Build skills to better care for yourself while caring for a loved one. Learn the powerful tools that help you communicate better, cope with stress, and confidently manage your unique challenges.

# **Our participants say:**

"After taking this class I am a more confident caregiver! Having tools to resolve problems is a definite advantage in becoming a happier, wiser, and healthier me ... and a healthier us!"



Workshops are available for both parents focusing on the care of a child with special needs or those providing support for an adult loved one.

# **Proven support**

The workshop curriculum was developed over three years of testing in Portland, Oregon to meet the highest-level criteria of evidence-based disease prevention and health promotion programs. Powerful Tools for Caregivers received a 2007 National Family Caregiving Award.

Workshops are led by certified, experienced class leaders and are coordinated by the Wellness Institute at select sites and via virtual Zoom classrooms.

> the wellness Institute



Powerful Tools for Caregivers, Wellness Institute office: 1075 Leila Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R2P 2W7 email: info@wellnessinstitute.ca phone: 204-632-3927

# Face the Challenges of *Caregiving* with the *Right Tools*



Powerful Tools aregivers

wellnessinstitute.ca/powerful-tools-for-caregivers



In just six weeks, you will develop self-care tools to keep you well while you take on what can feel like an overwhelming role. Action-planning and solution-seeking throughout helps you apply new tools. Workshops focus on either caring for an adult or child.

#### Week 1

- Introductions and course overview
- Challenges of caregiving
- Managing self-care: Principles
- Using community resources

#### Week 2

- Signs and sources of caregiver stress
- Managing caregiver stress
- Taking action: stress reducers
- Using positive self-talk
- Breathing for relaxation

#### Week 3

- Good communication: How to best express yourself
- "I" messages and hidden "You" messages
- Progressive muscle relaxation

#### Week 4

- Communicating in challenging situations
- Being assertive, not aggressive
- Assertive communication: DESC model (Describe, Express, Specify, Consequences)
- Aikido style: active listening, empathy, non-judgement, and perspective taking

#### Week 5

- Listening to, learning from, and managing your emotions
- Difficult emotions: anger, guilt, and depression
- Guided imagery relaxation

#### Week 6

- Mastering caregiver decisions
- Transition: understanding the internal emotional process caregivers go through
- The power of optimism
- The importance of a family meeting

#### Caregiving takes many forms. You may help a family-member or friend with:

Transportation Housekeeping Grocery Shopping Personal Care

Medications Emotional Support Medical Appointments Social Activities Living Arrangements Financial Concerns Legal or Insurance Issues Schooling Concerns

# Research shows Powerful Tools for Caregivers helps participants:

# **Improve Self-care**

Find more time for exercise, relaxation, and medical check-ups

## **Manage Emotions**

Reduce guilt, anger, and depression; cope with stress; and better communicate your feelings

### **Build Self-Confidence**

Feel more confidence in coping with caregiving demands

### **Find Helpful Resources**

Discover and use supports available in your community

Join a free workshop in person or from home in a Zoom virtual classroom. Call for details: 204-632-3927