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Name: Age:			
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Cł	nallenge Activities		Poir track
20	<ol> <li>POINTS FOR EACH CHALLI</li> <li>1. Complete a medication re</li> <li>2. Annual Primary Care Phy</li> <li>3. Schedule a vision/hearing</li> <li>4. Learn about a Medical Al</li> <li>5. Put together a Go-Bag</li> </ol>	eview sician (PCP) appointment g screening	
15	5 POINTS FOR EACH CHALLI	ENGE	
	<ul> <li>6. Check/replace your smok</li> <li>7. Complete a Falls Risk Ass</li> <li>8. Develop an escape plan</li> <li>9. Share a fall story</li> <li>10. Keep track of your wate</li> <li>11. Declutter your living are</li> <li>12. Install grab bars in the bars</li> </ul>	essment r intake a	
10	POINTS FOR EACH CHALLI	-	
	<ul><li>13. Complete a Communica</li><li>14. Home Safety Risk Asses</li><li>15. Read an article on Falls</li><li>16. Complete a shoe audit</li><li>17. Install night lights</li></ul>	sment	
5	POINTS FOR EACH CHALLEI	-	
	<ul><li>18. Go for a walk. Number of</li><li>19. At-home exercise or act</li><li>20. Watch Falls Prevention v</li><li>21. Share the challenge with</li></ul>	ivity. Number of sessions videos	_

TOTAL POINTS

## ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Department of Aging and Disabilities



# Falls Prevention Awareness Challenge

Falling is not a normal part of aging



#### JOIN THE CHALLENGE TO IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH AND REAP THE REWARDS

Every participant who completes and returns the scorecard will be entered to win prizes

### **CHALLENGE RULES**

Your challenge is to complete as many of the fall prevention tasks as possible in the month of September. Instructions for each challenge are listed below. Find your scorecard on the back page of this pamphlet and keep track of your points. Each task is worth a set amount of points. Some activities (like daily exercise) may be completed as many times as you like.

Every player will be entered to win prizes. You will receive a bonus raffle ticket if you score greater than 200 points.

- To participate you must:
- Be at least 60 years of age
- Turn in your scorecard at your nearest Senior Center by September 30! Or Mail to: Clemie Pizzillo - Evidence Based Programs Coordinator Anne Arundel County Department of Aging and Disabilities 2666 Riva Rd. Annapolis , MD 21401

### **CHALLENGE INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. **Complete a medication review**: Certain medications have side effects which can increase your risk for falling. Contact your doctor or pharmacist to review your medications.
- 2. **Annual Primary Care Appointment**: Schedule or write the date of your last appointment within the past year:
- 3. Schedule a Vision/Hearing Screening: Schedule or write the date of your last appointment within the past year:
- 4. Learn about a Medical Alert System: \_
- 5. **Put together a Go Bag**: In the event of an emergency you need to be prepared and ready to go. For ideas visit: **www.ready.gov/kit**
- 6. **Check/replace your smoke alarms**: Call your local fire department if you need assistance replacing batteries or a smoke detector.
- Falls Risk Assessment: Visit ncoa.org/article/falls-free-checkup to complete your assessment and record your score here:
- 8. **Develop an escape plan**: In the event of fire, time matters. Draw an escape plan to get out of your home quickly. Attach it to the scorecard
- 9. **Share a Fall Story**: Write a story about a time you fell and what you learned from the experience. Attach it to the scorecard.

- 10. **Keep track of your water intake**: Being dehydrated puts you at risk for feeling dizzy and falling. Number of ounces you drink per day\_\_\_\_\_
- 11. **Declutter your living area**: Cluttered floors can cause you to trip and lose your balance. Room you decluttered \_\_\_\_\_
- 12. **Install grab bars in the bathroom**: Grab bars can prevent falls and potential injuries. They can assist you in case of dizziness or loss of balance, get up and down from the toilet seat or in and out of the shower. Date installed \_\_\_\_\_\_
- 13. **Complete a Communication Plan**: Choose someone you trust: a friend, family member, neighbor and discuss what to to do if you fall.
- 14. Home safety Risk Assessment: Check all that apply:
  - \_\_\_\_Are there papers, shoes, books, or other objects on the stairs?
    - \_Are some steps broken or uneven, or is the carpet loose or torn?
  - \_\_\_Are there lights and switches at the top and bottom of the stairs?
  - \_\_\_Are the handrails loose or broken or on only one side of the stairs?
  - \_\_\_\_Do you have to walk over wires or around furniture?
  - \_\_\_\_Do you have throw rugs on the floor?
  - \_\_\_Are the things you use often on high shelves?
  - \_\_\_\_\_If you use a step stool, is it sturdy?
  - \_\_\_\_Is the light near the bed hard to reach?
  - \_\_\_\_Is the path from your bed to the bathroom dark?
  - \_\_\_Is the tub or shower floor slippery?
  - \_\_\_\_Do you need support to get in/out of the tub, up from the toilet?

15. Read an article on Falls Prevention: Name one thing you learned

- 16. **Complete a shoe audit**: Do your shoes: \_\_\_have a beveled heel \_\_\_fit properly \_\_\_have room for the toes \_\_\_have textured soles
- 17. Install night lights: Date installed
- 18. Go for a walk: Spend some time outdoors. 5 points for each walk.
- 19. **At-home exercise or activity**: Spend 20+ minutes doing something active at home: gardening, decorating, exercising, stretching, or anything that gets you moving. 5 points for each session.
- 20. Watch Falls Prevention Videos: Name one thing you learned \_\_\_\_\_
- 21. Share the challenge with a friend: Friend's name\_\_\_\_\_