



Supporting your mental health

When the unexpected occurs, here's a key question to ask yourself: how am I responding? Mental health self-care begins with self-reflection. Recognizing how you feel is the first step to accessing the supports, that can help.

Part of our commitment to you is ensuring you have access to the right support at the right time. Here are some resources to consider if you or your family members need help:

- Your benefits plan. Your workplace benefits are available to help support your well-being. Check your plan for eligible services and supplies related to your mental health. Log on to the my Sun Life mobile app and mysunlife.ca to learn more about your health and wellness benefits and what's available to you.
- **Employee assistance program:** Your employee and family assistance provider is available to provide confidential, expert support for your emotional wellbeing. The program can provide 24-hour support if you need help resolving mental or physical health issues.
- **Lumino Health:** Sun Life's free, online health network has many resources to help you with your mental health. <u>Lumino Provider Search</u> can help you find a mental health professional near you. Lumino Health also has a section dedicated to mental health. This includes articles and videos as well as information on new mental health-related apps and other products and services you might find helpful. Learn more at <u>luminohealth.ca/mentalhealth</u>.

There may also be other free or low-cost resources available to you. Here are three that could help if you (or a family member) are dealing with a mental health concern.

- 1. **Local non-profit organizations:** Look into local non-profit organizations to see if any can help. Some non-profit counselling service agencies will offer 3 to 5 sessions for free or at a sliding scale fee.
- Government programs: Your doctor or other health professional may be able to direct you to other mental health programs or services that your provincial or federal government funds. If your need is urgent, one place to start is the federal government's link to crisis helplines across Canada: https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/mental-health-services/mental-health-get-help.html#Crisis_help_links
- 3. **Other services:** Many mental health clinics, programs and hotlines provide eservices or phone services. For example, trained crisis volunteers at <u>Kids Help Phone</u> offer mental health support through a free bilingual texting service.

Take care of your mental health

Small mental health issues can become bigger ones if problems remain unresolved. If you're struggling with mental health in any way, we encourage you to make use of the supports available to you.

Questions? We're here to help.

We're here when you need us. If you need our assistance, please call us at 1-800-361-6212, Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET.

