Exhaustion starts to affect your ability to hold up your loved one, both physically and emotionally.

 You start to wonder how much longer you can keep doing this.



RESOURCES:

Senior Companion 1-800-856-4398 Wyoming Dept of Health 1-800-442-2766 **Wyoming Guardianship** 1-888-891-6686 **Wyoming Legal Services** 1-877-432-9955 Wyoming Long Term **Care Ombudsman** 307-777-2885

"This document was developed under Grant(s) from the Wyoming Department of Health, Aging Division, Community Living Section. These contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Wyoming Department of Health, Aging Division, Community Living Section and should not be considered an endorsement by the state government." Caution To Caregivers



Caregiving can start out being a rewarding and manageable job but as time goes by, something happens:

- You start to wonder when you might ever have a minute for yourself again.
- The person you are caring for gets tired and frustrated and looks to you for help for him/her to feel better.
- You start to feel guilty about wanting some time for yourself.

• You start to lose yourself, your needs, and your dreams and focus almost entirely on taking care of your loved one.

- The person you are taking care of forgets to verbalize their appreciation for the care you are providing and the sacrifice you are making.
- You try to make yourself believe that this is your job, it's not that bad and you should be able to do this.

- Before it gets to this point, <u>please ask for</u> <u>help!</u>
- Care giving can, and most likely will, affect your mind, your body, and your heart.
- <u>No one</u> can do this alone!
- Ask for help <u>early</u> and <u>often.</u>

The more help you have, the <u>longer</u> and <u>better</u> you will be able to take care of your loved one.