Talk to yourself very gently as if to a friend. Soothing Talk

environments, and substances.

Put up a shield against destructive people, bad

Protect yourself

Be specific, set a deadline, let others know about

26t an action plan orners.

when you hear it from yourself and feel closer to

o do this only with safe people. You'll feel better

Say what you really think

connected to the world.

○ A productive schedule keeps you on track and Structure your day

• What is the price of substance use in your life? Notice the cost

differently next time?

ο βενίεω α negative event; what can you do

Replay the scene

if you're too dependent, try being independent.

Move towards your opposite

No more neglect — really hear what you need.

risten to your needs

cau go now and don't wait.

If you're stuck, try choosing the best solution you Make a decision Τιγ to notice and understand your reenactments. Obverse repeating patterns

 Notice what you did you and give yourself a treat. Praise yourself

Do what you can to make TODAY better.

See how different the day feels.

Pretend you like yourself

Eat something sweet instead of getting high.

Replace destructive activities

right thing.

Focus on now

it it feels awkward or difficult, you're doing the

Expect growth to feel uncomfortable

Accept all sides of yourself — they are there for a

Integrate the split self

the healing. The more you practice and participate, the quicker

Work the material

through.

Inst keep moving forward; the only way out is

Lust the process

Healthy eating, exercise, safe sex).

Take good care of yourself

 Choose whatever will make you like yourself. Choose self-respect rıgnt.

Find a healthy way to celebrate anything you do

Reward yourself

Examples: shoulds, deprivation reasoning.

Identify the belief

Take the time to think ahead instead of impulsive-

Plan it out Evaluate both sides of the picture.

Examine the evidence

Think in a way that helps you feel better.

Rethink

recovery. Promise yourself to do what's right to help your

Make a commitment

Make it happen by setting a date.

Set a deadline

Take an active, not passive approach.

Take responsibility

o it it can't be fixed, detach.

Let go of destructive relationships

ing, delay it as long as possible)

o If you can't prevent something bad from happen-

Practice delay

dren? Love? Truth? Justice? Your spirituality? Remind yourself what you are living for: your chil-

Create meaning

You can't love others until you love yourselt.

Alone is better than a bad relationship

Take an active approach to protect yourselt.

Fight the trigger

It you suspect danger, stay away.

When in doubt, don't

...AA ,eamples: sports, hobbies, AA...

Create positive addictions

Don't wait until you feel motivated; just start now.

Actions first, and feelings will follow

. No teeling is final.

Tolerate the feeling

time or distance.

o Put something between you and danger, such as

Create a buffer

anything that keeps you going.

○ AA, self-help, therapy, medications, groups —

Attend treatment

than staying "in your head".

Find out whether your assumption is true, rather

A setback is a setback, nothing more.

Setbacks are not failures

o Remember a phrase that works for you.

Find rules to live by

. Make the most of available opportunities.

Do the best you can with what you have

Do the right thing

O Do what you know will help you, even if you don't feel like it.

Go to a meeting

• Feet first — just get there and let the rest happen.

Protect your body from HIV

• Protect your body—it's the only one you get!

Prioritize Healing

 Make healing your most urgent and important goal, above all else.

Reach for community resources

Lean on them! They can be a source of great support.

Get others to support your recovery

Tell people what you need.

Notice what you can control

List the aspects of your life you do control.

Use kinder language

Practice positive self talk.

Create new "tapes"

Record a new way of thinking to a memory.

Self-nature

Do something you enjoy that's healthy.

Notice the source

Notice who's telling you the messages in life.

Think of the consequences

Really see the impact for the future.

Safe Coping Skills For Life

Ask for help

o Reach out to someone safe.

Inspire vourself

Carry something with you that reminds you of your

Leave a bad scene

• When things go wrong, get out!

Persist

O Never, never, never, never give up.

Honesty

 Secrets and lying are at the core of PTSD and substance use — honesty heals them.

Cry

Let yourself cry... it will not last forever.



Set boundaries

Say "no" to protect yourself.

Compassion

Listen to yourself with respect and care.

• The most difficult path is invariably the right one.

Talk yourself through it

When in doubt, do what's hardest

Self-talk helps in difficult times.

Imagine Create a mental picture that helps you feel different.

Notice the choice point

o In slow motion, notice the moment when you chose a substance.

Pace yourself

o If overwhelmed, go slower. If stuck, go faster.

Stay Safe

 Do whatever you need to do to put your safety above all.

Seek understanding, not blame

Listen to your behavior; blaming prevents growth.

If one way doesn't work, try another

As if in a maze, turn a corner and try a new path.

Link PTSD and substance abuse

 Recognize using substances as an attempt to selfmedicate.

List your options

In any situation, you have choices.

Create a new story

You are the author of your life; be the hero.

Avoid avoidable suffering

Prevent bad situations in advance.

Ask others Ask others if your belief is accurate.

Get organized You'll feel more in control with "to-do" lists and a

clean house. Watch for danger signs

• Face a problem before it becomes huge; notice red flags.

Healing above all o Focus on what matters.

Try something, anything A good plan today is better than a perfect one tomorrow.

Detach from emotional pain

O Distract, walk away, change the channel.

Learn from experience

Seek wisdom that can help you next time.

Solve the problem Don't take it personally when things go wrong —

try just to seek a solution.