



Through Aspirus Employee Assistance Services, a professional counselor is available to help you gain perspective on your new life.

Taking care of yourself and taking risks can have surprising benefits. Don't be surprised if eventually you are stronger, more confident and more content than before.

Help is available

Aspirus Employee Assistance Services has counselors available to help you and your family. You can call the confidential helpline 24 hours a day at:

715.848.4357 ~ 800.236.4457
TDD# 715.845.4928

Remember,
Aspirus Employee
Assistance Services
is confidential.



ASPIRUS™
EMPLOYEE
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Passion for excellence. Compassion for people.

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Living with Divorce



helping you gain perspective on
your new life



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Divorce can be one of life's most stressful experiences. It can also be a time of creating new relationships, learning and growing. Understanding the emotional and physical stresses that often come with divorce is the first step in learning how to deal with them. When you accept your feelings, and learn ways to care for yourself during this stressful time, you'll find that you not only can cope with divorce, but also survive and thrive.

emotional stress

Separating from someone you had hoped would be your life partner is usually painful. You might feel like a failure. You miss the warmth, friendship and financial security you had or hoped you would have.

Your job as a parent is suddenly much bigger if you now have primary responsibility for the children. You may have less time to spend with them, yet their needs are greater. If you did not want the separation, your resentment and anger may flare up around them, although it's not their fault. You and your former spouse may have conflicts about child support.

If you are a parent whose children are not living with you, you may feel guilty, lonely and resentful. You may worry that the children may forget you or be turned against you.

Divorce is especially painful if everyone you know seems to be happily married, or if you get little support from your own family.

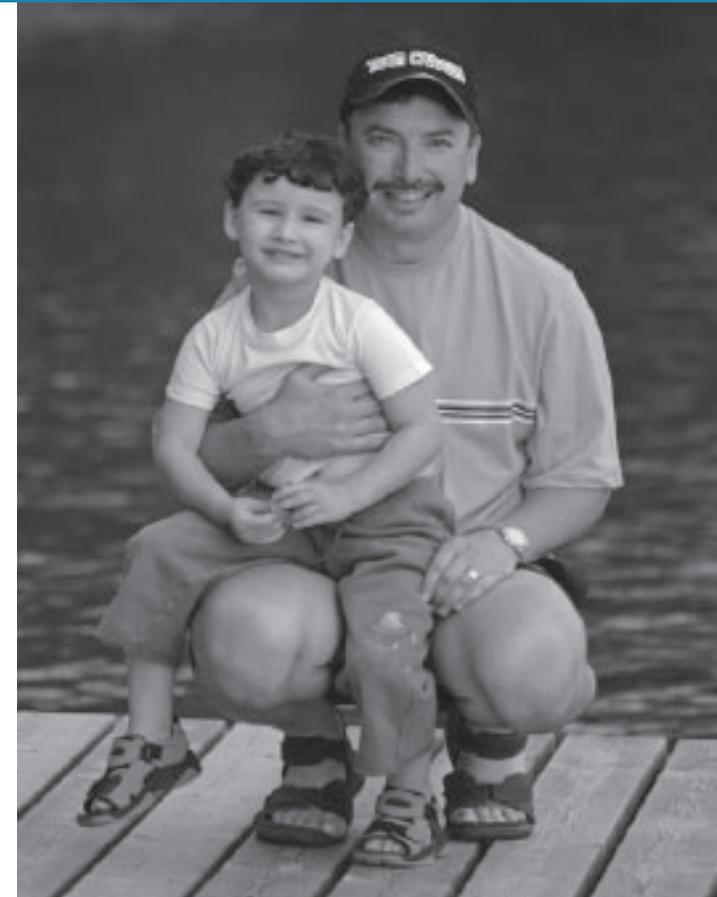
physical stress

As in any distressful situation, your body is affected. Ongoing stress can cause minor and major illnesses, including headaches, backaches, ulcers, flu and asthma. Even if you feel relief by the the divorce, you may have physical symptoms.

take care

You may not be able to change your situation, but you can stay healthy during the transition if you take care of yourself.

- Recognize your feelings. It is normal to feel lonely, frustrated or even hopeless. To release your feelings, pound on a pillow or yell in the car where no one can hear you.
- Reach out to others. Friends, relatives, support groups and therapists can be helpful. A hug, phone call or letter can mean a great deal.



- Take risks. Try a new activity. It will keep your mind off your problems and help you meet new people.
- Treat your body well. Cut down on alcohol and smoking. Eat healthy, tasty foods. Take long baths and do exercises you enjoy.
- Call Aspirus Employee Assistance Services for help with your lifestyle transition.