

Committee Secretary  
Inquiry into Better Support for Carers  
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,  
Community, Housing and Youth  
PO Box 6021  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Submission No. 263  
(Inq into better support for carers)

A.O.E. 30/6/08

STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
20 JUN 2008  
FAMILY, COMMUNITY,  
HOUSING & YOUTH

Dear Secretary

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

I am submitting to the Inquiry because...

I am caring for my 97-year-old mother in her  
own home and up till now have found difficulty  
in locating services for carers.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

**1. The role and contribution of carers in society**

As a carer, I feel that my role is...

to care for my mother and to enable her to  
stay in her own home where she is happiest

More information is attached on a separate sheet

**2. The barriers to social and economic participation for carers**

As a carer, I face the following problems ...

my mother will not go into respite because she  
has a cat and won't subject the cat to a cattery.  
I have had difficulty, until recently, in finding  
services to effectively cater for my mother's needs so  
that I can have a break. They should perhaps be  
better advertised.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

**3. The practical measures required to better support carers**

As a carer, I need help with ...

at the moment in-home respite services. As  
Mum deteriorates I may need more help  
I have recently been pointed towards Upper Murray  
Family Care & HACC but its taken me more than  
2 years to find them. I came to Victoria from interstate  
with absolutely no idea what  More information is attached on a separate sheet  
services were available or how to  
access them

**4. Strategies to assist carers to access opportunities and choices**

I think the Government can better help carers by ...

- publicising available services more widely, perhaps  
through Carer organisations, who also need more  
publicity themselves.
- increasing carer payments, \$50pw doesn't go very  
far considering everything involved, although it does  
help.  More information is attached on a separate sheet

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

Yours sincerely

WENDY

Print your name

16 June 2008

Date