

EMPLOYEE WELLNESS INITIATIVES

The COVID-19 pandemic and its effects have been significant in the world of work. Particularly for employees and employers, there has been a lot of anxiety which has led to psychological distress. The Federation of Uganda Employers has designed a number of employee wellness initiatives that employers can explore to enable them to keep their employees afloat during these hard times.

- 1. Check on your employees regularly via phone call or social media. Remind them to follow the Ministry of Health guidelines.
- 2. Disseminate online information about healthy dieting amidst the on-going pandemic. Employees should as much as possible be encouraged to exercise from their homes.
- 3. Online counseling sessions on post COVID-19 pandemic effects and impact on the economy including jobs.
- 4. Flexible work arrangement especially where much of the work can be done by the employee within the comfort of his/her home without necessarily going to office.
- 5. Offer, facilitate and support remote access to work e.g. work equipment like laptops, modems etc should be provided to the employee to work from home depending the nature of work.
- 6. Financial literacy online sessions or awareness programs to enable employees adjust to changing times.
- 7. Involve the employees as much as possible in discussions concerning the business and financial sustainability of the organisation. Do not fear to talk about the future of their employment.
- 8. Involve employees as much as possible in any wellness programs that you wish to institute; it should not only be management driven.
- 9. Embrace creativity and innovation from employees. Let them share their thoughts and ideas on how best you can improve their work place and environment when work resumes.
- 10. Inspirational quotes of the day and week.
- 11. Work with employees to create a vision board (board with pictures of where they want the organization to be).
- 12. Encourage them to join online sessions on emotional intelligence
- 13. Observe Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) or safety and health standards within the workplace.

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