SOCIAL WORK GUIDE
FOR LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES

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AND CONTRIBUTORS

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Preface

In June 1971, the National Institute of Mental Health awarded a 1-year contract to the Philadelphia Geriatric Center to prepare this social work guidebook for long-term care facilities for the elderly.

The author must accept sole responsibility for the material she prepared. However, the philosophy and approach could only have developed in a climate favorable to caring about the social needs of older people and their families. That climate was created largely by Mr. Bernard Liebowitz, executive vice president of the Philadelphia Geriatric Center, and his predecessor, Mr. Arthur Waldman.

The Guide includes background chapters by selected contributors. Those chapters speak for themselves. Stanley J. Brody, Elias Cohen, Leonard Cottesman, Evelyn Hutchinson, Stephen Cohen and Jerome Hammerman went beyond their charge, writing papers enriched with their extensive professional experience, and containing a wealth of valuable information.

A special contribution was made by M. Powell Lawton, the Center's director of behavioral research. Over the years, he directed the development of the assessment measures and scales that were being used at the PGC to evaluate the functional capacities of older people. Many staff members of the agency participated in the process.

The largest measure of appreciation is due to Mrs. Rose Locker, the associate director of the POC's Department of Social Work, and to a social work staff that gives that tired word "dedicated" new freshness and meaning: Mrs. Locker developed the case material and reviewed the manuscript with care. The procedures and the forms and protocols are a composite arrived at through years of close collaborative efforts of the social work staff and all departments of the Center.

Finally, the author acknowledges the unique role played by Mrs. Marie Blank, consultant, Section on the Mental Health of the Aging of the National Institute of Mental Health. Her deep commitment to the purposes of the Guide was expressed by her sustained interest and support at every step of its development.

Elaine M. Brody
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