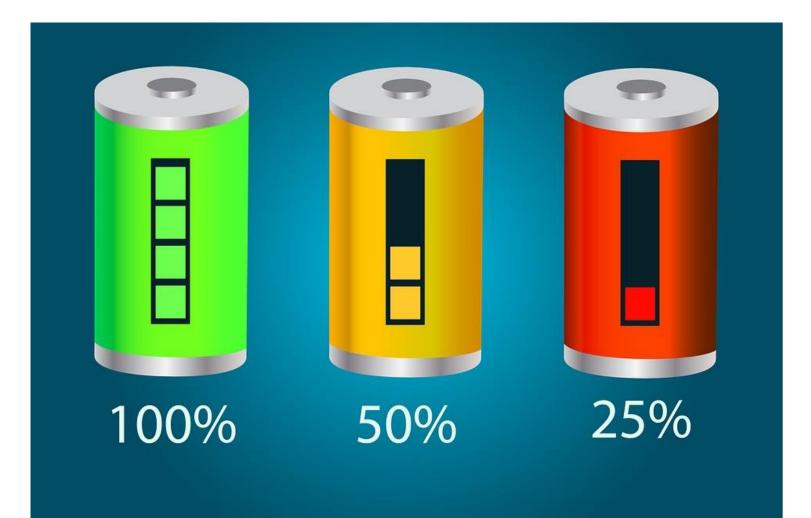
Supporting The Mental Health of Your Student-Athletes & Yourself: How You Can Make A Difference

-Ivy Watts, MPH Founder of the Mental Health/Self-Love Blog: Beautifully Simply You





Jvy Watts Speaks



How are you doing right now?





## Warning Signs to Look Out For

- Withdrawal loss of interest
- Use of alcohol/drugs –"acting out"
- Anger/irritability
- Perfectionism negative selftalk/low self-esteem
- Over-exercising or obsession with healthy eating
- Physical health issues with no medical explanation

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## Break The Stigma, Save Lives What You Can Do

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Listen nonjudgmentally & validate!

- Ask Open-ended questions
  - What can I do to help?
  - What have you done before in the past to help you when you've felt this way?
  - Tell me more
- \*The Simple Importance of "How Are You?" & Checking In\*
  - Continually follow up!
- Know your resources
- Practice kindness/remind others it's okay to not be ok! Becomes a domino effect!



## Break The Stigma, Save Lives What You Can Do



- Educate athletes on mental health warning signs
- Be a support for others/incorporate mental wellness into athletic department to support athletes THROUGH the pressure
  - Implement self-care into practice/meetings
    - Meditation/journal
      prompts before practice
    - Color check ins at meetings
    - Affirmations and self-care challenges in locker room/training room
  - Orientation meetings (mental health speakers, guidance counselor presentations, mental health activities)

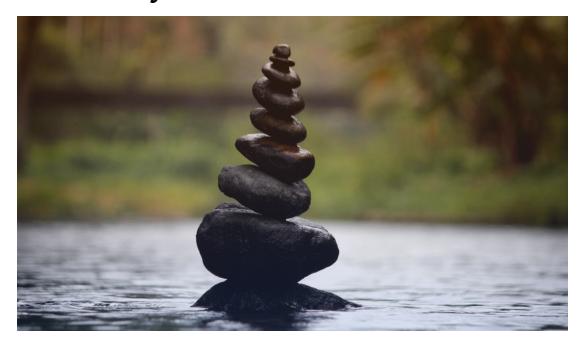
You Matter Too, And You Are Doing The Best You Can

To Be Your Best Self For Others, You Must Also Show Up For Yourself



Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT) Tapping – A Tool To Use Whenever & Wherever to Help Reduce Anxiety/Emotional Pain

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Focuses on 10 meridian points (energy hot spots) to restore balance to your body's energy by sending signals to brain to relieve symptoms of a negative experience or emotion

- 1. Identify the issue focal point of tapping
  - Worried about your student-athletes
  - Sad about a loved one's health (physical or mental)
  - Stressed about all of the demands of all you have on your plate
- 2. Measure the intensity of the issue from 0-10 (10 being most intense) to measure effectiveness of tapping
- 3. Identify the issue and accept yourself despite the problem: "Even though I am anxious about the mental health of my studentathletes, I deeply accept and love myself."

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# Let's Practice!

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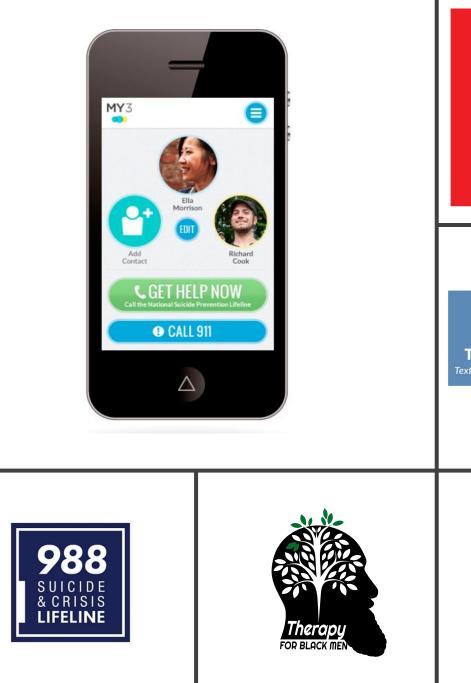
The statement:

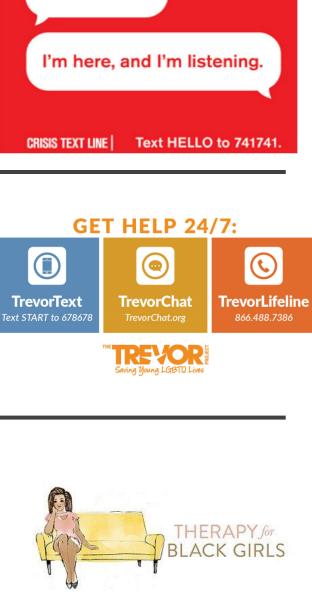
"Even though I am anxious about the mental health of my student-athletes, I still deeply accept and love myself."

#### The sequence (using dominant hand):

- Karate chop
- Eyebrow
- Side of the eye
- Under the eye
- Under the nose
- Chin
- Collarbone
- Under the arm
- Top of the head
- Tips of the fingers







I'm not ok.

Mental Health Resources at Your Fingertips!



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## I am worthy,

# I am capable,

I am good enough

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Get in Touch With Me! Ivy Watts

BeautifullySimplyYou.com New Blog post every Monday!

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Social Media:

Mentoring Services also available!



