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Objectives

Define Secondary Traumatic Stress. Identify three personal, interpersonal, and organizational warning signs of Secondary Traumatic Stress.
Develop an action plan for personal and professional safety.

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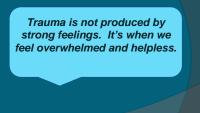
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Interpersonal: Warning Signs

- Increased conflict
- Negative feelings when others reach out to you
 Withdrawing & not seeking connection with others
- Inability to manage relationships & work
- Losing interest in family rituals, routines, & social activities
- Avoiding calls or invitations from friends Feeling disconnected, detached, or trapped







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Skill 1: Engaging with Emotion

- Be curious not controlled
- Name itAccept it



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What Does Avoidance Look Like?

Say not prepared

- Want to refer case to someone more experienced
- Avoid certain situations (i.e. sexual
 abuse investigations)
- Feel like cannot relate to certain people or relate too much
- Second guess self

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Questions to Ask Ourselves

- What feelings arise when I am getting ready to start this task?
- What am I feeling during the task? What aspects of this case worry me
- (might I be avoiding)?
- What is the suckiest part of my job?



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Silencing the Voice Skills

- Intention
- Avoid mind wandering
- Acknowledge that you're brooding
 Ack
- Have a conversation with someone
- Conscious engagement in an activity

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Questions to Ask Ourselves

- Are thoughts of my clients interrupting my time off?
- How am I sleeping?



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Sharing Our Professional Story

Defining our professional role

- Acknowledging our abilities, skills, & limitations
- Reflecting on lessons learned

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Defining Our Professional Role

- I accept my role in the community as a steward of the community's trauma.
- The commitment is intense.
- There is very little cynicism about the
 A state of the sta work.

Acknowledging Our Abilities, Skills, & Limitations

- I am confident of my skills to manage very difficult situations.
- I am willing to feel my discomfort and be curious.
- I have radical acceptance of the limits of what I can do.

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Reflecting on Lessons Learned

Period of reflection

 Continuous narrative in any and all meetings

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Questions to Ask Ourselves

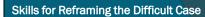
- What effect is this work having on me?
- How do I feel in the morning getting ready for work?
- Does this case present any issues/challenges for me?
- What was that like for me?
- What did I like about how I handled that situation?
- What would I like to have done differently?

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Sources of Difficulty

- Seeing clients in judgmental terms
 Feeling ineffective
- Focusing on emotions instead of solutions
- Trying to fix everything





Questions to Ask Ourselves

- In what way do I think this client is trapped?
 What makes this client especially hard for me?
- What do I think this client is afraid of? How is my energy level when I come in contact with this client?
- What skills do I feel I have mastered?
 What type of client is most difficult for me?

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Skills for Regaining Composure

- Conscious awareness of your levels
 of stress
- Having some go-tos for returning to normal
- Self-compassion
- Dropping anchor during times of distress
- Everyday practice

Protective Factors for Minimizing STS

- Supportive work environment
- Knowledge
- Expertise from experienceEvidence-based practices
- Policy & practice

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Resources

- Resources secondary Traumatic Stress: A Fact Sheet for Child-Serving Professionals: National Child Traumatic Stress Network, www.nctsn.org Trauma Stewardship: An Everyday Guide to Caring for Self While Caring for Others, L van Dernoot Lipsky with C. Burk What About You?: A Workbook for Those Who Work with Others, K Volk, K. Guarino, M. Grandin, R. Clervil, The National Center on Family Homelessness Your Wheel O Life, Institute for Leadership Fitness, www.instituteforeadership.com All My Life's A Circle: Wing the Tools, Circle, MAPS & PATHS, M. Falvey, M. Forest, J. Pearpoint, & R. Rosenberg, Inclusion Press Caregiver's Bill of Rights, Compassion Fatigue Awareness Project, www.compassionfatigue.org Professional Quality of Life Scale (ProQOL), B. Hudnall Stramm, www.proqoLorg Provider Resilience App, National Center for Teleheatth & Technology, http://t2health.dcoe.mil/apps/provider-resilience

