





## Loneliness and Social Isolation - Tips for Staving Connected

Everyone needs social connections to survive and thrive. But as people age, they often find themselves spending more time alone. Being alone may leave older adults more vulnerable to loneliness and social isolation,

which can affect their health and well-being. Here are some quick tips for older adults experiencing social isolation or a sense of loneliness:



- Find or keep a sense of purpose. Take up a hobby such as growing an herb garden, crossword puzzles, knitting, or other activities.
- Age-appropriate workouts can help you stay in good physical and mental shape. Gentle exercises such as walking are suggested. Consult a healthcare professional.
- Nourish your body. Ensure you are eating a balanced diet and drinking plenty of water.
- Take a break from the news. Although it's important to stay updated, it's recommended ٠ to take at least a 15-minute break.
- Stay connected to your loved ones, friends, or mentor. Schedule time each day to stay in touch by email, social media, voice call, or text. Talk with people you trust to share your feelings.
- Adopt a pet if you're able to care for them. Animals can be a source of comfort and may also lower stress and blood pressure.
- Get involved in your community. Look for opportunities to volunteer. Check out resources and programs at your local social service agencies, community/senior centers, and public libraries3

Need help with social isolation or feeling lonely? Seniors in Service at 727-382-7121 or visit www.Seniorsinservice.org Eldercare Locator at 800-677-1116 or visit https://eldercare.acl.gov/



Page 2