GWI Wellness Policy Toolkit: Mental Wellness

Five areas of policy action for mental wellness

POLICY OBJECTIVES		ACTIONS	POLICY OBJECTIVES		ACTIONS
1	Improve mental wellness literacy.	Action 1: Improve knowledge and understanding of mental wellness to nudge its adoption by individuals and communities. 1.1. Improve individual knowledge of mental wellness pathways and practices. 1.2. Engage and support all community stakeholders in mental wellness education and promotion. 1.3. Strengthen research, standards, and guidelines on mental wellness modalities, products, and services.	4	Promote mental wellness among children and youth	Action 4: Teach coping skills to children and youth and build social networks to improve their mental resilience. 4.1. Help parents and adult caregivers to create a supportive environment for mental health and well-being. 4.2. Use school-based programs to build mental wellness skills. 4.3. Support community activities that engage, connect, and empower children and youth. 4.4. Use technology carefully to support youth mental wellness and provide social connections in safe online environments.
2	Increase access to activities and spaces that promote mental wellness.	Action 2: Leverage community infrastructure, nature, arts/culture, and technology to expand access to mental wellness, especially for underserved groups. 2.1. Utilize existing spaces to support mental wellness. 2.2. Widen access to nature. 2.3. Increase engagement with arts and culture. 2.4. Foster equitable access to mental wellness spaces and activities. 2.5. Empower communities to design and deliver their own mental wellness activities. 2.6. Use technology responsibly to increase access to mental wellness modalities.	5	Integrate mental wellness-supporting policies into healthcare and other wellness sectors.	Action 5: Embed mental wellness activities across many other wellness sectors and domains to support holistic mental well-being 5.1. Incorporate mental wellness into the health system. 5.2. Reshape our built environments to support mental wellness. 5.3. Prioritize mental wellness at work. 5.4. Encourage physical activity for mental wellness. 5.5. Promote healthy eating for mental wellness.
3	Create more socially connected communities.	Action 3: Strengthen social connections through programs, social prescribing, built environment, and technology. 3.1. Raise awareness of the dangers and costs of loneliness. 3.2. Prioritize social support for vulnerable and marginalized groups. 3.3. Strengthen connections through social, cultural, and arts engagement programs. 3.4. Use the built environment to connect people and foster social interaction. 3.5. Utilize digital infrastructure to connect people and foster social			



3.6. Leverage existing collaboration and community care resources.