

Submission No. 66

(Inq into better support for carers)

A.O.C. 16/6/08

JANE

Committee Secretary
Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing and Youth

6/06/08 [Insert date here]

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.

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

ONGOING AND MONOTONOUS. EVERY DAY I HAVE TO WASH DUE TO MY SON'S INCONTINENCE, EVERY DAY I HAVE TO GIVE OUT MEDICATION, MAKE SURE THE SCHOOL HAS ENOUGH, STILL DO APPTS AND HE IS 16!

I face the following problems ...

MY HEALTH IS DETERIORATING. I HAVE ARTHRITIS, HAVE HAD 2 HIP OPERATIONS IN THE LAST 10 YEARS AND I'M ONLY 49. I HAVE DIABETES CHRONIC FATIGUE SYNDROME, SCOLIOSIS, LOROSIS = DEPRESSION. MY CAR HAS DONE A HIND CASKET AND I HAVE BEEN WITHOUT TRANSPORT, RELYING ON OTHER PEOPLE, TO SHOP OR ATTEND DRs.

I need help with ...

FINANCES AND PLACEMENT SOON IN A GROUP HOME BEFORE MY HEALTH GETS SO BAD I CAN'T LOOK AFTER HIM. HE IS 6'4" TALL AND EATS A LOT, I GO WEEK TO WEEK JUST MANAGING, NOTHING TO SAVE FOR CAR REPAIRS ETC

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

ACCESSING MORE FUNDS FOR RESpite
PAY US MORE - TO REPLACE ME AS A CARER INTO FULL-TIME
CARE COSTS \$70,000+ WHEREAS I GET \$13,000
MAKING MORE HOMES AVAILABLE
ALSO HOLIDAY PROGRAMS TO KEEP THEM BUSY AT HOLIDAY
TIME

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

[Sign your name here]

[Type or clearly print your name here] *JANE*

Inquiry into Better Support for Carers

*House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
Community, Housing and Youth*

Terms of Reference¹

To obtain an improved understanding of the challenges facing carers and their support needs, the committee will inquire into and report on:

- the role and contribution of carers in society and how this should be recognised;
- the barriers to social and economic participation for carers, with a particular focus on helping carers to find and/or retain employment;
- the practical measures required to better support carers, including key priorities for action; and
- strategies to assist carers to access the same range of opportunities and choices as the wider community, including strategies to increase the capacity for carers to make choices within their caring roles, transition into and out of caring, and effectively plan for the future.

In examining each of these issues, the committee will also inquire into the specific needs of particular groups within the caring population including new carers, younger carers, older carers, Indigenous carers and those with multiple care responsibilities.

Submissions²

Any individual or organisation can make a submission to a parliamentary committee. The following information may be of assistance in making a submission:

- There is no prescribed form for a submission to a parliamentary committee. Submissions may be in the form of a letter, a short document or a substantial paper. They may include appendices and other supporting documents.

¹ Source: <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/fchy/carers/tor.htm>

² Source: <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/documnts/howsub.htm>

- Submissions should be relevant to the terms of reference of the inquiry. They may address all or a selection of the points outlined in the terms of reference. Submissions may contain facts, opinions, arguments and recommendations for action. It is helpful if longer submissions are prefaced by a brief summary of the main points.
- A return address for correspondence and a contact telephone number should be provided with the submission. Submissions forwarded by email must include the name, postal address and phone number of the person or organisation making the submission.
- The author must sign a written submission either on his or her own behalf or on behalf of the organisation making the submission. Those signing on behalf of an organisation should indicate their level of authority (e.g. President, CEO, Secretary, etc.).
- In order to facilitate electronic publishing of submissions, the Committee would prefer them to be emailed to fchy.reps@aph.gov.au or sent on disk or CD-ROM to the Committee Secretariat in Microsoft Word® or Portable Document Format (PDF).
- The Committee does not want to exclude contributors who do not have access to computing facilities. Therefore, they will accept submissions in a range of formats which may include typewritten and handwritten documents.

Further information may be found at:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/fchy/carers/index.htm>