

Submission No. 1263

(Inq into better support for carers)

MC 2/18/08

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Robyne

Ms Annette Ellis MP
Committee Chair
Inquiry into Better Care for Our Carers
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
Community, Housing and Youth
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Ellis

As a Carer, I wish to make a submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing and Youth's Inquiry into Better Care for Our Carers.

As a carer, I provide the following support bathing, medication, domestic chores, dressing, feeding, grooming, toileting, social outings, bedding, doctors, companionship, washing, pedicures, manicures, massages,

I face the following problems ... dealing with the different stages of dementia. Sustained a knee injury as a direct result of caring for my mum & which required 2 operations in under 5 months.

I can't fully participate in social activities because ... lack of finding for carers to sit with my mum whilst I attend yoga or meet friends for coffee. Or taking my 14 yr daughter to courses, art classes, enrolling my daughter in activities held outside my mum's carers' schedule.

I am financially struggling because of ... reducing my full time hours to part time capacity. Sometimes I have to leave and/or cancel my appointments to collect mum from day care due to illness or falls

I need help with ... renovations to our bathroom & toilet. Safe secure housing suitable for mum's disability. I'm not eligible for a transfer with housing due to income coming into the household.

I would like to work (full-time or part-time) but have the following issues to deal with ...

I was working full-time however, had to reduce my hours to part-time. Also to allow for me to attend physio & counselling, and to pay bills as my knee injury reduces my mobility to do all this.

I need assistance to ... educate myself about the advanced stages of dementia either by attending courses or forums. Dealing with corruption within the state government, i.e. Shore Street Day Care Guardianship Board

I worry about my future because ... I cannot afford to be ill as I worry a lot about who will look after my mom and my daughter.

The things that cause me stress are ... the state government + certain individuals within that department.

Not having enough time to do everything.

My 14yr daughter missing out on lots of things such as some outings.

I think the Government can better help Carers by ... providing more funds to service providers to allocate support to allow me to care for Mum at home with the support of my carers.

Thank you for taking my views into consideration as part of the Committee's Enquiry. I look forward to reading the report and reviewing any recommendations you make to improve life for Carers in Australia.

Yours sincerely

Robyne