

NEEDS INVENTORY

This checklist can be used to take an inventory of areas where an older adult may need support. It can be helpful to make a note with the date so evolving needs can be monitored.

Environment

- ☐ The yard or house is not maintained.
- ☐ There's nothing to eat in the house.
- ☐ The fridge contains expired or spoiled food.
- ☐ Potholders or pans contain burn marks or a burning stove is left unattended.
- ☐ There are multiples of the same item--5 bottles of ketchup?
- ☐ The older adult has traffic tickets or the car has dents.
- ☐ The car's warning lights are on--gas, oil, check engine.
- ☐ Their living environment smells bad or stale.

Social

- ☐ The older adult stops doing the things they used to enjoy.
- ☐ The older adult is spending days without leaving the house.
- ☐ The older adult would benefit from someone checking on them every day.
- ☐ The older adult complains of feeling lonely or abandoned when you are away.

Financial

- ☐ Piles of mail in various places.
- ☐ Unopened personal mail.
- ☐ Increased thank you messages from charities.
- ☐ Letters from banks or creditors.
- ☐ The mail is unopened or bills are unpaid.

Up Close

- ☐ The older adult is unsteady, wobbly, dizzy or very weak.
- ☐ The older adult is looking unkempt, skipping showers, forgetting to shave.
- ☐ The older adult has gained or lost weight, potentially having difficulty with cooking or grocery shopping.
- ☐ The older adult refuses to take medications or seek medical treatment.
- ☐ Their personality has changed, become irritable or quiet.
- ☐ To do lists that never seem to get done.
- ☐ The house is overly cluttered.
- ☐ The older adult is recovering more slowly from injuries or surgeries.

Cognitive

- ☐ The older adult misses appointments, gets lost, forgets important information.
- ☐ The older adult has difficulty performing familiar tasks.
- ☐ The older adult substitutes unusual words.
- ☐ The older adult forgets recently learned information.
- ☐ The older adult puts items in illogical places.
- ☐ The older adult loses initiative and becomes passive or lethargic.
- ☐ The older adult has trouble following directions.