Caregiver Self-Assessment Questionnaire

How are you?

Caregivers are often so concerned with caring for their relative's needs that they lose sight of their own wellbeing. Please take just a moment to answer the following questions. Once you have answered the questions, turn the page to do a self-evaluation.

During the past week or so, I have...

| 1. | Had trouble keeping my mind on what I was doingQYes | □No |
|----|--|-----|
| 2. | Felt that I couldn't leave my relative aloneQYes | □No |
| 3. | Had difficulty making decisionsQYes | □No |
| 4. | Felt completely overwhelmedDYes | □No |
| 5. | Felt useful and neededQYes | □No |
| 6. | Felt lonelyQYes | □No |
| 7. | Been upset that my relative has changed so much from his/her former self | □No |
| 8. | Felt a loss of privacy and/or personal timeQYes | □No |
| 9. | Been edgy or irritableQYes | □No |
| 10 | .Had sleep disturbed because of caring for my relative□Yes | □No |
| 11 | .Had a crying spell(s)QYes | □No |
| 12 | .Felt strained between work and family responsibilitiesDYes | □No |
| 13 | .Had back painQYes | □No |
| 14 | .Felt ill (<i>headaches, stomach</i> problems or common cold)¤Yes | □No |

| 15. Been satisfied with the support my family has given me□Yes □No |
|---|
| 16. Found my relative's living situation to be inconvenient or a barrier to care□Yes □No |
| 17.On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being "not stressful" to 10 being "extremely stressful," please rate your current level of stress. |
| 18. On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being "very healthy" to 10 being "very ill," please rate your current health compared to what it was this time last year |
| Comments: (Please feel free to comment or provide feedback) |
| |



Self-evaluation:

To Determine the Score:

- 1. Reverse score questions 5 and 15. (For example, a "No" response should be counted as "Yes" and a "Yes" response should be counted as "No")
- 2. Total the number of "yes" responses.

To Interpret the Score:

Chances are that you are experiencing a high degree of distress:

- If you answered "Yes" to either or both Questions 4 and 11; or
- If your total "Yes" score = 10 or more; or
- If your score on Question 17 is 6 or higher; or
- If your score on Question 18 is 6 or higher.

Next steps:

- Consider seeing a doctor for a check-up for yourself.
- Consider having some relief from caregiving. (Discuss with the doctor or a social worker the resources available in your community.)
- Consider joining a support group

Valuable Resources for Caregivers:

Eldercare Locator: (*a national directory of community services*) 1-800- 677-1116 www.aoa.gov/elderpage/ locator.html

Family Caregiver Alliance 1-415- 434-3388 www.caregiver.org

Medicaid Hotline Baltimore, MD 1-800-638-6833

National Alliance for Caregiving 1-301-718-8444 www.caregiving.org

National Family Caregivers Association 1-800 896-3650 www.nfcacares.org

National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities 1-800-695-0285 www.nichcy.org

Local Resources and Contacts: