

A.O.C. 16/6/08

Committee Secretary
Inquiry into Better Support for Carers
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
Community, Housing and 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...

feel enough is not done to help our young people who have a mental illness. My son was hospitalized for 22 days during xmas & I requested help with some accomadation as at home too much tension. Nothing was done & on his discharge was given a list of boarding accomadation

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 try & make my son more independent as he is 26 years old. To try & encourage him not to give up & if he continues taking his medication everything will improve. Trouble is when they feel great, often they think they no longer need it. To be there when they need us & to support them.

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 ...

Centrelink have no idea what a struggle it is to get your young person to hand forms in. Often they forget & are straight away cut off. I'm supporting my son financially as he has no job or centrelink. Centrelink keep requesting more decomentation & so usually give up. Mental impaired people cannot handle so much stress & so give up. People in general have no idea living with somebody with a mental illness how it destroys

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

Special cheaper accomodation. Currently paying \$700 per month to stay at uni accomodation but only temporarily as my son deferred from his course. Need more workshops & special jobs that these people can cope with. More support from centrelink, doctors. When parents ring for emergency

help should be given straight away & not during a working week. More information is attached on a separate sheet
Carers are not counted for

4. Strategies to assist carers to access opportunities and choices all the work we

I think the Government can better help carers by ... do to support our young ones.

Providing more care (housing) as these people can maybe work part-time but not fulltime.

They need help in budgeting as with bipolar during a manic episode they can spend their money in one

go. Education (media) To be more compassionate & not

judge so hastily. Helping More information is attached on a separate sheet

other family members to come to terms with somebody

else & how to help the mentally impaired cope in family life.

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

Print your name

ANN

Date

11 - 6 - 08