



16<sup>th</sup> Annual Ohio Employee Health & Wellness Conference

# Building a Workplace for Mental Wellness: Strategies & Managing Options

08.29.2023



# Learning Objectives

01

How to create a culture that prioritizes mental health and provides a safe space for employees, including tangible tips and best practices.

02

An understanding of the value employer-sponsored Behavioral Health Services delivers through an integrated experience with advanced primary care.

03

What are priorities of managing and choosing behavioral health access for employers



# Meet the Team



**Erin Thase, Ph.D.**

Licensed Psychologist  
National Director of  
Behavioral Health  
Marathon Health



**Eric Neville**

Vice President  
Market Development  
Marathon Health



**Bill Klein, M.D.**

Physician  
Cincinnati Network  
Marathon Health



**Tim Schilling, LISW-S**

Licensed Independent  
Social Worker  
Behavioral Health  
Specialist  
Columbus Network  
Marathon Health

# Question #1:

**In your organization, do you think there are negative attitudes towards people with mental health challenges?**



# Stigma in the Workplace

Employees who don't seek help due to fear of stigma



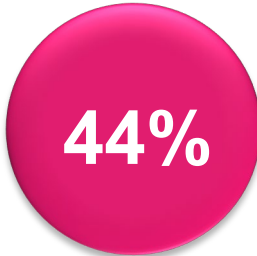
Employees who left a job for mental health reasons (Millennial 68% & GenZ 81%)



Missed workdays that could be attributed to mental health



Employees who feel comfortable talking about mental health with their employer

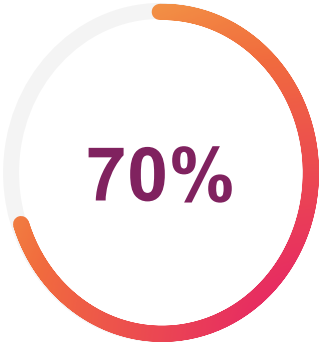


## Question #2:

**Do you think employer's should play a role in their employee's mental health?**



# Role of the Employer



Mangers had the greatest impact on an employee's mental health



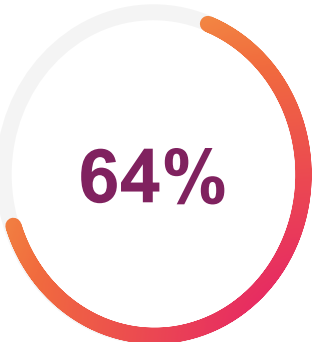
Burnout responsible for employee turnover



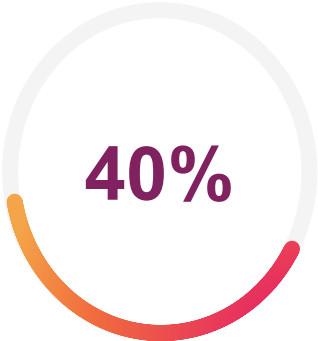
Global lost productivity



Higher retention getting evidence-based treatment vs. standard mental health care



Mental health affected employee's ability to do their job



Unsure if their company promotes a mentally healthy workplace

\$1 Invested



\$4 Saved

For every \$1 invested yearly in prevention and intervention programs to support mental health, employers can save \$2 to \$4 on other expenses.

# Question #3:

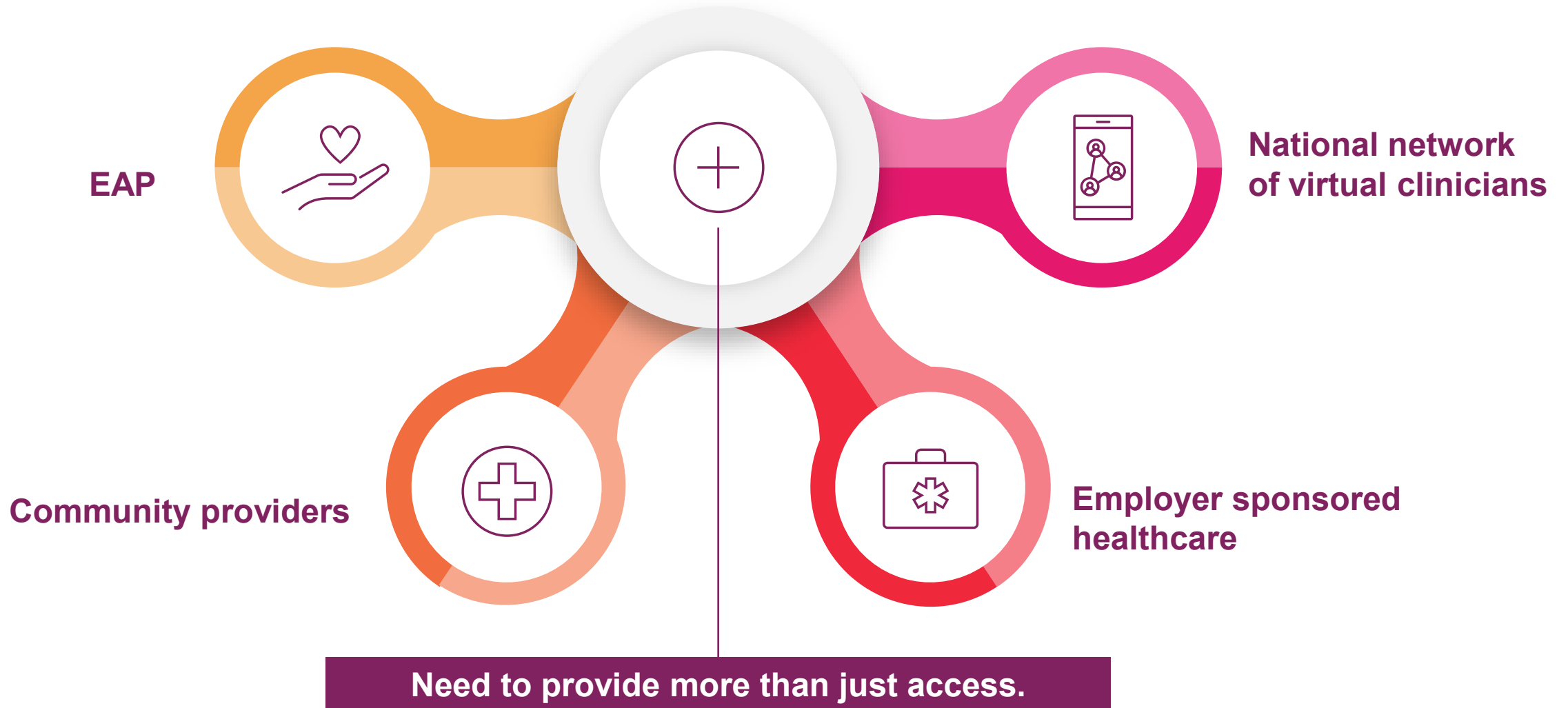
**What mental health services are you offering your employees? How well are they working?**

- Offered and works extremely well
- Offered and works well
- Offered and does not work well
- Offered and does not work well at all
- Not offered

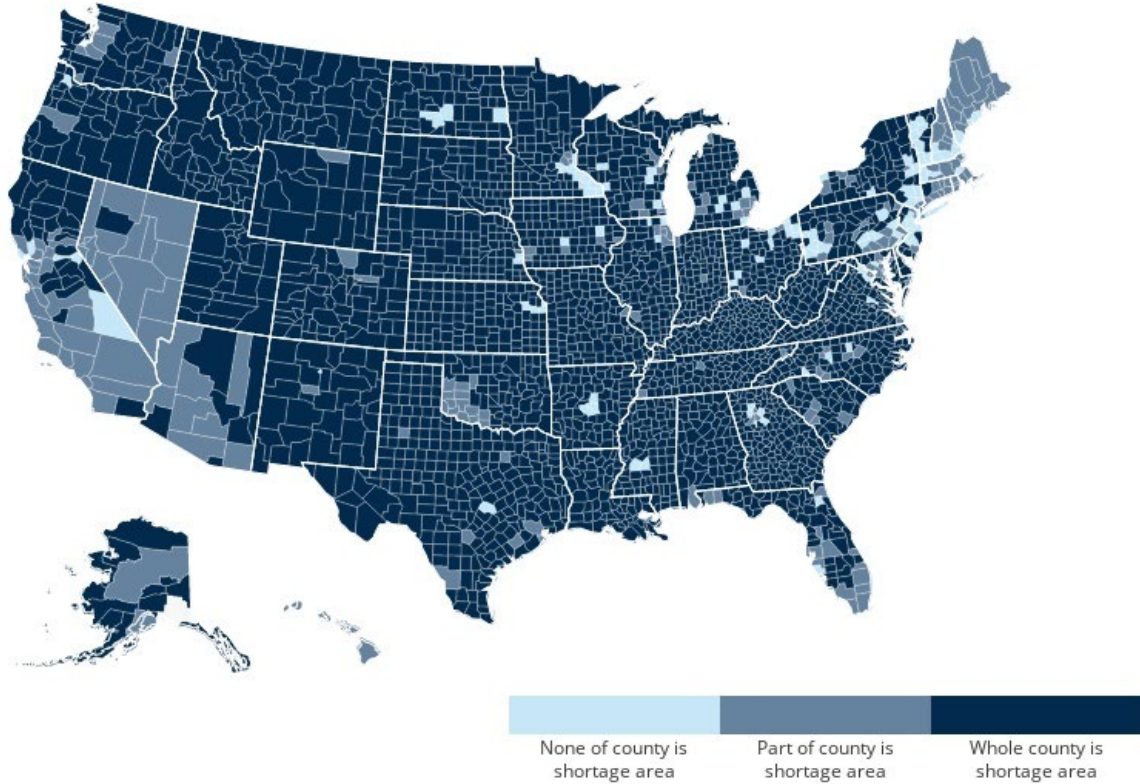




# Types of Mental Health Access Points

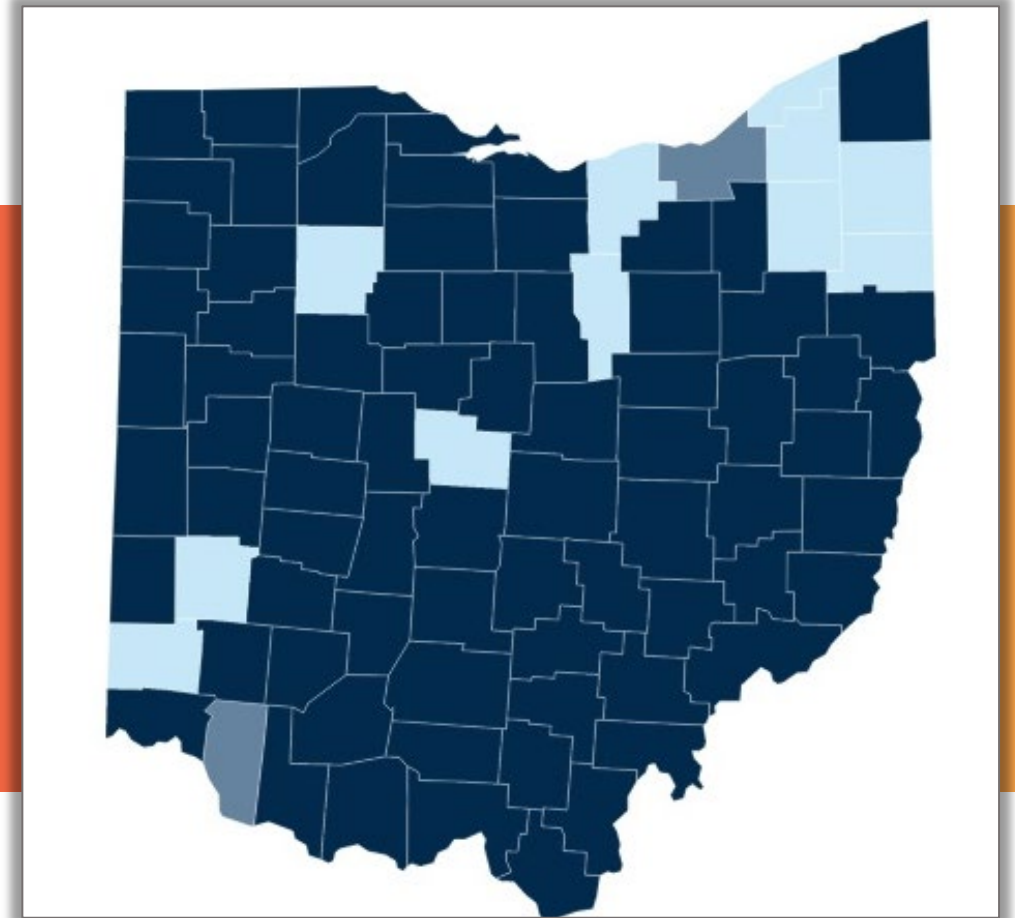


Health Professional Shortage Areas: Mental Health, by County, 2023

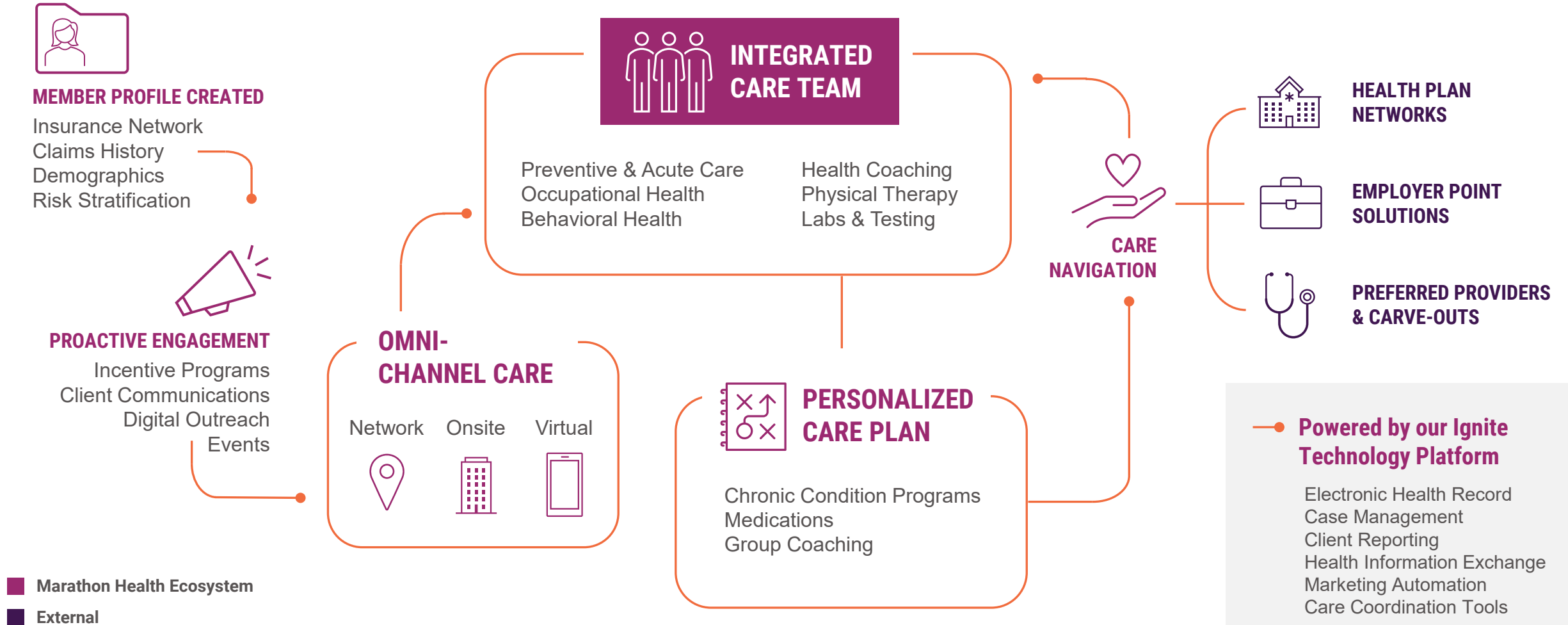


Source: [data.HRSA.gov](https://data.HRSA.gov), May 2023.

Health Professional Shortage Areas: Mental Health, by County, 2023 - Ohio



# Care Model Drives Predictable Outcomes



## Question #4:

**For those in the group that have mental health access points, how are you assessing whether it is working?**



# How do I know it's working?

## Things you can see



- Employee Feedback & Satisfaction
- Usage of Support Services
- Absenteeism & Presenteeism
- Turnover & Retention Rates
- Performance & Productivity
- Incident Reports & Conflicts
- Training & Education Uptake
- Feedback from Managers
- Track long-term

## Things you don't see



- Leadership & Culture Shift
- Increased Self-Awareness
- Improved Coping Skills
- Behavioral Changes
- Reduced Symptoms
- Improved Relationships
- Increased Resilience
- Setting & Achieving Goals
- Shift in Perspectives
- Feeling Supported

# Where do we go from here?

Employers that want to support employee mental health can consider the following questions as a starting point.

Make  
mental  
health a  
priority

How does your organization make it clear that mental health is a top priority?

Is there a senior leader accountable for employee mental health?

Do leaders speak openly about mental health?

Enhance  
mental  
health  
supports

How is your organization mitigating barriers to accessing mental health resources (eg, awareness, cost)?

Is there parity between medical/surgical and mental health benefits (eg, same cost-sharing)?

Communi-  
cate  
available  
supports

How often and through what channels does leadership communicate about mental health supports?

What enhanced supports and communications are available for populations with specific needs (eg, severe mental health condition)?

Cultivate  
an  
inclusive  
culture

How are you getting employee feedback about mental health supports?

How is your organization holding leaders and managers accountable to supporting employee mental health?

Measure  
and hold  
account-  
able

How is your organization reducing stigma and evaluating those efforts?

How do you support and celebrate recovery?

How are you training colleagues to understand signs of distress and respond?



# Mind Matters: 5 Ways to Promote a Mentally Healthy Workplace

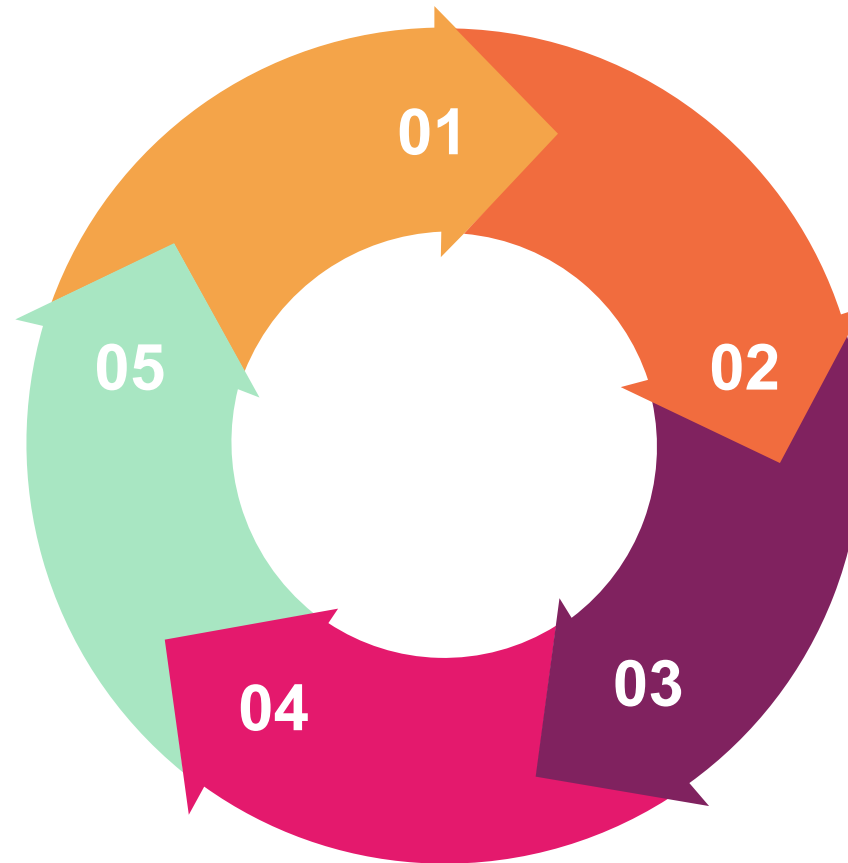
1. Offer Educational & Training Opportunities for Both Employees & Managers

2. Foster a Culture of Openness

3. Implement & Continually Assess Mental Health Benefits

4. Enhance Policies to Promote Mental Health

5. Tailor Your Mental Health Options to Meet Employee Needs





**THANK  
YOU**

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## **Biographical Information**

### **Erin Thase, Ph.D.**

Erin Thase, Ph.D., serves as the National Director of Behavioral Health for Marathon Health, where she leads a growing team of mental health clinicians providing quality, outcomes oriented, evidence-based therapeutic services within a broad range of clinical settings. Dr. Thase joined Marathon Health in August 2022 with a degree and licensure in school and clinical psychology. She has over 10 years of experience working within a multitude of school, outpatient, and hospital settings with patients diagnosed with mood disorders, chronic medical diagnoses, behavioral concerns, and life stressors specializing in adolescents and young adults. She strives to provide ethical, evidence-based, and patient-centered treatment to individuals and reduce barriers to accessing mental health care. She received her undergraduate degree from Cleveland State University and doctoral degree in School Psychology from Duquesne University.

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### **William Klein, M.D.**

With over 20 years of primary care experience in healthcare, Dr. William Klein, MD, earned his doctorate in Family Medicine from the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine in 1996, with a Fellowship in Primary Care Sports Medicine. After many years practicing in both a private group and hospital employed office, he joined Marathon Health in 2019 because of the value-based care model. Dr. Klein enjoys getting to know members to help them achieve optimal health, while ultimately saving them and their employers on healthcare costs. He is based out of the Downtown Cincinnati Marathon Health Center and is a Clinical Leader for the Cincinnati/Wilmington area.

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### **Tim Schilling**

Tim possesses a Master's Degree in Social Work from The Ohio State University. He is credentialed as a Licensed Independent Social Worker and Social Work Supervisor (LISW-S), a Licensed Independent Chemical Dependency Counselor (LICDC) and is recognized by the International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium (IC&RC) enabling him to practice internationally. Tim works with patients struggling with most mental health disorders, addiction, and suffering brought on by traumatic experiences. He works with adults and minors aged 12 and older. He has based his practice on the person-centered philosophy of 'meeting patients where they are' while employing strength-based interventions to help patients achieve their goals.