

# The Sojourner Project

...help for the journey

# Caregiver School Course Outline - 25 Audio Lessons

(\*\* Worksheet)

#### Introduction

### Part One - Becoming a Family Caregiver (3)

- Four journeys of a caregiver \*\*2
- Six essential steps and three different roles \*\*3 \*\*4
- The devastating diagnosis \*\*5

### Part Two - Evaluating the Situation (4)

- Understanding normal aging
- When there is a cause for concern
- When driving becomes a problem \*\*6
- The needs assessment \*\*7

### Part Three - Make a Plan (4)

- The family meeting \*\*8
- When conversations go wrong \*\*9
- Effective communication \*\*8
- Creating a plan of care \*\*10

### Part Four - Navigating the medical world (3)

- Diagnosis and prognosis \*\*11
- Managing medications \*\*12
- Understanding medical insurance \*\*13

### Part Five - Managing your loved one's legal and financial affairs (3)

- Understanding Advanced Directives
- Getting their affairs in order \*\*14
- Do I need a lawyer? \*\*15

### Part Six - Day to day caregiving (3)

- Staying at home \*\*9
- When professional help is needed
- Long Distance Caregiving \*\*16

### Part Seven - When things get complicated (2)

- Understanding dementia & Alzheimer's disease \*\*17
- How to manage challenging behavior and communication \*\*18

### Part Eight - Caring for the Caregiver (1)

• Caring for the Caregiver \*\* 19 \*\*9

### Part Nine - When the journey ends (2)

- Letting go \*\*20
- When it's time to say goodbye \*\*21



# Caregiver School Worksheets

### Introduction

1. Course outline

### Part One - Becoming a Family Caregiver

- 2. Four journeys of a caregiver
- 3. Six essential steps
- 4. Three roles
- 5. First steps devastating diagnosis

## Part Two - Evaluating the Situation

- 6. When driving becomes a problem
- 7. Initial assessment

### Part Three - Make a Plan

- 8. The family meeting
- 9. Caregiver bill of rights
- 10. Plan of care checklist

### Part Four - Navigating the medical world

- 11. Communication note
- 12. Medications audit
- 13. Medical insurance definitions

# Part Five - Managing your loved one's legal & financial affairs

- 14. Legal and financial checklist
- 15. Advanced Directives Definitions

## Part Six - Day to day caregiving

- 7. Initial Assessment (worksheet #7)
- 16. Resources

# Part Seven - Understanding dementia and Alzheimer's disease

- 17. Brain damage caused by dementia
- 18. Managing challenging behaviors caused by dementia

# Part Eight - Caring for the caregiver

- 19. Strategies for caring for the caregiver
- 9. Caregiver bill of rights (worksheet #7)

# Part Nine - When the journey ends

- 20. Death & dying
- 21. The journey through grief