

MENTAL WELLNESS FOR OLDER ADULTS



PEARLS is an evidence-based program offered by COA to reduce symptoms of depression and improve quality of life for older adults. PEARLS provides confidential high-quality mental health coaching for those who want to improve the way they feel. During 6-8 sessions over a 6-month period, participants work with a PEARLS coach on learning problem-solving skills and behavioral techniques to enhance their overall mental wellness.

WHO QUALIFIES?

Anyone 50+ living in Sonoma County who is encountering different kinds of depression: dysthymia, minor depression, and/or major depression. Eligibility screening is required to assess depression symptoms and appropriateness for the program.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- **Problem Solving Treatment:** Participants are guided in a seven-step process to define and select problems they want to address. One problem is addressed at each session.
- **Social and Physical Activation:** Increased activity leads to decreased depression. At each session the coach works with participants to increase social and physical activities.
- Pleasant Activity Scheduling: At each session, coaches encourage participants to select an activity that they would enjoy as homework. Skydiving anyone?

council on aging

WHAT DOES IT COST?

This program is FREE for participants.