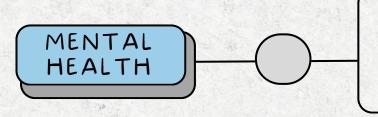
RECOMMENDATIONS for ICAC Task Forces and

their affiliated agencies

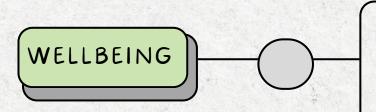


TIP I

Promote inter- and intra-agency culture that actively supports the mental health and wellness of ICAC investigators and forensic examiners.



Continue to train more police and forensic examiners on the investigation of CSAM so more staff can be placed on these investigations to help reduce the burden due to lack of staffing resources.



TRAINING

AWARENESS

PRACTICES

AND

RESOURCES

SUPPORT

STAFF

TRAINING

CONTENT

AND VOLUME

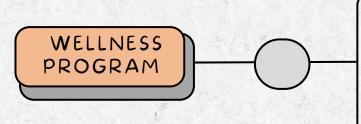
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TIP 3

Include police wellness awareness as a priority for incoming Commanders and department leads so they can better support their team and promote strategies for wellbeing.

TIP 4

Provide more preparation and awareness for new staff who are working CSAM cases around the possible mental health impact of the job and strategies to promote wellbeing.



TIP 5

Make Officer Wellness Programs an integral part of ICAC Task Force funding. Supplementing the standard employee assistance programs and mental health access with more specific information about warning signs and mitigation strategies surrounding CSAM investigations is a good first step.

PROMOTE HEALTH

Provide more and easy access to known strategies that help investigators stay healthy while at work including flexible work hours, exercise opportunities, and friend and family events.

TIP 6

Provide special focus on the development of practices and resources in affiliated agencies and agencies without supportive unions. These appear to be two markers of less adoption of wellness practices.

TIP 7

TIP 8

Direct more training to administrative staff. The research shows they have exposure to CSAM, but they may be less prepared for such and more vulnerable than staff with formal police and investigative training.

TIP 9

Consider how a combination of factors, including not only exposure to the content but also the volume of work, contributes to stress and trauma.

Learn more at: Mitchell, K.J., Gewirtz-Meydan, A., O'Brien, J. & Finkelhor, D. (2022). Practices and policies around wellness: Insights from the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Network. Frontiers in Psychiatry, 13, 931268.

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