

2020 Spring Bulletin

### Your healthy source for living well.

Welcome back to Whole You from Peach State Health Plan. We hope you enjoyed our last issue. As always, you can use this newsletter as a way to stay updated on local events and your health plan benefits, and improve your well-being.

In this issue, learn about **headache relief** and how to **care for your mental health.** Read tips for **making healthy breakfasts** and **organizing your home.** We'll also cover tips for **getting the most value from your health plan**. Learn about **caring for yourself when you're a caregiver**. Then, test your movie knowledge with our emoji brain teaser.

In our next issue, expect more content for the **whole you.** 

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# WHOLE | Make Your Health Plan Work for You



Your health is one of the most important things you have. Take care of your mind and body by using all of the benefits your health plan has to offer.



**Earn rewards.** Motivate yourself to be healthy with our *My* health pays<sup>®</sup> rewards. Reward dollars can be used at Walmart and for other household expenses like utilities or childcare services.



**Check your vision.** At the eye doctor you will get tests to rule out any eye problems. Be sure to know your family medical history. If you need help finding an eye doctor, ask your primary care provider (PCP).



#### Pay attention to your teeth.

Regular visits to the dentist can keep your teeth healthy and white. They can also tell you about your overall health. Dentists recommend a regular dental exam and cleaning every six months.





**Ask about vaccines.** When you're at the doctor's office, ask about shots you need. By getting these, you protect yourself and those around you. Keep in mind that some shots need "boosters" to continue working.

**Plan a wellness check.** Don't just visit your PCP when you have health problems. It's important to have an annual checkup to stay ahead of any health issues. If you've been feeling more tired than usual or having difficulty sleeping, your doctor can help find the cause.

# WHOLE Defeat Your Headaches

Drink water. Develop a routine. Drink at least eight 12-oz. glasses each day. Put reminders on your calendar or set your phone alarm. Keep a water bottle handy and bring it with you to meetings and on routine outings. Drinking enough water not only helps stop headaches but also combats fatigue, prevents muscle cramps and keeps skin hydrated and glowing.

**Rest up.** Follow a schedule. Make sure you're getting at least six to eight hours of sleep every night. This includes weekends! Establishing a sleeping pattern helps repair and replenish your body. This balance can limit headache pain.

**Exercise.** Take up an activity. Trying walking, jogging or cycling. These activate your muscles and increase blood flow to lower your chances of a headache. Regular exercise also prevents heart disease, cancer and stroke.

Tame triggers. Keep a journal or diary on your headaches to discover what could be causing them. When did the pain begin? What started it? How long did it last? What helped ease it? Of course, there are unavoidable triggers like pollen, changes in barometric pressure and humid weather. Take special care with what you can control, like food and household triggers.

**Cut caffeine.** Caffeine is powerful. It can give you a boost of energy and increase alertness. But, it can also cause headaches. Limit your intake of coffee, tea and soda. Try sticking to one caffeinated drink a day. Or you can make your cup half-caf, half-decaf. It's the same great taste but with half the caffeine!



## Manage Your Mental Health

Learning how to deal with overwhelming times is important. Here are some tips to help you manage your mental health.

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Have healthy habits. Too much stress can take a toll on your body. Develop healthy coping skills to protect yourself from harmful effects. When you're feeling overwhelmed, organize your thoughts for a minute. Take a break from the stressor. Do something that relaxes you like going for a walk or talking to a friend.

**Respect your limits.** You may feel the need to be available at all hours and to always say "yes." Whether at home or work, try to keep a healthy balance. Set your own rules for taking breaks from your phone or computer. Let your mind recharge! This way you'll find more stress-free time for yourself, your family and your favorite activities.

**Pick up on patterns.** Everybody has stressful days, but it's important to take note of what caused you to feel this way. Record what you felt and how you reacted during these times. Find the patterns that best help you to manage your feelings.

**Surround yourself with support.** Build a strong support system. Knowing you have trusted family and friends to listen will help you feel more relaxed. Even a quick chat with someone who cares can be helpful.

**Find fitness.** A great way to take your mind off things and melt stress away is physical activity. Whether it's going for a run around the neighborhood, heading to the local gym or playing a favorite sport, exercise is a great way to help manage your mental health. Use tools and programs offered by Peach State Health Plan. The myStrength digital app can support your well-being. With myStrength, you can:

- Learn how to reduce stress
- Track your mood online
- Manage depressive or anxious thoughts
- Access and share inspiration
- Explore hundreds of articles and activities

Sign up online at app.mystrength.com/go/epc/ Georgia

# WHOLE | Easy Ways to Declutter and Organize

The space you live in affects the way you feel. Spending your time in a messy area can cause stress that barely registers in your conscious mind.

Ready to renew your energy? Cut down on clutter with a few steps. Some of these ideas might seem strange. Give the methods a try and see how you feel!

- **Categorize.** Tidy by category. Use this order: clothes, books, papers, miscellaneous items and sentimental items. Find every item in your home that fits in a certain category. Put them all in a pile.
- 2 Imagine. What do you want your living space to look or feel like? Take some time to picture your home as a place you want to be. Write down a detailed account of your ideal living situation. This will move you closer to your goals.

**Commit.** Decide that you are going to tidy your space. If you want, tell someone close to you about your plans. It's important to keep promises to yourself. Having a friend or family member to keep you accountable is helpful, too!

**Discard.** Move through each item in the pile. Hold each item in your hands. Does it "spark joy"? If you don't feel happy to have it, thank it for its service and let it go. You can donate it to a local clothing drive or Salvation Army store. This step is about sharpening your ability to know what you want in your life. Stop holding onto many objects that you don't enjoy. It's better to have fewer items that you really like and use.



# WHOLE 5 Foods that Will Start Your Day Right



**Oatmeal.** Oatmeal is full of protein and fiber. You can prepare it many different ways. Plus, it will keep you full until lunch! Increase protein even more by using milk instead of water to make it. Sprinkle fresh fruit and your favorite nuts on top to add some crunch and extra health benefits. Want a savory breakfast? Use oatmeal for your base, add some cheese and dust with pepper or other spices. Top with cut-up veggies like tomatoes, mushrooms and spinach. You can even toss in some turkey bacon or other lean meats to up the flavor and protein. The variations are endless!

**Peanut Butter.** This creamy spread is packed with protein. (It's also full of healthy fat. Be sure to measure it out to keep calories in check!) Try peanut butter, strawberry and banana quesadillas. Spread one tablespoon of natural peanut butter across two whole-wheat tortillas. Place banana and strawberry slices on one tortilla and sprinkle with cinnamon. Top with the second tortilla and press gently to help them stick together. In a skillet on medium heat, add the quesadilla. Cook each side for three minutes or until golden brown. **Eggs.** Eggs are an affordable protein source. They give you important nutrients like vitamins B2, B12 and D, iron and zinc. Eating eggs may help maintain healthy skin, improve the immune system and increase brain and liver function. Top your bowl of savory oatmeal with a freshly cooked egg. Try making hard-boiled eggs the night before for a quick breakfast to grab on your way out the door. You can even make a frittata ahead of time. Don't forget to sneak some veggies into your morning meal!

**Greek yogurt.** Greek yogurt can help maintain muscle mass. It can also give new life to your hair and skin! Try creating your own peanut butter yogurt bowl. Start with yogurt as your base and add two tablespoons of natural peanut butter. Top off with chopped blueberries and bananas for fiber and potassium. Remember to choose plain yogurt to limit your added sugar.

**Quinoa.** People tend to think quinoa is more of a lunch and dinner food, but you can also enjoy it for your morning meal. It's a great source of iron, magnesium, vitamin E and fiber. It can reduce your risk of diabetes. It can also improve bone health. And, just like oatmeal, it's a great base for either a sweet or savory protein-rich meal.

# WHOLE | Are you a caregiver? Do Jou | these 5 things every day.

The care you give is priceless. You do chores, provide emotional support, coordinate medical care and help with finances. That's a lot!

Helping someone in need is rewarding, yes. But it is hard work. The responsibility comes with stress. At times you may feel guilty or overwhelmed. Make sure to care for yourself every day, too. You may not feel you have time, but it's important to make time. Caring for yourself is the first step in caring for others! Take these five actions every day:

Follow a schedule. Having a daily schedule for the person you're caring for will form routines. Routines allow you to leave some time to care for yourself. It may take some time to figure out what works best for everyone. Some people need a strict schedule to follow each week, while others prefer a simple list of items to do each day. This list might include medication reminders, social activities, doctor appointments and exercise.

2 **Take care of your body.** How you treat your body has a major impact on how you experience the world. Exercise, healthy eating and regular, quality sleep are crucial. These affect your sense of well-being.

**3** Use your resources. Use services available to you through Peach State Health Plan. You can also find support through your local Area Agency on Aging or other caregiving community.



Have compassion for your experience. Learn what to expect while caring for someone. Depression is common. So is making mistakes. You may have to learn how to set boundaries and accept help from others. Know that you have options even when you feel stuck.

**Confide in someone**. Find a friend who is going through a similar experience and talk on the phone. Sharing your feelings with someone can alleviate stress.

### Emoji Brain Teasers for the Movie Buffs

Do you quote movies all the time? Are you the go-to person in your friend group for identifying the next must-watch film? If so, we've got some brain teasers for you. See if you can guess the movie based off the emoji combination. Good luck!



Answers: Back to the Future, Frozen, Inside Out, Spiderman

### Statement of Non-Discrimination

Peach State Health Plan complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Peach State Health Plan does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

Peach State Health Plan:

- Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:
- Qualified sign language interpreters
- Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats)

Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:

- Qualified interpreters
- Information written in other languages

If you need these services, contact Peach State Health Plan at 1-800-704-1484 (TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056).

If you believe that Peach State Health Plan has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with: Peach State Health Plan Complaints Department, 1100 Circle 75 Parkway, Suite 1100, Atlanta, GA 30339, 1-800-704-1484 (TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056), Fax 1-855-678-6982. You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a grievance, Peach State Health Plan is available to help you. You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, availabl at https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf, or by mail or phone at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue SW., Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington, DC 20201, 1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD).

Complaint forms are available at http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html.

### Language Assistance

Interpreter services are provided free of charge to you. Peach State Health Plan has a telephone language line available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Are you hearing impaired? If so, we can help. Call: TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056.

#### Español (Spanish):

Si usted, o alguien a quien está ayudando, tiene preguntas acerca de Peach State Health Plan, tiene derecho a obtener ayuda e información en su idioma sin costo alguno. Para hablar con un intérprete, llame al 1-800-704-1484 (TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056).

#### Tiếng Viêt (Vietnamese):

Nếu quý vi, hay người mà quý vi đang giúp đỡ, có câu hỏi về Peach State Health Plan, quý vi sẽ có quyền được giúp và có thêm thông tin bằng ngôn ngữ của mình miễn phí. Để nói chuyện với một thông dich viên, xin goi 1-800-704-1484 (TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056).

#### 한국어 (Korean):

만약 귀하 또는 귀하가 돕고 있는 어떤 사람이 Peach State Health Plan 에 관해서 질문이 있다면 귀하는 그러한 도움과 정보를 귀하의 언어로 비용 부담없이 얻을 수 있는 권리가 있습니다. 그렇게 통역사와 얘기 하기 위해서는 1-800-704-1484 (TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056) 로 전화하십시오.

#### 中文 (Chinese):

如果您,或是您正在協助的對象,有關於 Peach State Health Plan 方面的問題,您有權利免費以您的母語 得到幫助和訊息。如果要與一位翻譯員講話,請撥電話 1-800-704-1484 (TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056)。

#### ગુજરાતી (Gujarati):

જે તમને અથવા તમે જેમની મદદ કરી રહ્યા હોય તેમને, Peach State Health Plan વશે કોઈ પુરશન હોય તો તમને, કોઈ ખરૂચ વનિા તમારી ભાષામાં મદદ અને માહતીિ પુરાપુત કરવાનો અધકાિર છે. દુભાષયાિ સાથે વાત કરવા માટે 1-800-704-1484 (TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056)ઉપર કૉલ કરો.

#### Français (French):

Si vous-même ou une personne que vous aidez avez des questions à propos d'Peach State Health Plan, vous avez le droit de bénéficier gratuitement d'aide et d'informations dans votre langue. Pour parler à un interprète, appelez le 1-800-704-1484 (TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056).

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#### हर्दी (Hindi):

आप या जसिकी आप मदद कर रहे हैं उनके, Peach State Health Plan के बारे में कोई सवाल हों, तो आपको बनिा कसीि खर्च के अपनी भाषा में मदद और जानकारी प्रापत करने का अधकािर है। कसीि दुभाषयि से बात करने के लएि 1-800-704-1484 (TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056पर कॉल करें।

### Language Assistance

#### Kreyòl (French Creole):

Si oumenm, oubyen yon moun w ap ede, gen kesyon nou ta renmen poze sou Peach State Health Plan, ou gen tout dwa pou w jwenn èd ak enfòmasyon nan lang manman w san sa pa koute w anyen. Pou w pale avèk yon entèprèt, sonnen nimewo 1-800-704-1484 (TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056).

#### Русский язык (Russian):

В случае возникновения у вас или у лица, которому вы помогаете, каких-либо вопросов о программе страхования Peach State Health Plan вы имеете право получить бесплатную помощь и информацию на своем родном языке. Чтобы поговорить с переводчиком, позвоните по телефону 1-800-704-1484 (TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056).

#### (Arabic): ةيبرعلا

لوح ةلئسأ مدعاست صخش ىدل وأ كيدل ناكً اذا ب لصتا مجرتم عم ثدحتلل .ةفلكت ةيأ نود نم كتغلب ةيرورضلا تامولعملاو ةدعاسملا ىلع 1484-704-800-1 (0056-255-800-1 TTY/TDD).

#### Português (Portuguese):

Se você, ou alguém a quem você está ajudando, tem perguntas sobre o Peach State Health Plan, você tem o direito de obter ajuda e informação em seu idioma e sem custos. Para falar com um intérprete, ligue para 1-800-704-1484 (TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056).

#### Persian): یسراف

قح نيا زا ،ديراد Peach State Health Plan دروم رد يلاؤس دينک يم کمک وا هب هک يسک اي ،امش رگا اب ندرک تبحص يارب -دينک تفايرد دوخ نابز هب ناگيار تروصب ار تاعالطا و کمک هک ديرادروخرب -ديريگب سامت (005-255-800-1 TTY/TDD -ديريگب سامت (005-255-800) 1-008-704-804

#### Deutsch (German):

Falls Sie oder jemand, dem Sie helfen, Fragen zu Peach State Health Plan hat, haben Sie das Recht, kostenlose Hilfe und Informationen in Ihrer Sprache zu erhalten. Um mit einem Dolmetscher zu sprechen, rufen Sie bitte die Nummer 1-800-704-1484 (TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056) an.

#### 日本語 (Japanese):

Peach State Health Plan について何かご質問がございましたらご連絡ください。 ご希望の言語によるサ ポートや情報を無料でご提供いたします。 通訳が必要な場合は、1-800-704-1484 (TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056) までお電話ください。



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