# **GOAL SETTING**

While there are many models for writing a goal, we've found our clients have the most success with the SMART Goal Model.

#### SMART Goal

<u>Specific:</u> Choose a specific accomplishment, number, or amount.

<u>Measurable</u>: Make sure you can track your goal. Tracking is how you measure success.

<u>Attainable:</u> Work towards a realistic goal. It should be a stretch but still possible.

<u>Realistic/Relevant</u>: Be honest. This should be something that is of the highest priority to you and within reach. <u>Timebound:</u> Set clear start and end dates. Create urgency

#### Obstacles

The most common obstacle to goal achievement is not anticipating roadblocks. Consider these potential obstacles.

- Waiting until you feel "ready" ~ Taking action will often prompt the emotions you need to follow.
- Fear of Failure~View any setback as a learning opportunity and make adjustments to continue moving forward.
- Time Management~Break your goal into action steps and set a realistic timeframe.
- Unwillingness to work hard~achieving your goal will require effort, and for a period of time, significant effort. Recognize this and commit to the work.

### Distractions

Distractions can be obstacles, but often they are small things that are easy to fix once you identify them. Here are just a few examples:

- Media~scrolling through social media, bingewatching TV, etc.
- Family, work, friends~all good things but you may need to block off some dedicated uninterrupted time or re-organize your schedule to achieve your goal.
- Procrastination~this is often a symptom of something else. Go back and look at your goal. Is the action plan realistic and attainable in your timeframe?

## Action Plan

The Action Plan breaks your goal down into manageable steps and will help you navigate through obstacles that could slow you down.

- Create a list of tasks or activities that are needed to accomplish your goal.
- Prioritize your tasks in the order they need to be completed.
- Identify resources you will need for each task.
- Assign a realistic timeline to complete each task, keeping in mind when you want the goal to be completed.

### Accountability

Accountability will keep the Action Plan moving forward.

- · Accountability partner ~ Identify someone who will encourage you as you work accomplish your goal
- In the established timeline, do you need to have a mid-task check-in to reflect on .your progress?
- Determine a plan if the Action Plan Step is not going as planned. Are more resources needed? Is extra time needed? Does the plan need to be altered?

### Reflection

Take time to reflect after each task in the Action Plan.

- What progress have you made toward your goal? Celebrate every step forward, no matter how big or small.
- What have you learned about yourself that you can use moving forward?
- What is the next step in your action plan?

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My Goal:

Obstacles Distractions Action Plan Accountability Reflection