# Self-Care for the Caregiver

# a talk at the Hospitality House

Dr. Tim Doty - May 21, 2015



## TIPS:

- 1. Take care of YOU
- 2. Ask for help before you think you need it
- 3. Find resources in your community that allow you to take breaks (respite)
- 4. Take breaks
- 5. Self-soothing techniques
  - soothing to the: sight, smell, taste, touch, sound
- 6. eat well, sleep well, exercise well
- 7. calendar your own needs as if they are appointments
- 8. support groups
- 9. consider professional help: counseling, family therapy
- 10. understand change in relationship dynamics

### AVOID:

- substances: alcohol, drugs, improper use of Rx
- burnout
- taking on too much

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

<u>Caregiving support</u>- http://www.helpguide.org/articles/caregiving/caregivingsupport-and-help.htm

<u>Prevent burnout-</u> http://www.helpguide.org/articles/stress/preventing-burnout.htm

 $\underline{Managing\ Stress}\text{-}\ http://www.aafp.org/fpm/2002/0400/p35.html}$ 



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