

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

STANDING

7 JUL 2008

FAMILY, COMMUNITY,

Submission No. 1011

(Inq into better support for carers)

Dear Secretary

Acc. 28/7/08

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...

1. After caring for my very sick husband (who has now died)
2. Presently caring for my daughter with mental issues.
3. Being a personal carer for Rep. of Human Service & AQA Qualicare!

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 give people the best possible personalized care and give them freedom of choice, accessibility to the wider community and my full and complete understanding of their many individual needs.

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 ...

- (1) Isolation ... inability to leave my duties for any personal time.
- (2) No help in any way financially or physically from any personal or Govt. auth to assist me in caring for my husband or daughter.
- (3) The wider community always shunning me & the people I care for

More information is attached on a separate sheet

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

As a carer, I need help with ...

- (1) Respite at a reasonable price for all <sup>carers</sup> people caring for all people with mental or physical disabilities
- (2) Better tax breaks to help me deal with the extra financial strains
- (3) A concession card for all carers regardless of their incomes

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 ...

- (1) Giving them more financial assistance it is cheaper for Govt to keep patient at home than in fulltime Govt care by \$10,000's per year.
- (2) Better easier access to all means of transport (no limit on taxi subsidized use)
- (3) Compulsary access to all new buildings for disabled people.
- (4) Govt staff to be made available to see people in care in their own homes as needed
- (5) More Govt social workers to meet the needs of the ever increasing no. of physically & mentally disabled.
- (6) More hospital beds to meet the increasing needs

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

Skirdone

Print your name

Date

30/6/08