner with THIS WAY UP on this important campaign.







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