# Focus On Mental Health Bolsters Workplace Wellness



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# Our Approach





# Agenda

Whole person health

• Creating a culture of workplace support and proactive engagement

• Successes, challenges and ambitions of others

# What is "Wellness"?





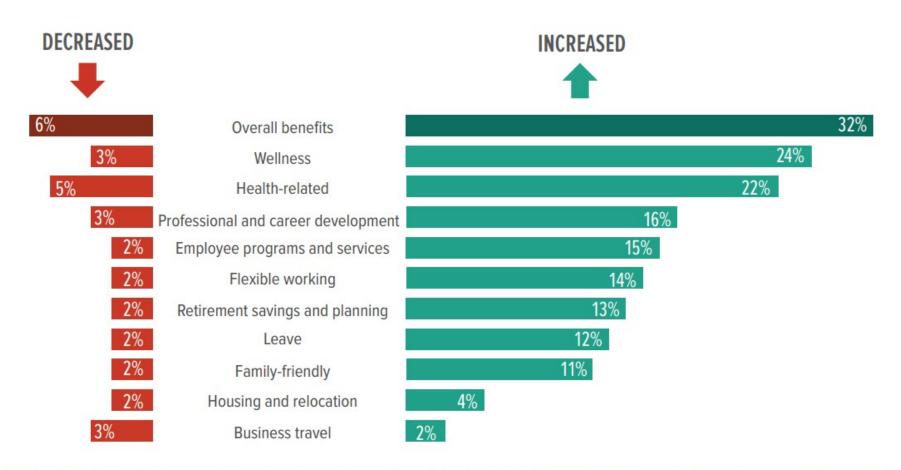
# A Holistic Strategy



The five essential elements of well-being for most people, as outlined in the book, Well Being: The Five Essential Elements, by Tom Rath and Jim Harter.



### Wellness Benefit Trends



Note: n = 1,318-2,591. Respondents who answered "N/A, did not offer in the past 12 months" or "not sure" were excluded from this analysis. Percentages do not total 100% due to multiple response options. Source: 2017 Employee Benefits (SHRM)

Source: SHRM 2017 Employee Benefits: Remaining Competitive in a Challenging Talent Marketplace



# Wellness Benefit Trends

- Financial Advice and Health Savings Account (HSA)
- Casual Dress
- Telecommuting
- Shift Flexibility
- Standing Desks
- Wellness Resources and Information



Source: SHRM 2017 Employee Benefits: Remaining Competitive in a Challenging Talent Marketplace



# Mental Health at Work





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## Mental Health at Work







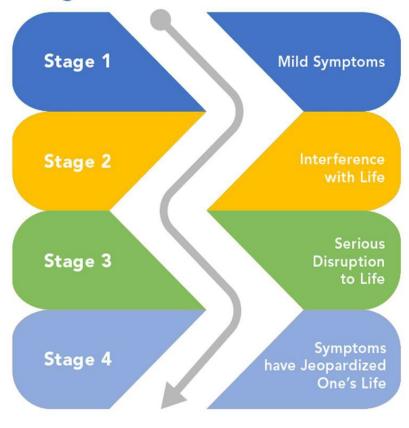
# Why is this Hard?





## The Traditional Role of EAP

#### Stages of Mental Health Conditions



Preventative Care

Acute Care

Chronic Care

# Innovative EAP Solutions

- Promotional, awareness and anti-stigma campaigns in concert with wellness programs to encourage use of EAP.
- Training and self-care tools.
- Validated brief screening tools for mental health and addiction issues for early problem identification.



Source: *Integration Insights, EAP Partnerships Across Health Care Cost Segments*. Dr. Mark Attridge; Attridge Consulting, Inc. 2015



# Keys to Success

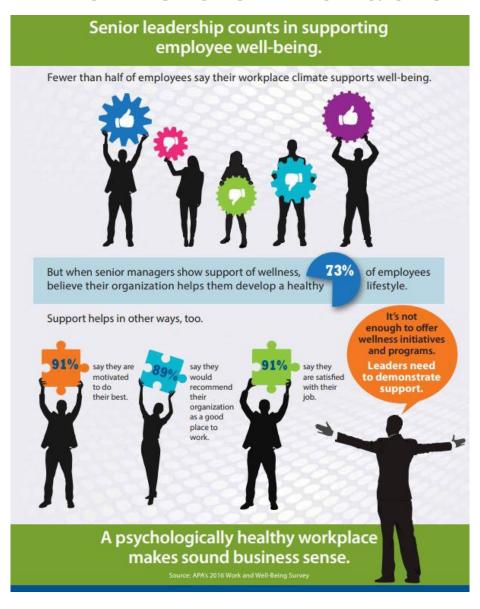
• The Role of Leaders

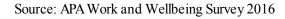
• Workplace Culture

Empower Employees

Assessing and Addressing Risk

# The Role of Leaders







# Supporting Leaders

- What to say to employees
- How to support employees at work
- How to manage impacted team members
- Accommodations and managing transitions

# Decline in mental health disability costs and reduction in disability duration.

Source: *Mental Health Awareness Training (MHAT): The Development and Evaluation of an Intervention for Workplace Leaders*. Jennifer K. Dimoff, E. Kevin Kelloway, and Matthew D. Burnstein, International Journal of Stress Management; July 6, 2015. <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/a0039479">http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/a0039479</a>



# Workplace Culture

- Utilize employee engagement strategies
- Steer toward learning
- Invest in life skills

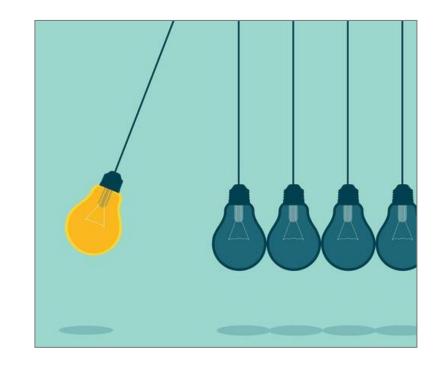
Promote adaptive coping





# Adaptive Coping

- Stress Management
- Healthy Relationships
- Conflict Resolution
- Financial Management
- Healthy Sleep
- Resiliency Training
- Anger Management





# Common Organizational Challenges

- Stigma around Mental Health
- "Invisible Illness"
- Concerns about privacy
- Demands on Time and Resources
- Difficulty with Momentum
- Geographic Dispersion





# Make it Meaningful

• One size does not fit all

• The business case

• Do not reinvent the wheel

Maximize existing benefits





# Tackle Stigma



#### **MYTH**

Mental illness is a sign of weakness.



#### **TRUTH**

A mental illness is not caused by personal weakness – nor can it be cured by positive thinking or willpower. Proper treatment is needed.

#### **MYTH**

People with a mental illness will never get better.



#### TRUTH

People diagnosed with mental illnesses can get better. Proper treatment enables people with mental illness to lead active, productive lives. Help is available!

#### MYTH

"Mental illness can't affect me!"



#### **TRUTH**

Mental illnesses do not discriminate

– they can affect anyone. One in five
Americans have experienced a mental
health issue.

#### **MYTH**

People with mental health problems can snap out of it if they try hard enough.

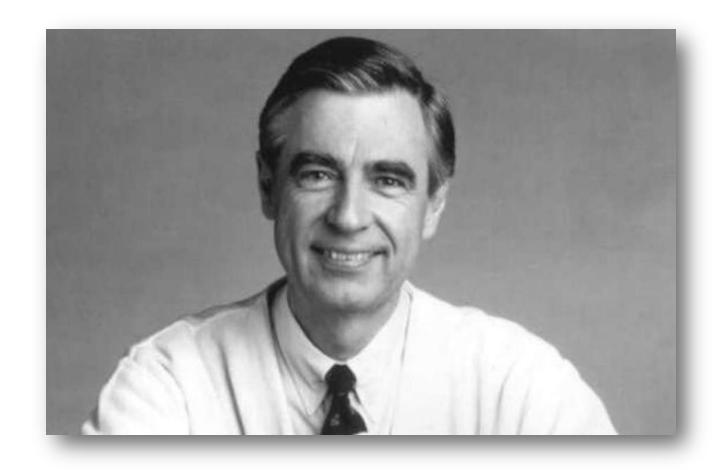


#### **TRUTH**

Mental health problems have nothing to do with being lazy or weak and many people need help to get better.



# Empower Employees



"If it's mentionable, it's manageable"
-Fred Rogers

# Mental Illness isn't a Choice

What If We Treated It Like Physical Health?



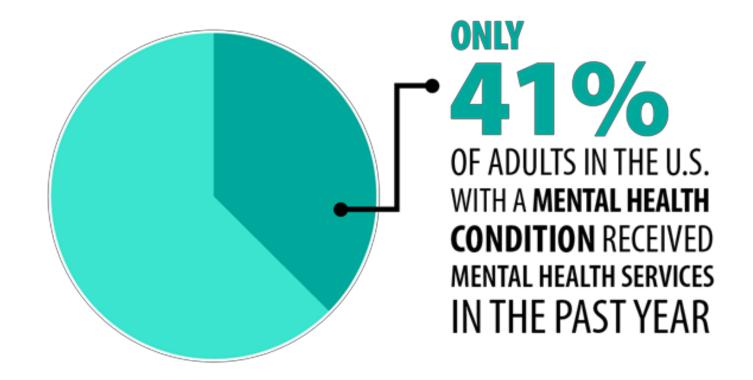


# Reduce Barriers to Getting Help

- Fear effect on job or being perceived as weak
- Feel embarrassed
- Concerned about confidentiality
- Do not think issues are treatable
- Concern about treatment cost



# Communicate Mental Health Care Options





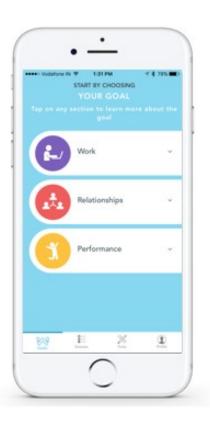
Many times people don't realize the symptoms they are experiencing are actually mental health concerns. Or they don't know how or where to get help.



# Digital EAP Solutions

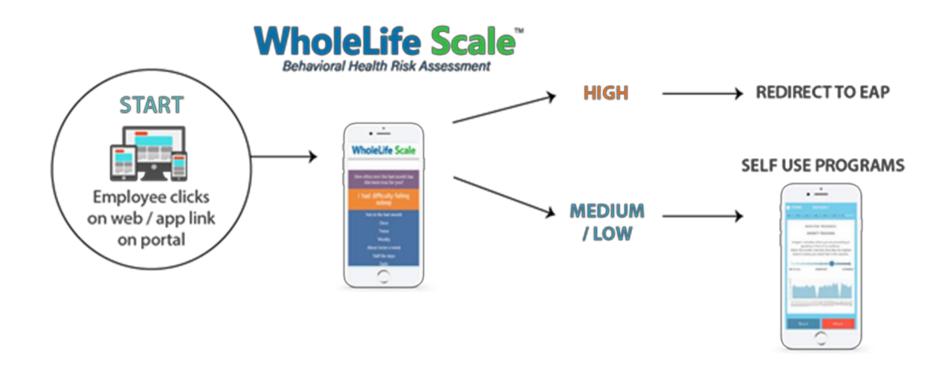
Customized interventions

- Provide autonomy
- Supplements traditional EAP services
- Offers valuable data





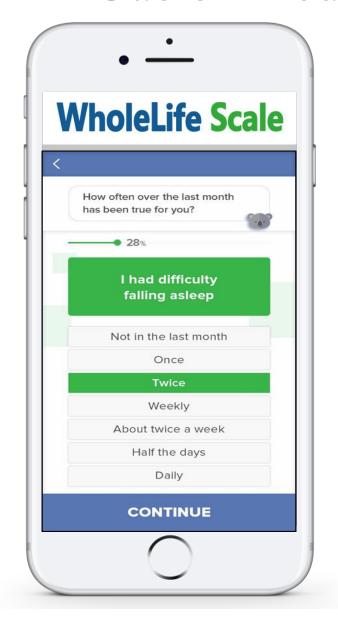
# Assessing and Addressing Risk

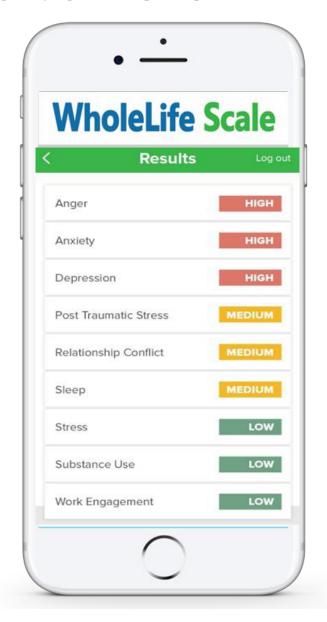






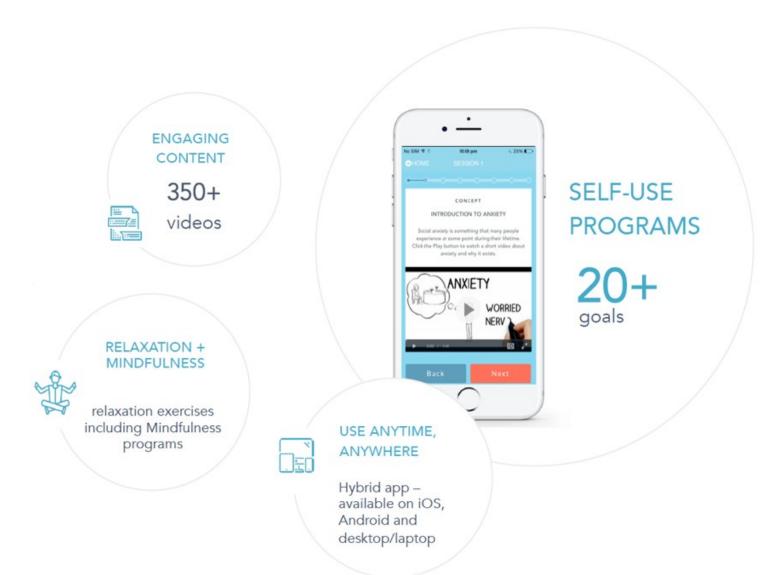
# **Customized Interventions**







# Provides Autonomy



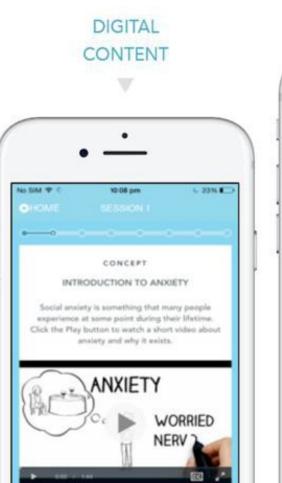
# **Evidence Based Tools**

#### wayForward

An Evidence Based Program Emphasizing Principles of

# Cognitive Behavioral Therapy,

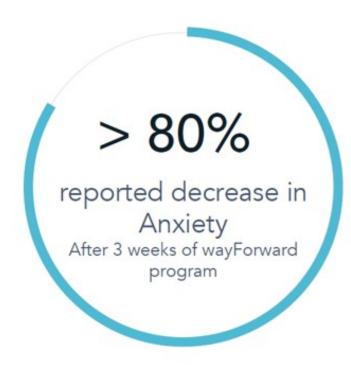
Mindfulness, Positive Psychology, and Resiliency Training



STRUCTURED PROGRAM



### **Effective Solution**



Cognitive Behavioral Therapy proven to be effective in treating:

82%

of patients with Social Anxiety Disorder 77%

of patients with Panic Disorder 51-87%

of patients with Depression Internet CBT(iCBT) and Mobile
CBT (mCBT) are Effective



Study shows iCBT as effective as in-person therapy



Twice as many people showed improvement after iCBT compared to TAU

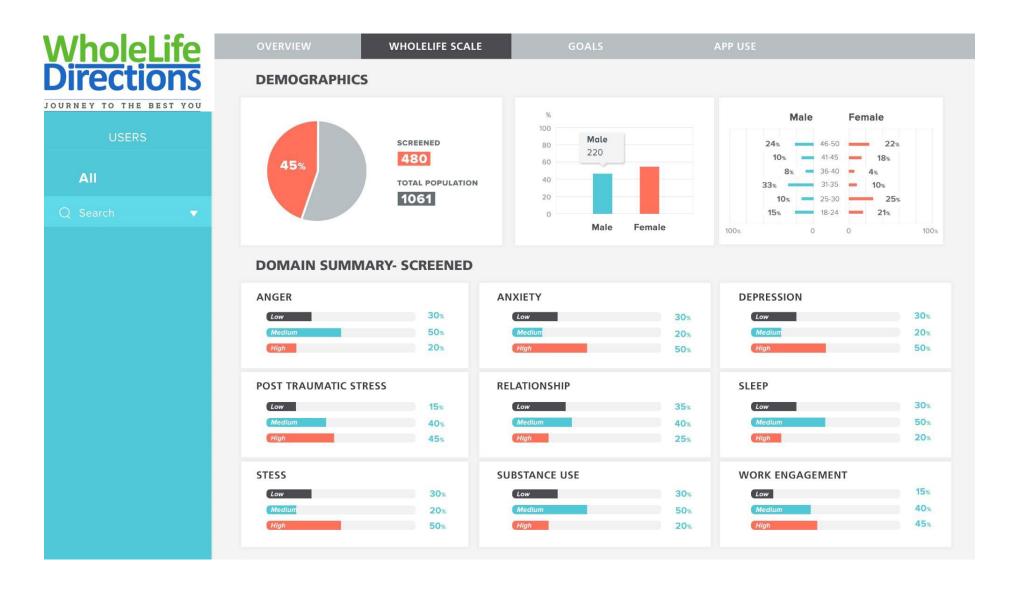


mCBT shown as effective as iCBT

Sources: Leichsenring (2001), Siev et. Al. (2008), Andrews (2011), Stott et all (2013),

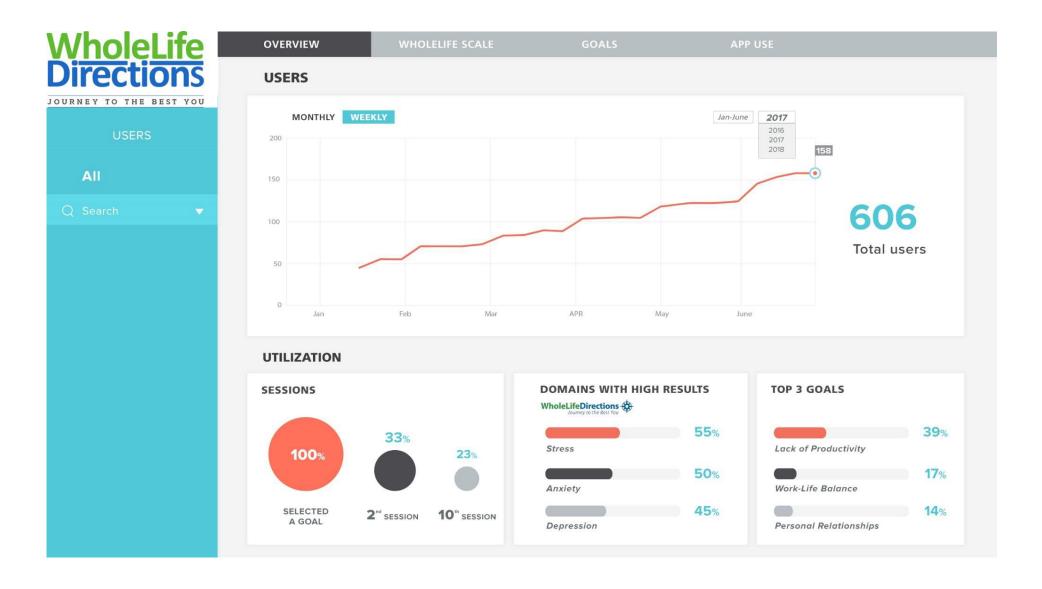


# **Executive Reporting**





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# Implementation Considerations

- Cultural dynamics
- Leadership support
- Barriers to access
- Participation incentivized
- Emphasize privacy/confidentiality





# Looking to the Future

• Is there a particular issue in the population that you are concerned about?

• What are you doing now? What's working?

• What are you goals moving forward?

• What are the barriers or concerns to implementing mental health into the overall safety strategy?



# Questions?





# Thank you!

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# WholeLife Directions

JOURNEY TO THE BEST YOU

