change your narrative

SOMEONE I CARE FOR STRUGGLES WITH AN IMAGE MATTER, WHAT SHOULD I DO?

- Parent Edition -

Change Your Narrative: Someone I Care For Struggles With An Image Matter, What Should I Do? Parent Edition Copyright © 2019; Cassandra Smith. Printed and bound in the United States of America. All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by an information retrieval system—except by a reviewer who may quote brief passages in a review to be printed in a magazine, newspaper, or on the Webwithout permission from the Publisher. For information, please contact publisher via:

www.ChangeYourNarrative.org

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OF IMAGE MATTERS TOWARDS TRUTH.

How To Use This Book

Depending on what you are looking for, you can use this book in a variety of ways. Feel free to skim, read every line, or just check out our videos.

We believe important topics call for important conversations which is why some of our material is presented via videos. In order to access the videos, you will need to click the link if you are reading via a digital device such as Kindle. If you have a physical copy of the book, you can access the links via QR codes.

A QR Code looks like this and can be scanned using your device's camera:



On an iOS device, simply open the camera app and point your camera over the code. A notification will pop up, asking if you would like to head to YouTube.

On an Android device, you will need to download a QR code app. Our team recommends several options, all of which are free as of this printing:

- QR & Barcode Scanner
- QR Code Reader
- Free QR Scanner by Avira
- QR DROID PRIVATE
- Kaspersky QR Scanner

I Am Glad You Are Here...

The world needs individuals who care for one another. If you are reading this book because you want to provide encouragement and support to those who struggle, I want to say how proud of you I am.

I also want to acknowledge its hard to know how to help someone. We may want to be the one to provide a solution, but often this is out of our control.

Even so, I believe learning about the issue can help us know how to be there for others. When we match our concern and empathy, along with insightful knowledge, it can help us to be prepared to point our families in the right direction.

I Want To Be Clear In The Beginning...

Unless you are a professional who has been trained to know how to step in and offer solutions to those who struggle with an image matter, you may not be able to fix the root cause of why someone you care for struggles with image matters.

This does not mean, however, that they do not need you. Having support from someone who has insight into the issues surrounding image matters and who knows what professional resources are available—is key. The best thing anyone who is struggling with an image matter can do is seek out professional care. We can not take away the good or bad thoughts or feelings of another. But, we all can strive to be supportive loved ones. The fact you are reading this tells me this is who you want to be.

The things which you and I can do, is seek to be the most prepared we can be in order to be individuals who can point our families towards getting the best possible help they can.

My goal is to help you to learn how to understand the complex topic of image matters a little bit better, so you have insight into how to care for a child who may struggle.

If you or someone you care for is in danger of harm, please contact one of the numbers below or turn to the resource section at the back of this book.

For Immediate Help:

Covenant House- 1800-999-9999
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1-800-273-8255
Youth Crisis Line – 1800 Hit Home
Hopeline 1800-442-5673
http://www.crisischat.org/chat







https://youtu.be/6IRGmusmp1M

shifting the narrative of lost hope

What Is An Image Matter?

The Oxford dictionary defines self image as, "The idea one has of one's abilities, appearance, and personality." 1

But is appearance is tied to ability and personality?

In a media saturated world—I believe many of us are struggling with an image matter—which I would define as an unhealthy view that one's own worth, value, and identity being first defined by physical appearance.

But what if you are more?

Studies have shown that image matters are rampant. Many individuals who struggle wrestle with confidence, self-esteem, or negative self-talk. Some individuals pair negative thoughts with harmful behaviors. When those behaviors become habit—this might be defined as an eating disorder.

This does not mean all individuals who struggle with an image matter have an eating disorder.

But if you are one of the 30 million people of all ages and genders suffer from an eating disorder in the U.S.², I want you to know you are not alone.

No matter the severity of your behaviors or thought patters, I want you to know my team and I are rooting for you. The thoughts in your head and heart may be sourced from a legitimately sourced desire, yet allowing an image matter to hold the pen of your story is not your final fate.

I believe you have what it takes to shift the incomplete story of an image matter towards truth and discover an identity which goes beyond image.

What Is An Image Matter? - Video Discussion





https://youtu.be/0H0rBxjNUO4

What Is An Eating Disorder?

While the three top eating disorders remain Anorexia Nervosa, Bulimia Nervosa, and Binge Eating Disorder there are several, disorders which are recognized by the American Psychiatric Association's (DSM-5).

Whether common or rare, each of these conditions disrupt the lives of thousands. If you recognize these behaviors, we recommend seeking professional care.

<u>Healthline.com</u> helps us to understand the fact each of these issues are about more than food. They state that each of these are "complex mental health conditions that often require the intervention of medical and psychological experts to alter their course." These conditions include:

Anorexia Nervosa

Characterized by restrictive habits in an effort to lose weight along with a misconception of one's physical appearance, no matter their weight level.

Bulimia Nervosa

Characterized by eating large amounts of food often followed by purging that food from the body.

Binge Eating Disorder

Characterized by eating large amounts of food, without purging behaviors.

Rumination Disorder

Characterized by regurgitation & re-swallowing.

Avoidant/Restrictive Food Intake Disorder

Characterized by purposefully avoiding or restricting food intake.

Purging Disorder

Characterized by purging behaviors without binging.

To learn more about the signs and symptoms, we recommend the following article on www.Healthline.com and their article found here: https://www.healthline.com/nutrition/common-eating-disorders

Or visit HelpGuide.Org at https://www.helpguide.org/https://www.helpguide.org/https://www.helpguide.org/htm

What Is An Image Matter? - Video Discussion





Link https://youtu.be/gT8DMsgr_gw

How Many Individuals Struggle?

- 30 million people of all ages and genders suffer from an eating disorder in the U.S.²
- The most common eating disorder in the United States is binge eating disorder (BED). It is estimated that 3.5% of women, 2% of men, and 30% to 40% of those seeking weight loss treatments can be clinically diagnosed with binge eating disorder.⁴
- 40-60% of elementary school girls (ages 6-12) are concerned about their weight or about becoming too fat. This concern endures through life.⁵
- Eating Disorders Clinical and Research Program at Massachusetts General Hospital, says that 40 to 60 percent of high school girls in the U.S. are dieting and 13 percent are purging.⁶
- 91% of women who were surveyed on a college campus had tried to control their weight by dieting, and 22% of them dieted "often" or all the time.⁷
- The Butterfly Foundation in Australia reported 40% of people experiencing Binge Eating Disorder are men.⁸
- Eating disorders statistics tell us that in order for treatment to be successful, it must be multifaceted. It must include medical care, mental health care, and nutritional education and counseling. With treatment, 60% of eating disorder sufferers make a full recovery.

What Are The Warning Signs?

The National Eating Disorders Association explains the signs and symptoms of several eating disorders in the below video:

https://youtu.be/nJMtReAg1DI

Due to the intricate nature of multiple Eatind Disorders, for a listing of warning signs and symptoms, please see:

https://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org/learn/by-eating-disorder/anorexia/warning-signs-symptoms

Additionally, if you or someone you care about are seeking a tool in order to determine if it is time to reach out for professional help, consider utilizing the National Eating Disorder Association's Screening Tool, available here:

https://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org/screening-tool



Scan QR code to access tool

Guilt Versus Shame

I want to take a moment to share something personal. I believe that both guilt and shame can be triggers for negative head space and dark thoughts. Because of this, it is important for me to share how I see guilt and shame, and how we can work though them.

Guilt is the aftermath of an action. It can be healthy—as it lets us know what we did was wrong. Shame, on the other hand, is the cruel rebranding of our identity. It suggests that because of an action—we are somehow a different person. It seeks to stake a claim on who we are.

Guilt can be healthy. Our words, actions, and behaviors have consequences. Guilt helps us to take ownership, learn, and grow. Shame, however, doesn't offer a solution. It just grips our thoughts & emotions in a vice.

How can someone escape the trap of shame? I want to continue this critical conversation in the video below.

Guilt Versus Shame - Video Discussion





https://youtu.be/sRzXXuxH-XE

YOU'RE BRAVER THAN YOU BELIEVE, AND STRONGER THAN YOU SEEM, SMARTER THAN YOU THINK, A.A. MILNE

If I Intervene, Will It Damage Our Relationship?

If you believe someone you care for is in danger of harming themselves, it can be easy to become frozen, unsure what to do or how to help. It may even feel as if intervening would make things worse—and possibly be seen as an act of betrayal.

If it feels like time to act—it probably is. Yet, intervening can have ramifications for your child —and your relationship. This is valid and must be discussed.

I do not know all of the ins and outs of your specific situation. But, you can talk with someone who can give direct guidance for what you are facing, provide you with educational tips which match your situation, and help you feel confident in taking your next step.

This is why I highly recommend you calling a hotline. They can help you gauge the situation and know what your options are to get someone help. As always, if you believe someone is in immediate threat of harm you should call 911 immediately.

Yet, the question remains, "What about backlash?"

This is where it is important for you to get support for yourself. Talk with a friend, community leader, counselor—anyone who can help you walk through the act of helping someone and the aftermath. Will there be a disruption in your relationship? It is possible. Yet, it is important to intervene when someone has plans to harm themselves.

With that being said—your actions prove you are there for the individual and want them to be safe and well. In essence, it means you are also committing to be with them throughout an entire journey as they learn how to walk towards being healthy and whole.

This is a long and difficult process. Maintaining this role in someone's life will take a significant amount of energy, both emotionally and mentally. It is vital to be consistent in someone's life. In short, this means don't start the process and then back out. Don't make a call to intervene in one act, and yet leave someone you care for on their own after a single phone call is made.

This might mean you have to make changes in your relationship, talk about things which are uncomfortable, or introduce new dynamics of support and resources.

Your relationship with someone you care for is unique. This means you need individual support for yourself and the person you care for. Take the steps to get professional insight to help you answer all of the questions you have about how to best be there and find the right type of help for them and yourself.

Is It Betrayal If I Intervene? - Video Discussion







https://youtu.be/VGF7Zf0RyOI

Helpful and Non-Helpful Parent Reactions

If you think your child might be struggling with an image matter or be involved in an eating disorder and you want to make sure your reaction is positive as you enter into conversations about it, consider these helpful and non-helpful ways to engage with a family member.

- Helpful: Offer supportive statements and encouragement after listening and seeking to understand.
- Non-Helpful: Offering supportive statements and encouragement instead of listening and seeking to understand.

The factors which leads someone to believe an eating disorder is the only answer to unburden a tremendous sense of inner pain are layered, unique, and have built up over time. They deserve time to be unpacked.

- Helpful: Keeping emotions focused on them.
- Non-Helpful: Keeping emotions focused on you.

This is incredibly challenging. You will feel intense emotions yourself as your child explains their own thoughts and feelings. These can range from sadness or fear over their struggle and what they could choose to do, anger that they would consider something with such vast consequences—including what it would do to you, or a mixture of personal feelings you have in light of them sharing.

These feelings are valid and deserve room to be processed in a healthy way. But, that way is not with your child. You will need to turn to your own peer-level or professional support systems in order to help you work through fear, sadness, anger, or any other overwhelming emotion.

- **Helpful:** Finding the appropriate help in the right time frame.
- Non-Helpful: Making rash decisions out of fear combined with a lack of understanding the process—leading to hovering.

The first instinct may be to have your child evaluated in an inpatient facility. Depending on the unique factors of your situation, this may be the best first step. However, this is not always the case. It takes a great deal of insight into the complex issue of eating disorders. It is important for caregivers to be sure to have educated insight into what are the appropriate steps to take—and in what order.

Now that this challenge has entered your family, it will alter the dynamics of your relationships for a season. The goal is to make sure those new dynamics are healthy and promote the well-being of any individual who struggles—instead of pushing them to hide in further silence. To know the difference will take skilled guidance. For that, we recommend connecting with a local professional or hotline counselor. Do whatever it takes to find the best support for you as you and your family make critical decisions for your family's overall health.

CREATE A TRAINING PLACE AND STRATEGY SPACE

What Kind Of Help Exists?

Due to the intensive nature of eating disorders and the fact it speaks to deep internal struggles, finding help for image matters usually begins by sharing with a skilled professional. This often happens after someone tells a trusted individual life who can help them connect with that skilled professional.

If you are the individual they turn to, be sure to encourage them. Reiterate that anything which is locked inside of their thoughts and feelings deserves a place to be processed in a safe environment which can give them actionable guidance and tools.

Additionally, there are a host of tools which can help you both find steps to taking action. These include:

- Apps Which Offer Mental Health Support
- Communities With Offer Support
- Finding A Professional

What Kind Of Help Exists? - Video Discussion





https://youtu.be/A7CNzHsrg0M



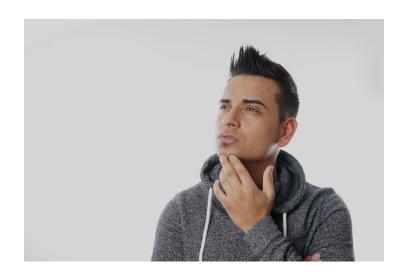
Apps Which Offer Support

TalkLife offers online support similar to group therapy. Share anonymously or with your name.

Moodpath offers 14 days of check ins, providing an overview of your emotional well-being. Plus 100+ exercises.

Happify includes games and activities which elevate mood and build resilience through CBT, mindfulness and positivity.

What's Up aids individuals in discovering the cause of feelings and thoughts though guided questioning.



Self-Help For Anxiety Management (SAM) offers an anxiety toolkit which tracks thoughts and behaviors, while also offering tools to combat negativity.

Panic Relief provides coping strategies, exercise, and breathing techniques to help move through a moment of panic.

PTSD Coach provides ways to understand PTSD along with how to find additional help.

BeyondBlue App provides tools to build and implement a safety plan.



Communities Which Offer Support

NEDA's Network Of Support Groups https://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org/help-

https://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org/helpsupport/support-groups-research-studies

Regionally searchable, local support groups.

To Write Love On Her Arms - https://twloha.com/find-help/

Extensive, geographically based options for free or low cost counseling, support groups, therapy options and more. Simply type in your zip code for access to options.

The Butterfly Foundation -

https://thebutterflyfoundation.org.au

Offers online support, education, and relatable stories for men battling eating disorders.

Catalog Of National & International Support

https://anad.org/education-and-awareness/online-resources/eatingdisorderorganizations/

Offers a global range of support pages, offering a diversity of resources for common and unique concerns.

Eating Disorder Support Center -

http://edrcsv.org/free-online-support-groups/

Offers community support for individuals who struggle and separate support groups for family members.

NAMI Connection Recovery Support Group https://www.nami.org/Find-Support/NAMI-Programs/ NAMI-Connection

Offers peer-led support groups for a range of mental health struggles.

A thousand disappointments IN THE PAST CANNOT

equal the power of

ONE POSITIVE action right

& go for it.

A Conversation On Depression Medication And Natural Remedy

When thinking about sharing a story with a support professional, young people may believe the first thing they will do is prescribe talk therapy or medication.

This is likely to be true. If that concerns them or your family, it might help to do a little bit of research in order to understand what it means to take medication, the side effects, and what one can expect when considering options.

In the video below, we have links to articles and voices which are more qualified to share.

Please note: In the instance of eating disorders, it is likely individuals will need more guidance and tools than depression or anxiety medication alone. This conversation is only offered as a means of alleviating the unknowns about medication and alternative options. Please consult with a medical doctor for all decisions regarding health and mental well-being.

What Is The Right Type Of Help? - Video Discussion







https://youtu.be/Vnch5AvmWAM

Reiterating Why You Offer Support

When a child struggles with an eating disoder, they often are caught in a mental battle of wondering why they are worth your time, effort, or love.

The question in their mind constantly is, "Why someone would want to help me?"

They may also believe help will be temporary until someone sees them as a burden or as a person who is just "too much."

Because of these factors, It is important for family members offering support to be a continual source of reassurance in why you want to support them—why you want to see them reach a place of wholeness.

This does not mean they dictate our lives or we cater to every whim. That is not what I am talking about. Healthy boundaries are important in every relationship, even ones which have serious complications in the midst.

Yet, I believe one of the best things we can do for someone who is struggling with ISSUE is to continuously and consistently reiterate *the why* behind our actions.

So, "Why would anyone want to help someone who is fighting to shift the story of eating disorders?"

I wholeheartedly believe it is because our love for that person gives us compassion and insight into three things: their future, their pathway, and their value.

Their Future

You have an intrinsic belief that as someone you care for walks a path of wholeness and healing—they have a future.

Their Pathway

You may not have the professional skill to offer the treatment or healing needed, yet you want to be with them on their pathway as they seek it out. You want to offer tangible guidance and see them win in the journey.

Their Value

You have a foundational belief—that the person you care for has value. When you speak with them—it is directly tied into a personal reason why you believe they matter, have importance, and that the outcome of their life is important to you.

Reiterating Why You Offer Support - Video Discussion





https://youtu.be/fP4Xpr9jDz0

The Obstacles In Offering Help

It is fair to talk about the obstacles someone you care for may meet along their journey. It is incredibly tough to watch them face one or all of the following. I acknowledge the fact these moments can create tremendous setback or make it difficult for them, or maybe even you, to want to continue to fight for wholeness. I encourage you to continue to seek support and encouragement for yourself as you journey alongside of them. May you have the strength to continue to fight on.

- Help Seems Hopeless
- A Question Of Worth
- Lack Of Energy
- Disappointing Attempts

For a more in-depth discussion about these points, including guidance on how to overcome them, check out the video below.

The Obstacles In Offering Help - Video Discussion





https://youtu.be/P3DTsdnz8hA

Am I A Failure If Someone I Care For Won't Stop Thinking This Way?

If someone you care for is engaging in continuous eating disorder behaviors, it can be incredibly painful.

You likely have noticed your own sense of worry, fears, and emotions for that person. This is natural, because you love them and want them to be healthy.

But the one things we don't talk about is the fact that beneath all of this, you may also feel a sense of failure.

If you feel as if you have failed at being a good friend or supportive loved one because the individual you care for has not changed, I want you to know I understand. Your feelings are valid. But, you are not a failure.

In this instance, we need to change the parameters for what true success and failure really are. Let's continue the conversation in the video below:

Fighting The Feeling Of Failure - Video Discussion







FAILURE IS AN EVENT, NEVER XXX a person. XXX

<<< dale carnegie >>>

What To Do When A Loved One Pushes Back

Getting push back when you try to help, is frustrating. As you engage with them, remember it is important to:

- 1. Go at their pace.
- 2. Own what is yours.
- 3. And yet, know this may not be about you.

Recognize push back is often overcome by:

- Being consistent.
- Stating why you are for them.
- Reaffirming them.
- Apologizing for previous disappointments.

Lastly, be honest. It might be good to share how their behavior made you feel.

For a more in-depth discussion about these points, and how to overcome them, check out the video below.

When A Loved On Pushes Back - Video Discussion







https://youtu.be/RZvb4ZRt6rA

Building A Safety Plan

If you are taking a stand against image matters, you know it often fights back. Taking action each time is a battle which is not easy. Yet, we hope having a pathway to fight back helps you continue to seek wholeness.

Please note: Even with the best of plans, there are times in which a crisis is stronger than our plan. In those moments, seek immediate, professional help. The following ideas on how to fight back against eating disorders are not intended to take the place of professional help.

One such resource which has a fantastic list of tools and resources for creating a safety plan is *Challenge The Storm*: http://challengethestorm.org/safety-plans-mental-health/

Additionaly, HelpGuide.org has tips on how to create a plan to fight back when an image matter occurs. https://www.helpguide.org/articles/eating-disorders/eating-disorder-treatment-and-recovery.htm

Building A Safety Plan - Video Discussion







https://youtu.be/sy1yM31mX3s

Safety Plan Resources

If you struggle beyond an image matter, and find yourself facing a range of additional struggles, know there are safety plan resources available for those too. Some of these include:

Suicide Prevention Lifeline – Safety Plan Template. https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/wp-content/up-loads/2016/08/Brown StanleySafetyPlanTemplate.pdf

1 page safety plan print off with space to write in warning signs, coping strategies, and more.

Get Self-Help

https://www.getselfhelp.co.uk/docs/SafetyPlan.pdf

Offers a second safety plan print off, with tools and resources from the UK.

Therapist Aid

https://www.therapistaid.com/therapy-worksheets/suicide/none

Offers free worksheets for building a self-harm safety plan, suicide assessment, and warning signs.

Nick's Experience With Using A Safety Plan https://youtu.be/jW2Hvv_vN40

One young man's story of how he uses a safety plan in times which feel challenging.

The Goal Is Wholeness

Wholeness is about a state of contentment and peace in a life. It doesn't eliminate the past or any previous pain, instead it acknowledges how that pain has affected us—all while striving to form a new narrative.

Wholeness is about freedom—and I believe it is possible for each person to discover for themselves.

Is it easy? Not at all. The pathway can be long and come with obstacles which may make us feel as if we may not make it.

But with the right support and tools—I intrinsically believe we can.

I welcome you, and those you care for, to find it.

The Goal Is Wholeness - Video Discussion





https://youtu.be/tG18UzeL26w

Identity Goes Beyond The Struggle

In the core of who I am—I am convinced none of us are defined by our struggles. Our identity goes far beyond what anyone stole from us, did to us, or how they disappointed us.

While it may be true you or someone you love has faced a deep struggle or have been treated in ways they did not deserve, I believe it does not have to be the key identifier of what makes an individual—them.

Wholeness is still available. Though it requires a journey, it's a pathway to be free of pain's influences—as if it was the only thing to define a life. I believe each of us still have life in front of us and it is filled with the ability for hope, the ability to make a difference in other's lives, and the ability to go out there and have positive and meaningful impact.

Identity Goes Beyond The Struggle-Video





https://youtu.be/CnMJlc8PIRE

Please Note:

All statements and views within this book, the **change your narrative** website, and the videos on our YouTube channel are strictly opinion based. They are not intended to be utilized as professional treatment or care. If you or someone you care for struggles with mental illness, depression, suicidal thought or destructive life choices, I highly recommend seeking out professional help.

If you are in immediate harm or danger call 911.

Additional Resources:

24/7/365 Crisis Call Center Hotline: 1 (1800) 273-8255

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1 (1800) 273-8255

Text "Answer" to 839863

Chat with a Soul Medic:

http://remedylive.com/soulmedics/

An Invitation To Shift The Story

If you, or someone you care for, are looking for a way to walk a journey to shift an incomplete story towards truth, you are invited to change your narrative.

Come on a journey through twenty video-based pathway markers which offer guidance on how you or someone you care for can seek wholeness. Change Your Narrative believes everyone has the right to be able to take back the pen of your story.

Come On A Journey To Find Wholeness...



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ThTdleKhc-CY&t=6s



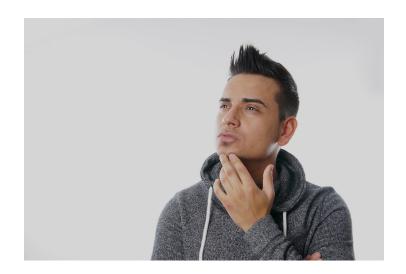
Apps Which Offer Support

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Communities Which Offer Support

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https://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org/help-support/support-groups-research-studies

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NAMI Connection Recovery Support Group https://www.nami.org/Find-Support/NAMI-Programs/ NAMI-Connection

Offers peer-led support groups for a range of mental health struggles.



Resources for Parents

How To Help Someone With An Eating DisorderWhat Mia Did Next

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HbIB2W2kZus

Mia gives her firsthand advice on what did and did not help her during her recovery process—and how you can support someone you care for.

Promoting Health Body Image In Your Children https://raisingchildren.net.au/pre-teens/healthy-lifestyle/body-image/body-image-teens

Offers ways to influence your child's body image in a positive way, along with what signs to look for if you are concerned for your child.

Guys Get Eating Disorders Too

https://thebutterflyfoundation.org.au/understandeating-disorders/guys-get-eating-disorders-too/

Provides education on how image matters present themselves for males—along with firsthand accounts.

5 Signs Your Teen Might Have An Eating Disorder Mayo Clinic

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZpMT8dvqE0

Offers 5 signals to look for—in under a minute.

How I Survived Anorexia

BBC Three

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZpMT8dvqE0

Jodie, her mom, and her friend discuss Jodie's struggle and recovery from Anorexia—including how Jodie felt split into two person, and then I earned how to be whole.

National Eating Disorder Association Screening Tool

NEDA's website states this tool is, "appropriate for ages 13 and up — can help determine if it's time to seek professional help."

https://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org/screening-tool

Warning Signs And Symptoms

National Eating Disorders Association https://youtu.be/nJMtReAg1DI

Explains the signs and symptoms of several eating disorders.

What's Eating You? A Workbook For Teens With Anorexia, Bulimia, And Other Eating Disorders by Tammy Nelson PhD

https://www.amazon.com/dp/1572246073

Provides insight combined with short, actionable prompts to build a circle of support, tools, and healing resources.

What Is My Identity?

Sadie Robertson

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1kL2bXmfquw

Sadie asks three questions to viewers to help them form the foundation of their identity, with a faith-based point of view.

Support For Families

NEDA's Network Of Support Groups

https://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org/ help-support/support-groups-research-studies

Regionally searchable, local support groups.

The National Alliance On Mental Illness has a directory of support groups for you and your family.

https://www.nami.org/find-support/nami-programs/nami-family-support-group

The Society For Adolescent Heath And Medicine has a comprehensive listing of additional support options.

https://www.adolescenthealth.org/Resources/Clinical-Care-Resources/Mental-Health/Mental-Health-Resources-For-Parents-of-Adolescents.aspx

Family Caregiver Alliance provides a map of network help in your area.

https://www.caregiver.org/family-care-navigator

Resources For Teenagers Who Struggle

Time To Talk: Talking To Your Parents

https://www.mhanational.org/time-talk-talking-your-parents

Includes reactions to thoughts and feelings you might be having about talking with your parents and how you can build courage in order to find support.

Tips For Talking About Your Mental Health https://www.mhanational.org/time-talk-tips-talking-about-your-mental-health

Includes a letter template to help you get started with beginning an important conversation.

Warning Signs And Symptoms
National Eating Disorders Association
https://youtu.be/nJMtReAg1DI

Explains the signs and symptoms of several eating disorders.

What's Eating You? A Workbook For Teens With Anorexia, Bulimia, And Other Eating Disorders by Tammy Nelson PhD

https://www.amazon.com/dp/1572246073

Provides insight combined with short, actionable prompts to build a circle of support, tools, and healing resources.

What Is My Identity?

Sadie Robertson

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1kL2bXmfquw

Sadie asks three questions to viewers to help them form the foundation of their identity, with a faith-based point of view.

Resources For Men

Guys Get Eating Disorders Too

https://thebutterflyfoundation.org.au/understandeating-disorders/guys-get-eating-disorders-too/

Provides education on how image matters present themselves for males—along with firsthand accounts.

Braiden's Story—A Guy's Discussion On Bulimia
The Butterfly Foundation
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nmlgVXvw
VI&feature=youtu.be

Braiden shares his firsthand journey towards seeking recovery.

MLB Star Overcomes His Eating Disorder Uninterrupted https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=awlLNvTH6PA

Seattle Mariners Catcher shares his struggle and journey to wholeness—along with insights from the documentary, "Uninterrupted."

Millstone – Documentary About Eating Disorders In Men

Florence Pellacani

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iRim224xFjE

A collaborative efforts of numerous survivors, sharing their stories and search for recovery.

Heads Up Guys

https://headsupguys.org/mens-depression/suicide/

Site offers male-specific action steps.

Man Therapy

https://mantherapy.org

Site uses humor to discuss difficult topics.

Face It Foundation

https://www.faceitfoundation.org

Provides guidance to overcome depression

Your Head: An Owner's Manual PDF Resource https://up2sd.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/ownersmanual-1.pdf

Printable PDF filled with resources and tools for those wanting to learn more about male mental health issues.

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