# SELF-CARE ASSESSMENT

The following worksheet for assessing self-care is not exhaustive, merely suggestive. Feel free to add areas of self-care that are relevant for you and rate yourself on how often and how well you are taking care of yourself these days. When you are finished, look for patterns in your responses. Are you more active in some areas of self-care? Do you tend to ignore others? Are there items on the list that hadn’t even occurred to you? Listen to your internal responses and dialogue about self-care, and take note of anything you would like to prioritize moving forward.

## PHYSICAL SELF-CARE
- Eat regularly (breakfast, lunch, and dinner)
- Get regular medical care for prevention
- Get medical care when needed
- Take time off when sick
- Wear clothes I like
- Do some fun physical activity
- Think positive thoughts about my body

## PSYCHOLOGICAL SELF-CARE
- Take day trips or mini-vacations
- Have my own personal psychotherapy
- Make time away from technology/internet
- Notice my thoughts, beliefs, attitudes, feelings
- Engage my intelligence in a new way or area
- Do something at which I am not expert

## EMOTIONAL SELF-CARE
- Spend time with people whose company I enjoy
- Stay in contact with important people in my life
- Re-read favorite books, re-view favorite movies
- Identify and seek out comforting activities/places
- Express my outrage in social action or discussion

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**Rate the following areas according to how well you think you are doing:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>I do this well (e.g., frequently)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>I do this OK (e.g., occasionally)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>I barely or rarely do this</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>I never do this</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>?</td>
<td>This never occurred to me</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**PHYSICAL SELF-CARE**

- Exercise
- Eat healthily
- Get massages
- Take vacations
- Get enough sleep
- Do some fun artistic activity
- (Other) ____________________________
SPIRITUAL SELF-CARE

- Make time for reflection
- Find a spiritual connection or community
- Be aware of non-material aspects of life
- Try at times not to be in charge or the expert
- Identify what is meaningful to me
- Seek out reenergizing or nourishing experiences
- Contribute to causes in which I believe
- Read or listen to something inspirational
- Meditate
- Have experiences of awe
- Cherish my optimism and hope
- Be open to knowing
- Be open to inspiration
- Spend time in nature

RELATIONSHIP SELF-CARE

- Schedule regular dates with my partner
- Call, check on, or see my relatives
- Share a fear, hope, or secret with someone I trust
- Stay in contact with faraway friends
- Make time for personal correspondence
- Allow others to do things for me
- Make time to be with friends
- Ask for help when I need it
- Communicate with my family
- Enlarge my social circle
- Spend time with animals

WORKPLACE OR PROFESSIONAL SELF-CARE

- Take time to chat with coworkers
- Identify projects/tasks that are exciting
- Balance my load so that nothing is “way too much”
- Arrange work space to be comfortable
- Get regular supervision or consultation
- Negotiate/advocate for my needs
- Make quiet time to work
- Take a break during the day
- Set limits with my boss/peers
- Have a peer support group
- Identify rewarding tasks

OVERALL BALANCE

- Strive for balance within my work-life and work day
- Strive for balance among my family, friends, and relationships
- Strive for balance between play and rest
- Strive for balance between work/service and personal time
- Strive for balance in looking forward and acknowledging the moment

AREAS OF SELF-CARE THAT ARE RELEVANT TO YOU

- (Other)

- (Other)

- (Other)

Adapted from Saakvitne, Pearlman, & Staff of TSI/CAAP (1996). Transforming the Pain: A Workbook on Vicarious Traumatization. Norton. Adapted by Lisa D. Butler, PhD.