## Life Lessons For Living Well With Chronic Illness



7 Breathing Active JOY

Awaken and greet each day with total love, gratitude and positive attitude;

Keep your spirits high and always have hope; ✓

**D**o what you can with what you've got; ✓

Come to peace with a new baseline and slower pace;

Find and live in your place of joy; ✓

**T**ell yourself and believe you are blessed; **√** 

Find and recognize beauty in the little things; 

√

**R**ecognize when you need help; find and embrace a support system in family, friends, and your network; ✓

**D**on't do this alone! Learn to receive and nurture relationships; **√** 

Have empathy and compassion for others; ✓

**M**ake time and opportunity to create and express;

**W**rite about your journey, illness, disability to process, share and connect; **★** 

Play, use humor, and find ways to smile and laugh;

Practice the law of attraction: if you imagine it and truly believe it, you can realize it; believe you attract what is good and positive into your life; 

✓

Ask yourself "What can I give?" "What can I learn?" and "What can I teach?" not "Why me?" ✓

**R**efuse to be a victim; know you are not the disease; ✓

**B**e kind to yourself; acknowledge that you will have hard days and better days and listen to your body; ✓

Find ways to give back, share your story, and have impact on others;

**B**e a light in the darkness; ✓

**H**elp others who are new to your illness or condition; ✓

Encourage yourself with daily affirmations; √

If you aren't able to get out of the house, find and grow an online network;

Find and immerse yourself in something you are passionate about; 

√

Consider making time for creative expression weekly or daily; add to your calendar and make it a habit and practice; ✓

Remember that YOU are enough; where you are and who you right now is enough!