# MENTAL HEALTH AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING AT SCHOOLS IN REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA



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### Challenges in context of pandemic COVID -19

- On March 11, 2020, the Moldovan authorities closed all schools in response to the COVID-19 epidemic. Approximately 434,000 students from all academic institutions at all levels were forced to stay at home, and schools were allowed to provide distance learning opportunities.
- Switching to distance learning proved to be a difficult task for 16,000 students (4.8%) and 3,000 teachers (10.6%) in the Republic of Moldova, who did not have access to digital technology (laptop, tablet or internet access).
- The closure of schools caused by the COVID-19 pandemic affected not only the learning process, but also other aspects, such as:
  - Mental health
  - Violence
  - Acute social inequalities.





### Challenges in context of pandemic COVID -19

- The physical and psychological overload of children has increased.
- About 35% of students have limited their free time to rest during distance learning, which causes an increased level of stress. This is true not only for students, but also for teachers, parents and caregivers.
- Another problem was unequal access to distance learning for children and young people left alone at home.
- In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the problems of out-of-school, school dropout and absenteeism are more obvious.





### Challenges in context of pandemic COVID -19

The evaluation of the opinion of adolescents and young people regarding their own health and well-being in the first 2 months of quarantine (April - May 2020) showed that:

- In 24.5% of the respondents the emotional state worsened, and in 15% the physical health;
- Almost 1/3 of young respondents indicated that their lifestyle had worsened (28%);
- 48% indicated that the day regimen became less organized
- 39% ate more than usual, and 23% less;
- 46% of them indicated that they had less physical activity,
- During this period, young people relationship with family, friends and colleagues get worse.





### **LEARNED LESSONS**

- It is an opportunity to review the school curriculum, the teaching-learning-assessment processes and the development of students' skills for their support and motivation;
- The need to strengthen cooperation between the education system and the parent community;
- The Government are required to protect parents financially during the crisis;
- The psychological well-being of students, teachers and parents must be in the focus.





### Mens sana in corpore sano

## Health Promotion during the pandemic COVID - 19

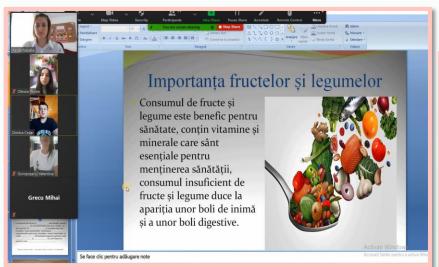






#### **HEALTHY EATING**

9th grade students present the role and importance of healthy nutrition in their lives during a pandemic. (Alexandru Ioan Cuza Thoretic High School, Chisinau)









### AWARENESS CAMPAIGN TO REDUCE SALT AND TRANS FAT CONSUMPTION

• Educational actions for healthy eating promotion during pandemic and spreading them to the local level. The main focus: reducing consumption of salt and trans fats with the campaign name "Choose what you eat!".











### **BETTER HYGIENIC CONDITIONS**

The Gymnasium "Ştefan cel Mare" from Nisporeni improves conditions for better hygienic skills in the context of the COVID pandemic









#### PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

For a better health and wellbeing, we do physical activity for at least 60 minutes a day





The Ministry of Education, Culture and Research has prepared guidelines for the activities of students, parents and teachers when returning with a physical presence. The aim is to support students who return to full-time education after a long period of distance learning.







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