

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. 100
(Inq into better support for carers)

A.O.C 23/6/08

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... the system does not ^{adequately} care for me & my son as individuals.

I am a carer & face many challenges + costs that I have to cover personally

& hence disadvantage my son if I cannot.

I also have a disability & this is often not accounted for. I am also a single parent & my son has multiple disabilities. 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 provide my son with a safe, happy home.
To look after my son & help him live a fulfilled & social life -

to teach him independence & what is expected of him &

to teach my son he is special & valuable as he is.

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 ...

- Unable to get out in community due to son's Autism/absconding
- Face people telling me off when my son "misbehaves" in public & judging me and my son.
- huge financial stresses.
- constant sleep deprivation.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ... (I get some but need more)

- Home care
- Respite (not holidays).
- Rental assistance
- Social supports
- Case Management.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

4. Strategies to assist carers to access opportunities and choices

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

More Case Management that looks at individual needs.

More help for single parents (especially ones with a disability themselves looking after children w/ multiple needs like me!)

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

Signature

Monique

Print your name

11.06.08

Date