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**Nutrition and Exercise for Wellness and Recovery**

Development of this curriculum is supported by the University of Illinois at Chicago National Research and Training Center on Psychiatric Disability and Co-Occurring Medical Conditions through funding from the U.S. Department of Education, National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research; and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Mental Health Services, under Cooperative Agreement No. H133B100028. The views expressed do not reflect the policy or position of any Federal agency.

**Final Version** – The participant manual is available for download on the website - [http://www.cmhsrp.uic.edu/health/weight-wellbeing.asp](http://www.cmhsrp.uic.edu/health/weight-wellbeing.asp)

**Acknowledgements**

We are grateful for the guidance provided on this project by Peggy Swarbrick, Beth Stoneking, Karen Cook, Richard Goldberg, Dori Hutchinson, Mary Ellen Copeland, Judy Young, and Joseph Parks. We would also like to thank Edna Hamera and Angela Van Sciver for their contributions to the RENEW program which formed the foundation for the NEW-R manual. The RENEW program was supported by a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health – No. R34MH077282
We are pleased and excited that you have decided to join the NEW-R Program. You’ve made the first step towards losing weight. This program will provide you with information, skills and motivation so that you can be successful in creating a healthier life. This manual is for you to use during the NEW-R Program sessions, but more importantly can serve as a reference during and after the program to help you achieve your goals. So let’s get started........
“Recovery is about having joy in living, participating in life: feeling good about who I am and how I am connected to my community. It’s the ups and downs. It’s creating my own path. It’s about feeling whole, well and loved.” - Cherie Bledsoe

Effects of Being Overweight on Physical and Mental Health

Effects of Overweight on Physical Health

One study found that people with schizophrenia die an average of 25 years earlier than people without mental illness. It is likely that obesity contributes to the number of years lost.

Being overweight has many negative effects on your body. Some you are probably aware of, others you may not know.

- Over 80% of people with diabetes are overweight
- If you are overweight you are more likely to experience cardiovascular disease such as high blood pressure or high blood cholesterol which can result in serious conditions such as heart attack or stroke
- The extra weight may contribute to arthritis particularly in your knees
- People that are overweight are more likely to have certain cancers such as colon, gall bladder, and breast cancer
- Sleep apnea is much more common in people that are overweight

Effects of Overweight on Mental Health

Many can personally testify to the negative mental health outcomes associated with being overweight. By losing weight you can improve the way you think, feel and go about your daily life.

- People that are overweight are more likely to experience negative moods such as depression and anxiety
- There may be discrimination in work and social settings
- People that are overweight are more likely to have a low self esteem
- Being overweight may make it more difficult to carry out daily life tasks such as getting dressed or shopping
How Does Being Overweight Affect You?

Write down 2-3 ways that being overweight has personally affected your health/life.

1. 
2. 
3. 

THE GOOD NEWS IS - SMALL CHANGES IN WEIGHT CAN MAKE BIG DIFFERENCES!

Losing weight means that there is less strain on the bodies’ organs, bones and muscles.

A 5 – 10% weight loss can significantly reduce your risk of heart disease. Other benefits of small amounts of weight loss include –

- Sleeping better
- More energy
- Less aches and pains
- Better management of diabetes

Several studies show that people with mental illness can benefit from weight loss programs!

Making a Commitment

Successful weight loss requires lifestyle changes. A key component to the NEW-R program is being intentional. Many of us have developed unhealthy habits over a number of years and find ourselves going through the day without thinking much about how what we do each week, each day, each hour, each minute of our day affects our health. But we can change that! Let’s all make a commitment to becoming INTENTIONAL about being healthy.

Intentional = done with a purpose
The purpose of the NEW-R program is to help you be successful with your weight loss. Much of being intentional requires us to stop and think about what we are doing and make a plan!

**Simple ways to be intentional about your weight loss –**

- **Make attendance a priority.** Try your best to attend all 8 sessions of the NEW-R program. Come to class and make the most of it. See what you can learn and apply to your daily life.

- **Come up with something meaningful you can do every day.** A sedentary life style (one where you sit or lie in bed most of the day) contributes to weight gain. Let’s start with tomorrow. Write down what time you are going to wake up tomorrow and what you are going to do during the day to make your day a good one! Do the same thing for the next day, and the next day, and the next day......

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tomorrow is going to be a Good Day!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I will wake up and start my day at _____ AM.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tomorrow I plan to:</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Make a plan!** People are more successful with weight loss when they are intentional about what they eat. This means make a plan! Each day when you get up make a plan for what you are going to eat for the day. Think about each meal and your snacks too. If you are going someplace that is going to be challenging (for example a party or out to eat), plan ahead of time what you will do to avoid overeating. If you’d like use a meal planner to write down your meals for the day.
• **Get a supply of healthy foods.** Likewise, it will be easier to stick with your plan if you have healthy foods on hand (and don’t have a lot of temptations around!). When you go grocery shopping be sure and MAKE A LIST. Write down the foods you intend to buy and do your best to stick with the list once you get to the store. If you decide to add some extra fruits and vegetables no problem! But try to avoid those candy and soda aisles. Do most of your shopping around the perimeter or outside aisles of the store where the healthier foods tend to be located.

• **Find Support.** It’s hard to do it on your own. Other people can help you with your plan. Find one or more people that will support you. Ask for their assistance when you are feeling weak or frustrated or just need a boost.

• **Make only a few changes at a time.** It’s hard to make all these changes at once. That is not the expectation of the NEW-R program. In fact, we will be talking about many of these topics in future sessions and giving you more information and help with these changes. Start out slow and do what works for you. At the end of the session today we’ll begin by making a few short term goals.

However, we want the NEW-R plan to be a reminder that you **CAN** make a change and you can be more **INTENTIONAL** about being healthy.

• Take the NEW-R plan that is written out for you below and put it in a place where you will see it each day. Use it as a reminder as often as you need.
My NEW-R Plan

Each Day...

- I will wake up at a reasonable time in the morning.
- I will do something meaningful.
- I will spend more time moving and less time sitting and/or watching TV.
- I will make a plan about what I am going to eat each day.
- I will eat healthy foods that I enjoy and avoid unhealthy foods.
- I will talk to someone that supports my weight loss goals.
- And if I have a bad day, it’s not a big deal. I will remind myself of the plan and try to do better the next day.
Setting Realistic Goals

Losing weight may seem like an overwhelming task. But it’s easier if you take small steps and make real changes that you can live with.

- This manual includes a lengthy list of possible goals. Look over the list and choose 2-3 things that you would like to work on next week.
- The most efficient way to lose weight is by changing the way you eat. So make sure that one of your goals is related to changing your eating habits.
- You will notice that many of the goals include a blank space for you to add the frequency. Remember to be realistic. You can always add your own goal if you don’t see something on the list that works for you.

My goal(s) for next week is to:

Share your goal out loud with the rest of the group. It can help you stick with a goal if others know what you are working on. Think about telling your friends and family about your goal and asking them to help you. Don’t forget that the other NEW-R group members and group leaders can also offer you support when you need it.
Recovery is regaining some of things that I lost in my life – wholeness, fullness, nothing missing, nothing broken; a level of life – a quality of life that I desire; my spiritual connection.

In the morning when I wake up I have increased the amount of water I drink. I go to our local quick trip store and get 32oz water. I have noticed since I increase my water, I eat less. I get more fiber in my diet by eating kidney red beans, oatmeal, salad, fruits i.e., pomegranate seeds and yogurt. I am into walking too. I am currently walking two to four miles a day.

My goal is to get rid of my middle “fluff”. I discovered middle aged women tend to gain more weight in our middle area. I found that once I focus on the internal it balances out what happens on the outside.

-Simone Rogers
Kansas Peer Leader
I will drink ___ glasses of water a day

I will eat ___ servings of fruit/day or week

I will eat ___ servings of vegetables/day or week

I will change from whole milk to 2% or 2% to 1% or 1% to skim.

I will replace ___ sodas (or other sugary drinks) with water each day.

I will replace ___ regular sodas (or other sugary drinks) with diet soda each day

I will eat at home (instead of eating out) ___ more times each week.

I will eat breakfast ____ times this week.

I will leave food on my plate after ____ meals.

I will not go for seconds after ___ meals.

I will turn off the television when I eat ___ times next week.

I will not eat French fries next week. Or reduce the number of times I eat French fries by ___.

I will call someone (go for a walk, pet my dog, get a drink of water, read a magazine) when I feel like eating but am not really hungry.

I will wake up at ___ and start my day with a positive affirmation.

I will plan my meals for the day ___ times this week.

I will write out a grocery list before going to the store this week.

When eating out I will share my entrée or I will only eat half of my entrée and take the rest home to eat as another meal later in the week.

I will not let others talk me into eating food ___ times next week.

I will eat a salad or green vegetable instead of French fries ___ times next week.

I will eat my chicken/fish/etc. baked, grilled or broiled instead of fried ___ times next week.

I will read the food labels before determining whether or not I should eat a certain food.

I will read food labels to determine how much of a certain food I should eat.

I will portion my snack food in a bowl or baggie instead of eating directly out of the bag/container.

I will choose fruit/yogurt/other low calorie options over high calorie desserts ____ times next week.

I will eat ___ servings of fiber rich foods (e.g. whole wheat bread, beans, oatmeal) each day/week.
I will eat ___ meals/week on a plate with utensils sitting at the table.

I will stop eating before I am stuffed ___ times/day or week.

I will try ___ new vegetables/fruits next week.

I will use a nonstick pan or cooking spray instead of oil when cooking ___ times next week.

I will eat a salad (without a lot of high calorie dressing/toppings/etc.) ___ times next week.

I will choose low fat/calorie protein (skinless chicken, tuna, low fat ground beef, eggs) options ____ times/day or week.

I will give myself a non-food reward (be specific) each time I eat a meal that I think is healthy.

If I eat more than I should I will not give up but do better for the next time I eat.

I will write down what I eat each day and identify at least ___ changes I should make in my eating.

I will limit my alcohol to ___ drinks/day or week.

I will write down something positive about what I have accomplished towards being healthy ____ times next week or each day.

I will tell a friend or family member about something I have accomplished towards being health ____ times next week.

I will ask for support when I need it.

I will take a walk _____ next week.

I will (state the form of exercise) _____ next week.

I will exercise until I sweat ____ times next week.

I will play a recreational sport (name the sport) ____ times next week.

I will lift weights or do strength training ____ times next week.

I will add steps to my day by (taking the stairs, parking further away, getting off at an earlier bus stop, walking to the store).

I will make a plan to exercise with someone else ___ times next week.

I will organize my day so that I have scheduled a time to exercise ____ times next week.

I will get a calendar and write down when I will exercise.

I will reduce the amount of time I watch television (or spend time on the computer) by ____ minutes/hours each day.

I will start a record of my physical activity and use this to increase the amount of time I move each day.
Eating healthier can seem like a big challenge -- but it doesn't have to be! Last week we learned that small changes can make a big difference and this concept also pertains to eating healthy! During this program we will focus on being intentional about our weight loss by making small changes in our diet involving reducing the amount of fat and sugar while increasing the number of fruits and vegetables you eat. Together these changes will help you to reduce the number of calories you consume and will lead to weight loss.

The Role of Healthy Eating in Weight Management

Does anyone know what calories are?

Calories are a necessity in life- they help us to do everyday tasks like think and walk. But when we talk about weight management, if you consume too many calories each day, this can lead to weight gain.

There are three ways that you can lose weight:

- Eat and Drink Less
- Exercise More
- Do a Combination of Both!
Through the NEW-R program, we will encourage you to be intentional about your weight loss through a combination of reducing how much you eat and drink (and also making healthier choices) as well as becoming more active! Today, we're going to focus on healthy eating to help reduce the number of calories you take in each day.

**My Plate-- Steps to a Healthier You!**

![MyPlate](Image)

**MyPlate helps you:**

**Balance calories**
- Enjoy your food, but eat less.
- Avoid oversized portions.

**Know what foods to increase**
- Make half your plate fruits and vegetables.
- Make at least half your grains whole grains.

**Know what foods to decrease**
- Compare sodium in foods like soup, bread, and frozen meals — and choose the foods with lower numbers.
- Drink water instead of sugary drinks.
One of the basic principles of My Plate is to eat a variety of foods. Simply put, this means you should try and eat lots of different kinds of foods -- in fact, you should eat a variety of foods from each of the 5 food groups each day!

Let's look at an example day -- do you think this person ate a good variety of foods?

1. Does this look like a good variety?

___________________________________

2. What is the problem?

___________________________________

3. Can you name a few things that are missing from this diet?

__________________________________  
__________________________________

---

Eating Whole Foods (and we don’t mean the store)

Another way to eat healthier is to eat whole foods, meaning foods that come the way they were grown. This is particularly true for fruits, vegetables, and grains. Foods that are in their original state typically have more nutrients and fewer unhealthy ingredients than processed foods. For example consider the following:

The actual apple will have more fiber and less sugar than the applesauce. The pop-tart adds even more sugar and fat and has little nutritional value. Given these options, pick the apple.
Let's learn a little more about the food groups and how you can make healthier choices.

**Grain Group**

Grains are foods made from wheat, rice, oats barley or other grains. Some examples of foods in the grain group include:

- Bread
- Pasta
- Rice
- Oatmeal
- Breakfast cereals
- Tortillas

Most people in the US eat enough grains but they don’t eat the right type of grains. At least half of your grains should be whole grains. Remember that whole foods are healthier than processed or refined foods. When grains are refined you lose many of the benefits of this food group such as fiber, iron and B vitamins. At least half of the grain foods you eat each day should be whole grains.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eat More of These</th>
<th>Eat Less of These</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Whole Grains</strong></td>
<td><strong>Refined Grains</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole wheat bread</td>
<td>White bread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barley</td>
<td>Most bagels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popcorn</td>
<td>Pasta (unless made of whole grain)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Rice</td>
<td>White rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgar</td>
<td>Unbleached and bleached flour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oatmeal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What are other examples of whole grains?
**Vegetable Group**

*Some examples of foods in the vegetable group include:*

- Dark green vegetables (broccoli, greens, spinach, etc)
- Orange and red vegetables (carrots, pumpkin, sweet potato, butternut squash)
- Starchy vegetables (corn, potatoes)
- Legumes/Beans (black beans, kidney beans, lentils, chickpeas, etc)
- Other vegetables (asparagus, cauliflower, cucumbers, tomatoes, zucchini, etc)

Different vegetables have different nutritional benefits. Thus, it's important to eat a wide variety! Vegetables naturally have little or no fat (unless you add fat when you prepare them) -- so they are very low in calories! If you are hungry, eat as many vegetables as you want -- they will fill you up for very few calories!

**Note: Keep Your Veggies Healthy**

There is a tendency to add a lot of fat to our vegetables: Think French fries, baked potatoes with butter and sour cream or broccoli with cheese sauce. Choose vegetables with less fat by going light on the salad dressing or using healthier preparation methods such as baking or steaming.

Beans and Peas

Beans and peas are a special type of vegetable that are a good source of protein in addition to being high in fiber and many nutrients.

A good way to add more vegetables is by eating dishes that contain a combination of foods such as soups, stews and stir-frys.

**How could you add more vegetables to a dish you already like to eat?**
Fruit Group

Some examples of foods in the fruit group include:

- Apples
- Bananas
- Berries (strawberries, blueberries, raspberries)
- Grapefruit
- Kiwi
- Melon (cantaloupe, honeydew, watermelon)
- Pineapple

Fruits are excellent sources of many vitamins but especially vitamins A and C! Any fruit or 100% fruit juice counts as part of the fruit group. Fruits may be fresh, canned, frozen or dried and may be whole, cut-up or pureed. Fruits are another excellent low calorie option -- so if you are hungry, this is another food group you can feel good about filling up on!

Can you name other fruits that you enjoy?

Here are some ways you can get more fruit:

- Top your cereal or oatmeal with fruit
- Add fresh fruit to yogurt
- Try fruit in salads or even main dishes
- Cut up fruit and put it in containers in your refrigerator for easy access
Milk Group

Some examples of foods in the milk group include:

- Milk
- Yogurt
- Cheese
- Cottage Cheese

On MyPlate, the area for the milk group is smaller, but without dairy foods, getting enough calcium for bone health may be difficult. Focus on lower-fat dairy products that still have high amounts of calcium. Cream cheese, cream and butter are not counted as foods in the milk group because of their high fat content and low calcium. You can choose lactose free products if needed. Did you know that skim milk and whole milk have the same amount of calcium -- they only differ in the number of calories and fat they contain?

How many servings from the milk group?

For most adults, 3 servings /day of milk is adequate. 1 serving =
- 1 cup of milk
- 1 cup of yogurt
- 1 ½ ounces of cheese

Non-dairy Options for Calcium

Due to lactose intolerance or other factors some people choose not to eat dairy products. Other foods high in calcium include almond, rice or soy milk, dark leafy greens such as collars or kale, and canned fish with bones like sardines.

Are you making the right milk group choices? Are you choosing low fat options with lots of calcium? Are you getting enough milk? Too much?
Protein (Meat/Bean) Group

Some examples of foods in the protein group include:

- Beef
- Pork
- Chicken
- Turkey
- Fish
- Eggs
- Beans
- Nuts/seeds
- Peanut butter

The meat and bean group are filled with a wide variety of foods that are an excellent source of protein! Note that dried beans and peas are listed in both this group and the vegetable group (they are a high protein vegetable).

Making Better Protein Choices

Most Americans get enough protein each day but they don’t necessarily make the healthiest choices. Consider these options:

- Choose low-fat cuts of meat – those cuts marked as loin tend to be lower in fat
- Remove the skin from chicken
- Limit processed meats such as bacon, ham, salami as these can be both high in fat and sodium
- Choose more non-meat options such as beans and eggs
- Add more fish to your diet
- Avoid fried foods such as fried chicken or fried fish

Name at least three healthy protein foods that you like to eat:
In order to increase variety and healthy foods in your diet this week, can you list one food that you might add to your diet from each food group?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Group</th>
<th>Food Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grains:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetables:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk/Dairy:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protein:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Empty Calories and Added Sugar

Some of the foods we eat have very little nutritional value and many of these same foods have lots of calories! Sodas, candy, pastries, ice cream and margarine are examples. In addition, many foods we eat could be healthy were it not for large amounts of added sugar. Flavored yogurt and pre-packaged oatmeal are examples of foods with lots of added sugar.

Eating intentionally means making better choices. This doesn’t mean that you shouldn’t indulge in the occasional treat. But by limiting foods high in empty calories and added sugar you can greatly cut down on the number of calories you consume each day! In addition, if you replace these foods with healthy options you will get more of the nutrients that your body needs.
Let’s take a minute and review your goals from last week:

- How did you do with last week’s goals?
- If you didn’t quite meet these goals, do you need to change them slightly so that you can meet these goals in the future?
- Do you feel ready to add another goal at this time or do you need to concentrate on mastering previous goals?

My goal(s) for next week is to:

Things to Do this Week…

- Try and pick foods this week that are lower in fat -- write down a few examples of what you ate and bring the list back to group next week so that you can share with the rest of the group.
- Also, try your best to eat a variety of foods each day and limit your portion sizes.

Ending on a Positive Note – Others have Done It, So Can You!!!

Life Affirmation: Dream your dreams. See it. Believe it. Achieve it.

I am a person who is a heavy soda pop drinker. I would drink soda from the time I woke up in the morning until I went to bed at night. I would drink a 12 pack in about two days. I was struggling a lot to maintain healthy blood sugar levels and I even had to go on 40 units of insulin every meal because of drinking soda. One day I woke up and stood on the scale and it said 215lbs. That day is when I decided that it was time for change. That day I substituted water and crystal light for soda. Instead of snacking on cookies and cupcakes I would eat carrots, cheese and a tsp of ranch dressing. My blood sugar levels dropped drastically. I even started the zumba fitness on the Wii and there was a big change in my overall health. I had more energy and I wasn’t tired all the time. I started to feel a lot better about my self image. I went from 215lbs to 170lbs in about 7 months. I feel so good. Now I don’t have to use insulin. My fasting blood sugar averages 80 and my average blood sugar levels are 115.

Kansas peer leader
Reading Food Labels & Portion Control

“To eat is a necessity, but to eat intelligently is an art”. La Rochefoucoule

The NEW-R program is teaching you how to be intentional in your weight loss journey. In the first session we discussed that people are more successful with their weight loss when they are intentional about what they eat. Two easy strategies that you can use to be more intentional about what you eat are closely watching your portion sizes and taking the time to read food labels to select healthier options.

An Easy Guide to Reading Food Labels

Since you have committed to eating healthier, you have probably wondered whether certain foods are a good choice or not. While some foods like fruits and vegetables are pretty obvious that they are healthy, other foods may not be so easy to tell.

Good news --- by looking at the Nutrition Facts label on the back of a package --- you will learn a lot more about the food. Reading labels can help you make your "personal best" food choices - and will help you be more intentional about your weight loss!

Let's explore the label together and learn how the food you choose contributes to the nutrients and calories you need each day for a healthy diet!

### Nutrition Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Serving Size</th>
<th>% cup (114g)</th>
<th>Servings Per Container</th>
<th>4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount Per Serving</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calories</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>Calories from Fat 30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Daily Value*</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Fat</td>
<td>3g</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturated Fat</td>
<td>0g</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cholesterol</td>
<td>0mg</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium</td>
<td>300mg</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Carbohydrate</td>
<td>13g</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dietary Fiber</td>
<td>3g</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugars</td>
<td>3g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protein</td>
<td>3g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin A</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>Vitamin C 60%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>Iron 4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet. Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calories Per Gram:</th>
<th>Fat 9 • Carbohydrate 4 • Protein 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Fat</td>
<td>Less than 65g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturated Fat</td>
<td>Less than 20g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cholesterol</td>
<td>Less than 300mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium</td>
<td>Less than 2,400mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Carbohydrate</td>
<td>300g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dietary Fiber</td>
<td>20g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calories</td>
<td>per gram:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are 2 parts to a Food Label:

1. **Top Section**: This information is specific to the food or beverage you are eating. It will be different for each food.

2. **Bottom Section**: This part of the label is the same on all food labels and simply provides general dietary information. Not all packages will have this information.
Remember, watching your portion size is another way you can be intentional about your weight loss!

When we talk about what we eat, we often say we have a portion, serving or helping of something -- while these are similar; they are not completely the same.

- **Serving Size**: This is actually the amount that is recommended based upon dietary guidelines
- **Portion Size**: This is the amount of food or beverage that you actually eat at one setting - - this amount may be more or less than one serving size

Where Do You Begin?

Before you can look at the specifics on the calories and nutrients in a food, you must know how much food you are talking about. It’s important to start with the **serving size**.

- This amount may be different than what you are actually eating -- so pay close attention!
- You will need to look at this information and compare it to the amount you ACTUALLY eat.
- You’ll also want to look at how many servings are in the package -- you’ll be surprised that a lot of little packages have more than one serving!

This is very important because the serving size on the food package influences all of the nutrient amounts on the rest of the label.

### Serving Size versus Portion Size

*Remember, watching your portion size is another way you can be intentional about your weight loss!*

**One Serving**  
**One Portion = 3 Servings**
**Bottom line** -- You must always compare the Serving Size on the package to the amount you actually plan to eat and do some simple math to determine how many calories and nutrients you are actually eating.

**Let’s Practice!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Single Serving</th>
<th>Double Serving</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serving Size</td>
<td>1 cup (228g)</td>
<td>2 cups (456g)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calories</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calories from Fat</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Fat</td>
<td>12g</td>
<td>24g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trans Fat</td>
<td>1.5g</td>
<td>3g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturated Fat</td>
<td>3g</td>
<td>6g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cholesterol</td>
<td>30mg</td>
<td>60mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium</td>
<td>470mg</td>
<td>940mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Carbohydrate</td>
<td>31g</td>
<td>62g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dietary Fiber</td>
<td>0g</td>
<td>0g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugars</td>
<td>5g</td>
<td>10g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protein</td>
<td>5g</td>
<td>10g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin C</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**QUESTION**

When you look at a food label, it is telling you the nutrient information for ONE serving of that food. But what do you do if you have two or even three servings?

**ANSWER**

You must multiply all of the numbers on the nutrition label by how many servings you actually ate.

- Let’s look at the example above.
- In this scenario you made macaroni and cheese -- but you actually ate two servings (or 2 cups) instead of one.
- So you see under the "Double Serving" column that all of the numbers in the "Single Serving" Column are multiplied by 2.
#2 - Calories

After you have determined how many servings you plan to eat; now we can start looking at the rest of the label! Since we are being intentional about selecting foods that are lower in calories in order to help you lose or maintain your current weight, we suggest that you next look at how many calories are in each serving. Typically we consume MORE calories than we need, so try selecting foods that are lower in calories!

**ACTIVITY**

Examine food labels and determine how many calories you would get by eating one serving, ½ serving and 2 servings.

#3 – The Nutrients

There are certain nutrients that are good for us (try and consume more of these) and other nutrients that may be harmful to us (try to limit these).

**Get Enough of These Nutrients**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nutrient</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dietary Fiber</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin A</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin C</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We should be **intentional** about selecting foods that will fill us up with good nutrients.

Look at this part of the label to see if the food you want to eat will give you lots of good vitamins and minerals.

Eating enough of these nutrients can improve your health and help prevent certain medical conditions.

**Limit These Nutrients**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nutrient</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Fat</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturated Fat</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trans Fat</td>
<td>3g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cholesterol</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium</td>
<td>470mg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Likewise, we can improve our diet by avoiding nutrients that aren't as good for us -- these types of nutrients may lead to diseases such as heart disease and high blood pressure.
But How Do I Know if a Food is HIGH or LOW in a Nutrient?

If we look at the boxes on the previous page that show which nutrients we should eat more or eat less of - how do you actually know if that food is high or low in a certain nutrient? We see in that example that there are 12 g of fat per serving -- but is this a little or a lot?

To determine this -- you can look at the % on the right side of the label (% DV). While these numbers can be very helpful -- please note they are based upon a 2,000 calorie diet and the number of calories you need to consume to lose or maintain your weight may be slightly higher or lower than this number. That's okay though -- the %DV can be used as a frame of reference!

Use the % DV to determine if a food is either high or low in a certain nutrient.

Here is a rule of thumb to follow:

- 5% DV or less is considered to be LOW
- 20% DV or more is considered to be HIGH

Discussion Questions

1. Which nutrients would you want to be less than 5%?
2. Which nutrients would you want to be more than 20%?

The Ingredients List......

Food labels will also include a list of the ingredients. The ingredients are listed in terms of amount with the first ingredient accounting for most of what is in the food or beverage, the second ingredient being the next most and so forth.

By reading the ingredient list you will know what you are consuming. If you have food allergies or need to avoid foods because of a medical condition it is important to read the ingredients list. However, sometimes the language can be a little confusing. Below some of the more confusing ingredients are explained.
• **Partially hydrogenated oils or hydrogenated oils** – these are trans fats and should be avoided

• **Sodium** - salt, another ingredient that you should limit

• **Words ending in “ose”** – such as fructose or sucrose are some form of sugar and should be avoided

• **“Whole” as in grains** - for example whole wheat or whole oats, this is a good - especially when listed as the first or second ingredient

• **Gluten** – a group of proteins from some grains such as wheat, barley or rye

• **Casein** – cow’s milk, some individuals need to avoid milk products

• **Carrageenan & guar gum** – thickeners that come from plant products

• **BHA & BHT** – preservatives that keep fats from becoming rancid

---

**A Little More on Portion Control…**

Another way that you can be intentional about the foods you eat is to watch HOW MUCH food you actually eat. Remember, we just discussed the difference between a portion size and a serving size. The portion size – the amount you actually serve yourself—can have a big impact on the number of calories you consume.

*Here are some simple ways you can control the amount of food you eat:*

• Eat the same amount of fruits and vegetables that you do now (or even increase this number!) and decrease your portion size of all other foods by half.

• Try filling half of your plate with vegetables and then ¼ of your plate with protein and ¼ with grains (preferably whole grains).

• When you have leftovers, portion them out into single serving containers.

• Try eating a salad (watch the toppings) or a broth based soup before you eat your meal.

• Try using smaller plates and bowls – you can fill these up and feel like you are eating a lot, but you have actually decreased your portion size!

• Learn to “eyeball” standard portion sizes and stick to them for your first serving. Once you have eaten this amount, wait 20 minutes to see if you are really hungry before having a second helping.
Here are some examples of how you might “eyeball” standard portion sizes

These objects are to help you recognize common PORTION SIZES. These are not always serving sizes; some of the PORTIONS can be multiple SERVINGS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Serving Size</th>
<th>Food Example</th>
<th>Common Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 pancake = compact disc</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Pancakes" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Compact Disc" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 oz lunch meat = compact disc</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Lunch Meat" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Compact Disc" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 slice of bread = cassette tape or compact disc</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Bread" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Compact Disc" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Question: What other ideas do you have for ways to decrease your portion sizes?

Write down 2-3 ways that you plan to try and decrease the amount of food you consume:

1. 
2. 
3. 
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One bagel = hockey puck or 6 oz can of tuna</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 medium baked potato = computer mouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ cup cooked pasta = 1 cupcake wrapper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ cup cooked oatmeal rice or veggies = the bulb part of a light bulb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ cup ice cream = bulb part of light bulb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 (3 oz) hamburger = deck of cards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 ounces cooked meat, poultry = deck of cards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 tablespoons peanut butter = a Golf ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 oz cheese = 4 dice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 cup of salad greens = baseball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 medium fruit (Apple, pear, orange) = baseball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 cup fries (~10 fries) = baseball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 cup flaked cereal = baseball</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Let’s take a minute and review your goals from last week:

- How did you do with last week’s goals?
- If you didn’t quite meet these goals, do you need to change them slightly so that you can meet these goals in the future?
- Do you feel ready to add another goal at this time or do you need to concentrate on mastering previous goals?

My goal(s) for next week is to:

Things to Do this Week...

- As you shop this week or select your meals each day, practice reading the Nutrition Facts labels and try to select healthier options.
- Practice controlling your portion sizes using the 2-3 strategies you selected during this week’s lesson.
ABC’s of Healthier Living:

**Affirmation:** I will invest energy into changing my lifestyle choices. I will keep my eyes on the prize which is overall well-being. I will pick myself up and keep going.

Think about it differently. Do not think about that four letter word “diet.” Think about getting healthier. This might relieve the pressure of feeling like you failed when you have not reached a “diet” goal.

**Be patient.** Small steps and small changes over time create significant achievements. You have heard the saying, three times a charm. Try it three times to contrast the difference you feel when making a lifestyle change. If you get off track one day – get back on the next. Get friends involved. Celebrate your accomplishments with fruit smoothies with yogurt instead of soda and cake.

**Eating out:** I used to feel like I couldn’t eat out which meant sacrificing the pleasure of tasting good food. One tip that I have used is “share-a-meal”. Bring a friend with you. You can order a steak and potato and share it. These days the meals you order at a restaurant often feed two people. Split the meal and split the cost. You save yourself extra calories and money that way. Drink unsweetened tea or water.

**Label reading:** I learned to be aware of the first ingredients listed in the nutritional information. I pay particular attention to sodium and sugar. I have learned to be aware of hidden salts and sugars in foods. I try to get foods packed in water or natural juices. I have a friend who influenced me to investigate turkey bacon, hotdogs and hamburger versus beef. Once I had it about three times – I really began to like it. I also shop for foods for our consumer run organizations. I have been introducing the community to more vegetables and fresh fruits. Bananas and oranges are reasonably price. Fruit has become the substitute for desserts. It’s becoming a natural part of our lunch menus.

Cherie Bledsoe
“Physical fitness is not only one of the most important keys to a healthy body; it is the basis of dynamic and creative intellectual activity.” – John F. Kennedy

As we are being intentional about our weight loss in the NEW-R program, one big thing that you can do to help with this process is spend more time moving! Don’t worry, we don’t expect you to start off running several miles, we’ll start slow – but just remember, anything you can do to be more active will not only help with your weight loss journey but will improve your overall health as well!

What will being Physically Active do for Me?

**Physical Benefits:**

- Helps you to move around more easily
- Strengthens your bones and muscles
- Improves your balance so you won’t fall
- Improves your sleep

**Health Benefits:**

- Helps you control your weight
- Helps lower your blood pressure, blood sugar, and cholesterol levels
- Helps your heart and lungs to be stronger
- Helps your bowels move so you are not constipated
- Improves your immune system so you won’t get sick as often
- Reduces your risk for diseases such as cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, Type II diabetes and some cancers
- Increase your chances of living a longer and healthier life
Mental Benefits:

- Improves your mental health and mood (Happier, less stressed or depressed)
- Helps you feel better about yourself

What are some benefits you would like to achieve by being more physically active?

What Kinds of Things do Physically Active People Do?

Physically Active People:

- Move around more than they sit
- Have leisure activities that make their heart beat faster
- See movement as an opportunity – not as an inconvenience or as extra work
- Look for ways to have fun AND be active!

How Much Physical Activity Do I Need to Do?

For general health, it’s recommended that you get 30 minutes or more each day on most days of the week. But to help control your weight, more is better. Don’t worry if you aren’t doing much physical activity now, it’s best to start slowly and gradually increase how much exercise you are doing.
If you start out doing too much, you may injure yourself. Our goal is just to get you moving more – so remember, sitting is better than lying, standing is better than sitting, walking is better than standing, etc!

- See if you can’t incorporate some structured physical activity (activities that you plan specifically to get your body moving) as well as increasing movement within your everyday activities (do chores, take the stairs instead of the elevator, park your car further away from the store).

Here is a chart that gives some recommendations for how frequently you should try to do different types of activities.

Try to Be Less Sedentary

The NEW-R program is designed to get you moving more …. So that means, try and decrease the number of activities that you do each day that would prevent you from moving more.

If you look at the top of the activity pyramid, it says to cut down on certain activities like watching TV, playing video or computer games or just sitting for periods of 30 minutes or more.
Think about your typical day...

What types of activities do you do that would prevent you from moving more?

How much of the day do you do these types of activities?

Can you make a goal to gradually decrease the amount of time that you spend doing these activities?

I will reduce the amount of time that I ________________ to ___________ minutes/hours per day and will do ________________ instead so that I am moving more.

What Type of Physical Activity would you Like to Do?

Remember, the best type of physical activity is one that you enjoy doing!

Some things you might consider:

- Do you like being active inside or outside?
- Do you like activities that involve other people (sports, group classes, etc)
- Do you like water?

Take a moment and select a few activities that you would like to try. These activities should be easy to incorporate into your daily life and should also make your heart beat faster.

1.
2.
3.
Let’s take a minute and review your goals from last week:

- How did you do with last week’s goals?
- If you didn’t quite meet these goals, do you need to change them slightly so that you can meet these goals in the future?
- Do you feel ready to add another goal at this time or do you need to concentrate on mastering previous goals?

My goal(s) for next week is to:

Things to Do this Week...

- Try to move as much as possible – look at your daily activities and see if you can make them more active (remember, try taking the stairs rather than the elevator, park further away and walk, if you arrive early for an appointment try walking around for a bit rather than just sitting and waiting, etc)
- Try reducing the number of activities that you do where you are just sitting
“Recovery for me is about movement, energy and fun. It is about finding my inner peace and sense of balance.”

I take a multivitamin daily for my eye and joint health. I consistently research women’s health issues on television watching shows like Dr. Oz. I have learned more about menopause and the relationship with omega three.

I am a couch potato. I love to watch television. I needed a creative way of getting exercise in my day. So I started doing chair exercises. This is what I do. When commercials come on, I do leg lifts, arm stretches, stomach crunches and abdominal lifts – all from my recliner. The commercials usually have a louder sound and are background with music. This provides me with the motivation to move. During a course of an hour of watching television, I spend on average between five and ten minutes exercising during commercials. This also has led me to walking around my house – sometimes I get in a mile.

-Kathy Washington

Kansas Peer Leader
“Our greatest glory is not in never failing but in rising up every time we fail.” Ralph Waldo Emerson

Today we will be discussing how you can still be intentional about your weight loss when eating out by simply making a plan before you go to the restaurant. You'll see that just because you are watching your weight and trying to lead a healthier lifestyle that this doesn't mean you have to give up eating at some of your favorite places -- it simply means taking a closer look at the foods/beverages offered and making better choices.

**Conversation Starter:**

When you eat out, what types of foods do you often get?

When you eat out, what types of healthy choices do you make?

**Why Eating Out Can be Difficult**

Eating out can be a challenge sometimes. Why? Because when we are not the ones preparing our food, we do not have as much control over what goes into the food. In particular we lose control over several of the things we are trying to be intentional about with our eating -- limiting the amount of fat and sugar and increasing the number of fruits and vegetables we eat.

For example - here is a common meal you might get when eating at a fast food restaurant:

Most individuals need around 2000 calories each day -- those that are trying to lose weight, need even fewer calories each day.

A meal like this may have 1320 calories and 51 grams of fat

The problem: That doesn't leave many calories for the rest of the day and you likely won't stay full for long!
What are Some Strategies you can Use to Eating Healthier when Eating Out?

1. Watch the Portion Size

One big problem with eating out can be that the portion size is a lot bigger than you would eat at home -- try selecting a size that would be similar to what you would eat at home.

- Try ordering the smallest size (maybe even the kids meal)
- Split the meal with a friend
- Divide the portion into two and take the other half home for another meal

Q: What do you plan to do when you eat out to make sure your portion size isn't too large?

2. Be Aware of How the Food is Prepared

The way a food is prepared (i.e. grilled versus fried) can make a big difference in the amount of calories and fat in your food

- Ask to have the food prepared the way you want it
  - Try leaving the mayo and/or cheese off a sandwich
  - Ask for sauces and dressings on the side
  - Ask for food to be grilled or boiled versus fried
  - Watch for words that may mean there is a lot of fat -- smothered, creamed, breaded, crispy, etc

Q: What other ideas do you have for requests that would make the food healthier?
3. Maximize your Nutrition

Look for ways that you can limit the amount of fat and sugar and increase healthier foods like fruits and vegetables.

- Add vegetables to sandwiches or pizza
- Skip the French fries or chips and go for a side salad, fruit or baked potato
- When eating a salad, add lots of vegetables or fruits while limiting the number of high calorie toppings (bacon, cheese, croutons, etc)

Q: How else could you make the meal more nutritious?

4. Plan Ahead

Part of being intentional about your weight loss is taking the time to make plans about what you are going to eat -- this will increase your chances of making healthier choices.

- If you know you will be eating out that day, try eating lighter at the other meals that day
- If you know the restaurant, make a plan for what healthier options you will order before you get there and are tempted with less healthy options
- Check to see if there is Nutrition Information available -- many restaurants have this information available online or in the restaurant
- If they serve bread or chips before the meal, try to limit how much you eat

Q: What will you do to plan ahead?
**Healthier Bites**

*Here are some ideas for healthier food items at different types of restaurants*

### Chinese Food

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instead of</th>
<th>Try</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Egg Drop Soup</td>
<td>Wonton or Hot &amp; Sour Soup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg rolls, Fried Wontons or Crab Ragoon</td>
<td>Steamed Dumplings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fried Entrees (example: General Tso’s Chicken, Sweet &amp; Sour Chicken, etc)</td>
<td>Broiled, boiled, steamed or little stir-fried entrees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fried Rice</td>
<td>Steamed Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lobster, oyster, bean or soy sauce</td>
<td>Sweet &amp; Sour sauce, plum or duck sauce</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mexican Food

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instead of</th>
<th>Try</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flour tortillas (contain lard)</td>
<td>Corn tortillas (made with less fat)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnitas (fried beef or pork) or chorizo (sausage)</td>
<td>Grilled fish or chicken breast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refried Beans</td>
<td>Black beans, borracho beans or Spanish rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guacamole or chili con queso</td>
<td>Salsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sour cream or cheese</td>
<td>Salsa, pico de gallo, cilantro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quesadillas</td>
<td>Chicken fajitas (skip the guacamole and sour cream)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flautas, Chalupas, Tacos</td>
<td>Chicken or beef enchiladas with red sauce or salsa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Italian Food

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instead of</th>
<th>Try</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fried Calamari</td>
<td>Dinner salad or minestrone soup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese or meat-filled pastas or casserole type</td>
<td>Pasta Primavera or pasta with white or red clam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dishes (including Alfredo)</td>
<td>sauce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pasta with butter or cream sauces</td>
<td>Pasta with marsala or marinara sauce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scaloppini or Parmigianino dishes</td>
<td>Marsala or piccatta dishes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian pastries such as cream cake</td>
<td>Italian ices</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Cajun Food

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instead of</th>
<th>Try</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fried crawfish or shrimp</td>
<td>Broiled or grilled crawfish or shrimp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gumbo, etouffe and sauces made with roux</td>
<td>Creole and jambalaya dishes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fried seafood</td>
<td>Broiled or Grilled seafood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fried shrimp or oyster Po’Boy sandwiches</td>
<td>Turkey or roast beef Po’Boy sandwiches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dirty rice (contains chicken, gizzards, livers,</td>
<td>White Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>butter, etc)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red beans and rice with sausage</td>
<td>Red beans and rice WITHOUT sausage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adapted from American Heart Association; [http://www.americanheart.org/presenter.jhtml?identifier=1104](http://www.americanheart.org/presenter.jhtml?identifier=1104)
Think about one or two of your favorite places to eat - can you come up with a healthier meal you might enjoy in the future?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What you Order Now</th>
<th>Healthier Option</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Example: Wendy's</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bacon Deluxe Single</td>
<td>Jr. Hamburger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium French Fries</td>
<td>Mandarin Oranges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium Coke</td>
<td>Garden Side Salad with Light Ranch &amp; Croutons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calories: 1250</td>
<td>Calories: 470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat: 55 g</td>
<td>Fat: 15 g</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#1: Restaurant: ____________________

#2: Restaurant: ____________________

Let’s take a minute and review your goals from last week:

- How did you do with last week’s goals?
- If you didn’t quite meet these goals, do you need to change them slightly so that you can meet these goals in the future?
- Do you feel ready to add another goal at this time or do you need to concentrate on mastering previous goals?
My goal(s) for next week is to:

Things to Do this Week...

- If you eat out this week, remind yourself of the strategies we discussed this week and try using 1 or 2 of them to make a healthier meal. Be ready to share how you did with the group next week!

Ending on a Positive Note – Others Have Done It, So Can You!

1. **Overweight/obesity effect** – About a year and a half ago I was almost 210 lbs and a doctor told me that I was overweight along with having high blood pressure and cholesterol and that my overall physical health for someone at my age was very poor. As a result, I felt even worse about my self-image than I already did but it was a wake-up call for me to start doing something about it because in the past I had always been someone who was very active and liked to exercise but had been depressed and using “diagnoses” as an excuse to basically live in the “life is limited” stage of recovery. The wake-up call kind of made me angry but it was an anger that I feel was beneficial because it provided me the motivation to do something about it.

2. **ABCs of healthier eating** – Eating 3 meals a day instead of snacking throughout the day really helped. Eating something for breakfast like some cereal (preferably something like cheerios over captain crunch), a banana or some other fruit, oatmeal, or a healthy granola bar (some granola bars are actually worse than candy bars). Eating some type of breakfast kick starts the metabolism and has been found to actually help in people looking to lose weight versus skipping breakfast altogether. Trying not to snack on sugary foods at night after 9 is important because loading up on sugar before bedtime makes sleep difficult.
3. **Food Labels** – A 2,000 calorie diet is recommended for most people and when reading food labels it’s important to look at the serving size as well as the daily recommended percentage. If a label says that something is 250 calories but the meal/package contains two servings then it is important to know that the entire package is 500 calories. Daily recommended value %s are important when it comes to other categories like grams of fat (especially calories from fat), and carbs.

4. **Physical Activity** – I started out walking or doing some type of activity for 20 minutes twice a week up to 30 minutes 3 or 4 times a week. Walking around the block a few times and just getting out in the sun and fresh air really helped. Of course, not everyone has that option or ability but anything that gets the cardio going like clapping to some music or even dancing in place can help. Just even a little bit of activity for me helped to improve my mood and to feel better.

5. **Eating Out** – Budgeting to eat out once a week and to buy off the dollar menu are good ideas. Most fast food restaurants have information about calories and such and even offer healthy and affordable alternatives like salads and parfaits. Even Taco Bell has a healthy alternative menu. On a website I recently visited (helpguide.org), I discovered that a double Whopper with cheese, medium fries and an apple pie contains more saturated fat than the American Heart Association recommends people consume in two days.

6. **Meal Planning/shopping** – I don’t know much about this other than that in my opinion the generic brands of popular food items at the grocery store taste just as good as the name brands and are usually quite a bit cheaper. Grocery shopping can be a big ordeal for a lot of people (it is for me) and overwhelming but it helped to set aside a time to go and amount of time to spend each week at the store and it makes it fun if to have a friend or someone to go with. Bring a list, have a set amount to spend and NEVER shop hungry.

These are some things that I did that really helped me to regain some control of my health, well being, and how I felt about myself. Just the little bit of walking once a week turned into walking every day and eventually I started exercising more and eating better and I felt so much better gradually over time.

Michael Sweatte, CPS; peer leader
When we first started the NEW-R program, we discussed that two of the many ways you can be intentional with your weight loss journey are to:

1) Be intentional about what you eat, and
2) Have healthy foods on hand

We will further explore these two strategies in today’s lesson. First, by thinking through your day and planning what you will eat for each meal and snack, you can be more intentional about eating an all around balanced diet (that’s lower in calories and that will lead to weight loss).

This also allows you to plan ahead for days when you know you may be eating on the go. By selecting the healthiest options for your money when you are shopping, you can also ensure that you have all the healthy food you need on hand for your meal plan.

Why Should I Plan my Meals?

Let’s explore some of the many reasons you should consider planning ahead for what and when you are going to eat your meals and snacks.

1. To help you eat healthier!
   - Allows you to include a variety of foods (from each of the food groups)
   - Helps you avoid running out to get something to eat because you don’t have food on hand

2. To help you balance your meals
   - If you know one of your meals may be less healthy (i.e. you are eating out), you can plan to eat healthier the rest of the day
   - If one meal is high in fat or sodium, you could prepare low fat or low sodium meals/snacks the rest of the day
3. To save money
- If you plan your meals ahead of time, you can check your kitchen for what foods you have on hand and make use of those items rather than purchasing additional items
  - You can plan for leftovers
  - You can limit expensive "impulse" buys (things you don't really need)

4. To save time and effort
- When you plan meals you can make a list of items that are needed and get them all at once - this reduces the number of trips to the grocery store
- Helps you make good use of leftovers -- this cuts your cooking time and food costs!

Consider Eliminating Sodas
Remember when we talked about empty calories. Sodas are 100% empty calories. They have no nutrients and the typical sugared can of soda contains 10 teaspoons of sugar and 150 – 200 calories. You may need to cut back gradually, but eliminating sodas is a great way to improve your health.

How Do I Plan My Meals?

Let's look at tips you can use for creating a weekly meal plan:

1. Check your kitchen for foods you have on hand
2. If possible, look at the grocery store ads for the week (and grab any coupons you might also have)
3. Think about if there are any meals this week where you will be eating out (i.e., at a restaurant, at the mental health facility, etc)
4. Think about how you can incorporate leftovers or change foods slightly to make another meal (i.e., brown lean ground beef for tacos and also for lasagna)
5. Now start filling in the menu planner
6. Create a shopping list from the planned menu
7. Go to the grocery store and buy only the items on your list (don't give into temptation!!)
8. Keep your old weekly meal plans -- you can use them again in the future!
As you plan your daily menu, keep in mind that we want to include a variety of foods from each of the 5 food groups. The following is just an example of how many servings of each food group you might include at each meal. Keep in mind, adding more fruits and vegetables if you are still hungry is a great strategy to keep full without adding a lot of calories.

### Breakfast

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Group</th>
<th># Servings</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Grains (bread/cereal/etc) | 2-3 oz- equivalent | Breakfast burrito
| Vegetables       | 1/2 cup        | Tortilla (8" diameter)                                                |
| Fruit            | 1 cup          | Shredded Cheddar Cheese (1/3 cup)                                      |
| Milk/Dairy       | 1 cup          | Scrambled egg (1 egg)                                                  |
| Meat/Beans       | 1 oz- equivalent | Black beans (1/2 cup)                                                 |
|                  |                | Orange (1 medium)                                                      |
|                  |                | Coffee                                                                 |

### Lunch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Group</th>
<th># Servings</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meat/Beans</td>
<td>2 oz equivalent</td>
<td>Tuna Sandwich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetable</td>
<td>1 cup</td>
<td>Whole wheat bread (2 slices)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grains</td>
<td>2 oz equivalent</td>
<td>Tuna salad (1/2 cup)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk/Dairy</td>
<td>1 cup</td>
<td>Lettuce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tomato</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Carrot Sticks (3/4 cup)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Low-fat Milk (1 cup)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Dinner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Group</th>
<th># Servings</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meat/Beans</td>
<td>2-3 oz equivalent</td>
<td>Chicken breast (2-3 ounces)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetable</td>
<td>1 1/2 cup</td>
<td>Baked sweet potato (1 medium)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain</td>
<td>1 oz equivalent</td>
<td>Butter (1 tsp)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Green beans (1/2 cup)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Roll (small/med)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Butter (1/2 tsp)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Iced tea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Snacks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Group</th>
<th># Servings</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milk</td>
<td>1 ½ oz</td>
<td>Cheese stick (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit</td>
<td>1 cup</td>
<td>Apple (1 medium)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### A Simple way to Control Portions

- Make 1/2 your plate veggies
- 1/4 plate grains
- 1/4 plate protein
- Have a serving of fruit or dairy on the side
## Menu Planner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Breakfast</th>
<th>Lunch</th>
<th>Dinner</th>
<th>Snacks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Grocery Shopping List**
Let's get shopping! But first, let's consider a few things...

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:

Eating healthfully is too expensive -- I have to buy the cheapest foods to stretch my dollars and that's why I don't eat more healthfully.

While this statement can be true in certain instances, it's often more about how we prioritize our purchases.

For instance, it's easy to say that purchasing fresh fruit is too costly and then buy a bag of chips instead. But is this really true or is it that the bag of chips sounds a lot tastier than a piece of fruit?

In the example above -- both the serving of chips and the orange cost the same, but the nutritional difference is huge!

Nutritional Savings if you pick the oranges:

90 calories and 8 fat grams!

Plus you get additional fiber, Vitamin C, potassium, calcium and lots more!

So keep this in the back of your mind -- with a few thrifty tips, you can afford to pick healthier options.
If you are able to go to the grocery store on a weekly basis, dividing your money up into a weekly allowance when you receive your money each month will ensure you have food available throughout the month.

1. Determine your monthly budget for food
2. Divide this amount by the number of weeks in the month (4 or 5 depending upon the month) - this is your weekly budget
3. Put your weekly food budget into separate envelopes
4. Keep track during the week of your expenditures (Keep your receipts each week so you can see where you went over/under budget)

**Example:**

Weekly food budget: $40.00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When purchase made</th>
<th>Where</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Food Budget</td>
<td></td>
<td>$40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/5</td>
<td>Aldi's</td>
<td>-$22.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/8</td>
<td>Wendy's (eating out)</td>
<td>-$3.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/10</td>
<td>Quick Mart</td>
<td>-$10.29</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Balance Remaining</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$3.99</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. If you have money leftover one week, consider using it later in the month when you want to stock up on staples or purchase additional items that are on sale

**Shopping Basics**

1. Start with a list
   - First things first, use your weekly menu plan to create a grocery list (list only the items you need)
   - List both the food and the quantity needed
   - Try your best to stick to the list, but allow some flexibility for healthy items that may be on sale (if you have extra money available)
2. Use some basic strategies

- Don't shop while you are hungry - eat first!
- Try to stick to the outside of the grocery store (shop the perimeter) -- that's where the healthier foods are located!
- Take advantage of fresh produce when it is in season (it's cheaper)
- Read Nutrition Facts labels to determine best product
- Use date information on packages - "sell by" and "best if used by" dates - to help you chose the freshest foods

3. Compare costs in several ways

- Compare different brands (name brand vs. store brand)
- Compare foods in different forms (canned, fresh, frozen, dried)
- Compare different size packages (use unit pricing)
- Compare similar foods (pears vs. peaches or rolls vs. bread)
- Compare convenience items vs. making a food from scratch
- Consider whether you have a coupon
  - If it is a food you actually need or will eat (and is healthy), it may be a good buy
  - If you are just buying the food because you have a coupon, you aren't saving any money!
- Consider whether a product is on sale

Remember, food is only a bargain if you will actually use it!
GOAL SETTING

Let’s take a minute and review your goals from last week:

- How did you do with last week’s goals?
- If you didn’t quite meet these goals, do you need to change them slightly so that you can meet these goals in the future?
- Do you feel ready to add another goal at this time or do you need to concentrate on mastering previous goals?

My goal(s) for next week is to:

Things to Do this Week...

- Use the menu planner to plan out your meals for the next week. Start by taking inventory of what foods you have at home. Try to get a variety of foods in each day and balance the meals/snacks if you know you are going to be eating out or having a less healthy meal. Bring the sheet back to group next week so that you can share how you did with the group!

- If you go to the grocery store this week, try making a list before you go and stick to it! Remember, shopping the perimeter of the store is best!
Will power working out with mental health

I lost 100 pounds. I went from 305 to 205. I started walking to work every day – even in the snow. I was faithful. I began to drink a gallon of water every day. My eating habits changed a little eating salad and other light foods. I worked on my spirituality for motivation. I did this every day. I cut out soda. I really wanted to get into it. I started to go the gym. I was running - stepped it up from walking. I ran to work and home and then back to the gym. I hit the steel weights. I lifted and worked on a different part of the body every day. I would do all kinds of sit ups and even ran a mile around the track. At the end of things, I had lost 100 pounds. I am back doing this thing called healthy mental health living – mind over matter. You would love how you see me now. I am trying to get more built. Make your body a Big 10 – just try.

Love healthy testimony

-Donavan Gardner
"Instead of giving me reasons why I can’t, I give myself reasons why I can.” - Anonymous

Last week we discussed being intentional when you plan your meals and go to the grocery store to purchase the items you need to lead a healthier lifestyle. Now that you have a variety of foods from the various food groups, including lots of fruits and vegetables, now it’s time to get cooking!

We can also be intentional about our weight loss journey when cooking by looking for ways to decrease the fat and sugar in meals and increase the number of fruits and vegetables. Let’s take a look at some strategies you might use!

**Good Hamburger/Bad Hamburger**

The chart below represents a “stop light.” Let’s practice putting ingredients that might be placed on a hamburger into the various columns. You should stop and think before consuming food choices in the red, use caution or moderation for those items in the yellow column, and feel confident about choosing those foods within the green column!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Healthy Options</th>
<th>Okay Options</th>
<th>Not the Best Options</th>
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One of the ways that we are being *intentional* about our weight loss is to reduce the amount of fat we eat. Let's quickly review where we find how much fat a food has on the Nutrition Facts Label.

The reason we try to eat less fat is because fat has many more calories for the amount than carbohydrates and proteins.

- So, we can make small changes but really reduce the number of calories we consume. This ultimately leads to weight loss!

Remember, we can find the amount of fat towards the top of the label.

But how do you know if the food is high in fat?

\[ \text{__________} % \text{ or higher} \text{ DV} = \text{HIGH} \]
\[ \text{__________} % \text{ or lower} \text{ DV} = \text{LOW} \]
Not to worry ... you don’t have to abandon all of your favorite recipes to eat healthier! Making a few small changes to how you currently make a recipe can reduce the fat and calories and potential increase the number of vitamins and minerals!

**Try these tips:**

1. **Leave out the high fat food**
   - Don't add the cheese topping to a casserole
   - Leave out the butter when making rice
   - Make spaghetti sauce without meat

   Can you another example?

2. **Use less of a high fat food**
   - Use only 1 teaspoon of oil to brown meat or onions
   - Use half the amount of cheese
   - Use half the amount of mayonnaise

   Can you list another examples?

3. **Use a lower-fat food instead of a high fat food**
   - Use skim or 1% milk
   - Use low-fat or fat-free cheese
   - Choose salad dressings with less fat
   - Use lower fat ground beef

   Can you list another example?
4. Use a lower fat way to cook
   • Take the skin off your chicken before cooking
   • Trim fat from your meat before eating
   • Use a nonstick pan or nonstick vegetable spray to coat pan rather than oil or butter
   • Steam or microwave vegetables
   • Cook meat without adding fat
   • Drain and rinse browned ground beef

Can you list another example?

5. Reduce the amount of sugar in the ingredients or meal
   • Avoid processed foods with added sugar such as ketchup
   • Add less sugar to your food
   • Make beverage choices that don’t contain added sugar
   • Serve smaller portions of dessert
   • Have fruit for dessert

Can you list another example?

6. Add fruits and vegetables to increase the nutrients in your meal
   • Add spinach to lasagna
   • Add mandarin oranges or berries to your salad
   • Pour chili over a baked potato (use 1/2 the amount of chili)
   • Make your protein portion of the meal into a stir fry with lots of different vegetables

Can you list another example?

Information adapted from the DPP Lifestyle Balance Manual, 1996.
Low-Fat Preparation Techniques

When you pick a method to cook your food, try to avoid preparation techniques that involve adding additional fat.

- Frying
- Deep fat frying
- Sautéing

Here are some methods that require little to no added fat.

- Baking
- Broiling
- Grilling
- Roasting
- Steaming
- Stir frying (only uses small amount of additional fat)

Why You Should Do More Cooking at Home

There are several reasons why cooking at home is a good idea and here’s just a few:

1. You are more likely to pay attention to what you are eating
2. You have more control of what goes into the meal
3. It saves you money
ACTIVITY

Pick a meal that you like to prepare at home - what can you do to make this meal healthier?

Meal: __________________________________________

Some things to think about...

• Are there ways to decrease the fat?
• Can you add more whole grains?
• Can you add fruits or vegetables to the recipe?
• Is there a healthier cooking preparation you could use?
• What would be a sensible portion size?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredients for Original Meal</th>
<th>Ingredients for Healthier Meal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>

Are there any other changes to the preparation of the food that you might make?

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________
GOAL SETTING

Let’s take a minute and review your goals from last week:

- How did you do with last week’s goals?
- If you didn’t quite meet these goals, do you need to change them slightly so that you can meet these goals in the future?
- Do you feel ready to add another goal at this time or do you need to concentrate on mastering previous goals?

My goal(s) for next week is to:

Things to Do this Week...

- As you prepare meals this week, be intentional with reducing your calories by thinking about ways that you could make the meal healthier. Can you reduce the fat? Add more fruits and vegetables? Add more variety? See if you can come back to group next week with 1-2 examples of healthier meals you prepared this week.
Overweight/obesity effect: Being overweight has been a problem for me for since the onset of mental illness. It has caused me to experience shortness of breath when I am in motion. Just walking has been hard on my knees and legs. I have not felt comfortable in my clothes – I do not like anything tight around my waist or my hips.

Two years ago, I started working in my yard. I do landscaping, sweeping, raking, laying down mulch, digging, and planting flowers.

Food Labels: When I go to the grocery store I check the nutritional information; looking at the cholesterol, sodium, sugar and carbohydrates and I try to figure out how much I can have in calories. Now this has become routine and something I naturally do.

Eating Out: When I eat out, I get a grilled chicken sandwich versus getting a hamburger. When I go to a taco place – I will get the soft shell versus the hard shell. I avoid white bread and have cut back on drinking pop. When I do crave a pop, I usually drink a clear pop – like a Sprite or Seven-Up.

ABC of healthier eating: I have been doing this lifestyle change for two years. It was not hard and the benefits have been tremendous. Benefits like reduction in my stress levels and having better control over my emotions. I have gotten more restful sleep. At first I was doing it to please my mother but now I do it to please me.

I do thing to be creative in my yard like I put up fences around our trees and did some artwork in our mulch bed and planted flowers. I now feel better in my clothes. I can tell I lost some weight because my clothes fit differently. I noticed a loss of inches in my legs.

My goal was to strengthen my legs because I have arthritis. I do not need to take as much pain medicine than before I began this lifestyle change. Others people have notice the changes in me too. I did not think that exercise could help when I was angry – but being out in my yard gave me a place to calm down, reflect and think about situations before I react.

- Denise Baynham

Peer Leader
“If success is not on your own terms, if it looks good to the world but does not feel good in your heart it is not success at all.” – Anna Quindlen

This is the time to celebrate your accomplishments. If you lost weight over the last eight weeks you have a lot to be proud of. Good for you! But losing weight is just one piece of the program. A healthy lifestyle is a process and we are all at different points in the journey.

In this program you have gained access to information that will be useful throughout your life. Maybe you were not quite ready to make a particular change. It’s never too late. When you are ready to make that change, or maybe you need a refresher or some additional motivation – go back to this manual and read the information or redo an exercise. Keep the manual in a place that can serve as a reminder and refer to it often.

I’m On My Way to a Healthier Life

Three things I’m most proud of – list three changes you have made towards creating a healthier lifestyle. Think in terms of habits and behaviors or ways that you have changed your thinking,

1. _____________________________________________________________________________

2. _____________________________________________________________________________

3. _____________________________________________________________________________
SHARE THESE ACCOMPLISHMENTS WITH THE GROUP!

Although the NEW-R program is ending, a healthy lifestyle is always a work in progress. Let’s keep up the momentum!

**One thing I really need to work on.** Think of one thing you’d still really like to change.

___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________

**Now list the first step** — (e.g. what can I do tomorrow, this afternoon, in the next hour) to start the process toward making that change).

___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________

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One of the important lessons of the NEW – R program is about being intentional in behaviors that can affect your weight. Now that our class is coming to a close, it is important that you create a plan that you can live with that helps you create a lifestyle that is intentional.

Let’s make that plan today. Be realistic but also challenge yourself to be that healthier person you want to be. Fill out the plan below. Ideas for things to include in your plan can be found on the pages that follow.

1. Pay attention to what I eat – how will you make a plan for what you eat:

2. Get up at a reasonable time

   I will wake up at __________

3. Do something meaningful each day – list things you will do to give meaning to your day

4. Move more – list things you will do to be physically active

5. Connect with others – what will you do to receive the social support you need

6. Have a positive outlook – what will you do to stay positive about your weight loss goals
Pay attention to what you eat

- Keep a food journal/diary
- Make my lunch the night before
- Make a grocery list
- Plan my main meals for the week
- Keep health foods on hand
- Limit the amount of times I eat out
- Limit the number of times I eat junk food

Do something meaningful each day

- Reach out to another person
- Attend a group or class
- Go to work or volunteer
- Attend a religious service or study group
- Connect with nature
- Spend time enjoying a pet
- Do something creative
- Enjoy a hobby
- Go on an outing
- Spend time with family or friends

Move More

- Go for a walk
- Turn off the TV and get off the sofa
- Walk to the store
- Go to an exercise class
- Play a recreational sport
- Lift weights
- Take the stairs
Connect with Others

- Call someone on the telephone
- Write a letter or e-mail or chat on-line
- Visit a family member or friend
- Attend a group or class
- Start a conversation with someone new
- Exercise with a friend
- Invite someone over for a meal

Have a Positive Outlook

- Read or write a positive affirmation each day
- Ask for support from someone that you know will say something positive
- Acknowledge your achievements
- Remind yourself that you are making progress
- Give yourself a compliment
- Avoid people or situations that make you feel badly about yourself
- Laugh out loud
- Do something that makes you happy

The group leaders would also like to recognize your accomplishments by presenting you with a Certificate of Completion. See there is much to be proud of! Because of these accomplishments you are a healthier person today!