Tips to "fall" into a healthy lifestyle in 2017*

1. "Stay hydrated, stay happy!" -Chia Leah Water is your best medicine.

Why? Water helps us function, think, sleep and manage stress more efficiently. How? 60oz/day plus 1oz for every minute of intense exertion/exercise, keep a system for keeping track Water, herbal tea, fresh veggies/fruit such as celery, cucumbers and watermelon

2. Eat a rainbow!

Why? Eat every color, every day to get the variety of nutrients, vitamins & minerals you need to strengthen you immune system and fight off disease. This provides extra benefits to your "microbiome" How? Half of our plate at each meal should include vegetables & fruit. SNACK TIME FOR KIDS is the best time to offer veggies and fruit- they are so hungry after school!

- **3. Eat more fiber!** Think REAL food: legumes, veggies/fruit, whole grains, nuts & seeds Why? It keeps us full longer, keeps us regular, helps reduce cravings, and so much more! How? Aim for 25g+/day for adults. 10g+Childs Age=Fiber/day per child
- 4. Eat. Less. Sugar.

Why? Sugar causes inflammation, which leads to long term health issues. How much? 25grams or less a day of added sugar, this does NOT include whole fruits. Easy ways to eat less sugar: avoid juice and fancy coffees, cut out 1/3 of the sugar in any baking recipe.

- **5.** Never underestimate how stress affects your health. *Two very basic ways to reduce stress are #6 & #7*
- 6. Get more rest. Sleep is CRITICAL to good health so make it a priority!
- 7. Be Active. No excuses attitude!

*Start by incorporating **JUST one small change** into your routine. Make it an attainable goal that you can succeed at. When we succeed, we feel motivated, confident & inspired to take that next step to adding in another small change for better health.

Leah's Fall Reading List:

Inspiring, read a chapter at a time: <u>Life is your best medicine</u> by Tierona Low Dog, MD To de-stress daily: <u>The Book of Awakening</u> by Mark Nero For all: What The World Eats by Faith D'Aluisio & Strong is the new pretty by K.T. Parker

A Few of my favorite things:

Thrivemarket.com for on the go snacks and options for food allergies **Portion control snack bags** from Target. Reuse 'em. **Trader Joe's:** pre-portioned nuts for "mom's emergency purse snack"

Fall Go-To Snacks

Water! Water! Stay hydrated, stay happy!

RAW veggies and fruit (and hummus, honey or cinnamon)

Pre-cut and have them ready to grab and go!

Have you thought of:

Cucumbers cut lengthwise topped with a dash of honey & sea salt, Romaine rolls filled with hummus, Endive leaves dipped in hummus, Jicama or apple sprinkled with cinnamon

Roasted Pumpkin Seeds (swap out after school crackers for these)

Heat oven to 350. Spread pumpkin seeds on a baking sheet. Spray with non-GMO olive oil. Sprinkle with sea salt.* Roast for 10 mins or until you hear popping/seeds turn from green to golden. Keep extra in an airtight container for up to a week. ¼ cup = 1 serving. *add a dash of ground cinnamon.

Sweet Potato Roasters

Heat oven to 250. Thinly slice a sweet potato then mix in about 1T olive oil to coat the taters. Place on a baking sheet for 45-55 minutes (flipping halfway) until the roasters are golden brown. Add a twist of sea salt and cinnamon. I serve these with apple slices. The kids come home and the house smells yummy!

Avocado boat

Cut avocado in half, pull out seed, add sea salt, just scoop with a spoon. You can also sprinkle 1Tbsp chia or hemp seed on it and squeeze a little lemon or lime on top. ¼- ½ avocado= 1 serving

Chia Leah's Autumn Smoothie (2 servings)

Anti-inflammatory powerhouses pumpkin, sweet potato and cinnamon!

½ cup canned pumpkin (not to be confused with pumpkin pie filling)

1 Cup unsweetened almond milk (or any milk of your choosing)

½ roasted sweet potato, skinned

1 tbsp chia seed

1 tsp vanilla extract

1 tsp ground cinnamon

Handful of ice on top

Optional: add 1 tsp pure maple syrup

Blend well in a high powered blender. Serve immediately.

Also go to Chialeah.com for these recipes:

"Spooky Good Trail mix" recipe (awesome upgrade idea from the typical soccer team post game snack)

"Sweet Potato Punkin Muffins" (major crowd pleaser and picky child favorite!)