# What <u>fosters good</u> Mental Health? What makes it <u>fragile</u>?

The state of our mental health depends on many factors, some of which we have control over, others less so!

#### Factors that **contribute** to good mental health (examples)



- Having a healthy lifestyle
- Understanding and managing stress
- Engaging in enjoyable activities and laughing

# Factors that compromise mental health (examples)

- X Difficult working conditions
- Discrimination and exclusion (racism, sexism, ageism, etc.)
- ✗ Violence or abuse
- X Natural or human disasters

### Mental Health and Social Inequality

Some groups, such as the socially and economically disadvantaged, live with a greater number of factors that can compromise their mental health.

#### What can I do to strengthen my Mental Health?

- Identify what influences my mental health.
- Regularly ask myself: "How am I doing?" Make observations!
- Develop emotional skills, for example by learning to express my emotions and by understanding those of others.
- Identify my goals, values, and strengths, and keep them in mind when making choices.
- Recognize my needs and ask for support when required.
- Identify family and friends to turn to when needed.

## Taking care of your mental health is an act of kindness towards yourself.





Canadian Mental Health Association Montreal Branch Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux du Centre-Sudde-l'Île-de-Montréal QUÉDEC \* \*