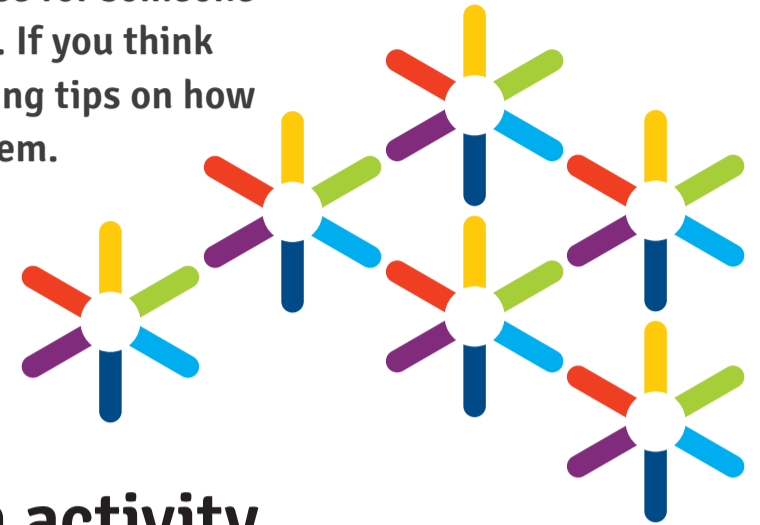


How to check in on someone

Helping others and providing support can make a difference for someone who is having problems and going through a tough time. If you think someone you care about isn't going so well, try the following tips on how to support them and continue to check in on them.



Talk

For most people, just asking if they are okay and listening can make a difference.

By simply being there for someone, they can feel less alone and more supported to open up and talk about how they are really feeling.

Asking open ended questions that require a response is a good way to start the conversation.

FOR EXAMPLE:

- How are you going? What's been happening in your life lately?
- You don't seem quite yourself lately, is something bothering you?
- You seem upset or worried, what's going on? Can I help with something?
- I've noticed you're not going out much lately, anything going on?



Do an activity together

Activities create conversation. Find an opportunity during everyday life activities to start the conversation and ask them how they are really feeling. Try doing activities together such as:



GOING FOR A WALK



GOING TO AN EVENT TOGETHER



GOING FOR A COFFEE OR A MEAL



Listen

Just being there for someone and offering a listening ear can make a difference.

1. Show them that you care and are here to listen to them.
2. Have patience, let others talk and don't judge.
3. Be reflective by repeating what they have said.
4. Keep calm and accept that they may disagree with you.



Provide support

If the person you're concerned about is in a life threatening situation, or is at risk of harm to themselves or others, call 000.

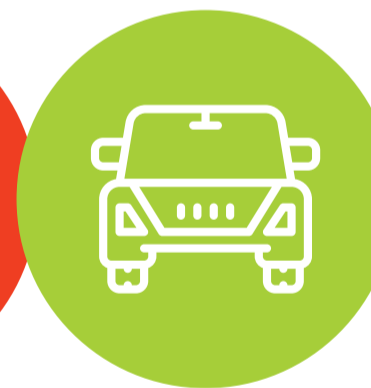
Getting help early can make a difference. A good place to start is:

- Talk to your GP or someone you trust.
- Call a support line.
- Contact a support service.
- Try the Think Mental Health check-up tool.

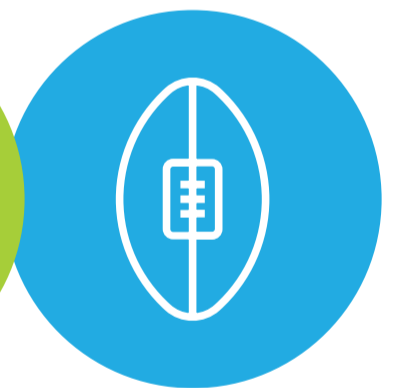
They may also need your support while they look for professional help.



KICKING THE FOOTY, PLAYING A GAME, SURFING ETC



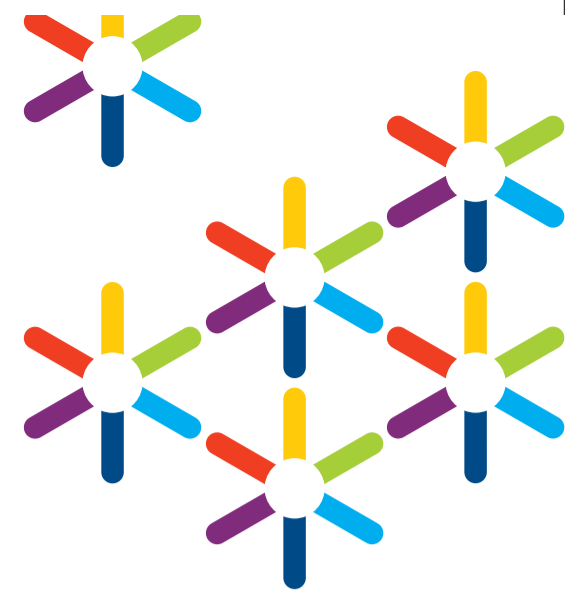
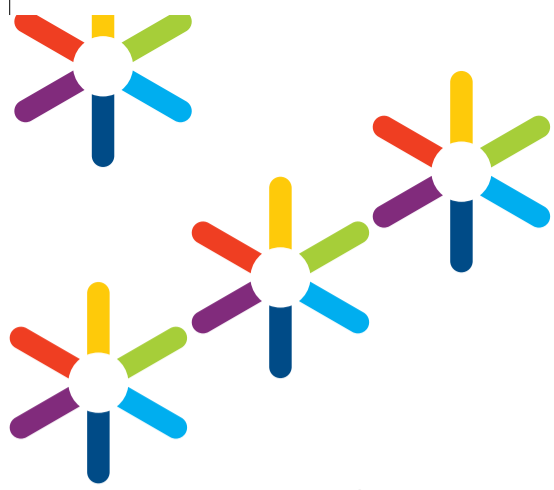
GOING FOR A DRIVE



ANYTHING THAT ENCOURAGES OR PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A CHAT


think
MENTAL HEALTH

For more information visit
thinkmentalhealthwa.com.au



Mental health in Western Australia

What's happening?

In Western Australia:

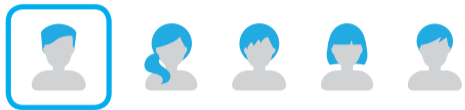
One person dies every day by suicide. That's more than the road toll.

Nearly 3 out of 4 deaths by suicide are male.

WA's suicide rate was approx 20 per cent higher than the national average in 2016.

A big risk factor for suicide and self-harm is having a mental health issue.

We can reduce the risk of suicide by treating mental health issues early, by building resilience, and improving the overall mental health and wellbeing of Western Australians.



1 IN 5 AUSTRALIANS WILL HAVE A MENTAL HEALTH ISSUE EACH YEAR



WAS SPENT ON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN AUSTRALIA IN 2015-2016



Where to get help?

If you or someone you know is in a life threatening situation, or is at risk of harm to themselves or others, call 000.

Getting help early can make a difference. A good place to start is:

- Talk to your GP or someone you trust.
- Call a support line.
- Contact a support service.
- Try the Think Mental Health check-up tool.

Looking after your mental health and wellbeing

Looking after your mental health and wellbeing is just as important as looking after your physical health.

It's normal to have ups and downs in life, it happens to all of us. Looking after your mental health enables you to function well and be able to cope when things aren't going so well.

Little things you can do include:



SPEND TIME WITH FRIENDS, LOVED ONES & PEOPLE YOU TRUST



GET ENOUGH SLEEP



TAKE TIME OUT & ENJOY YOUR HOBBIES



KEEP ACTIVE & EAT WELL



TALK ABOUT OR EXPRESS YOUR FEELINGS REGULARLY



REDUCE ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION



AVOID ILLICIT DRUG USE



Signs and symptoms of mental health issues

- Noticeable change in usual behaviour.
- Feeling down for some time and not getting better.
- Problems sleeping.
- Lack of energy and motivation to do everyday things.
- Major changes in eating habits.
- Withdrawal from friends and activities.
- Increased use of alcohol or other drugs.

think MENTAL HEALTH

For more information visit thinkmentalhealthwa.com.au