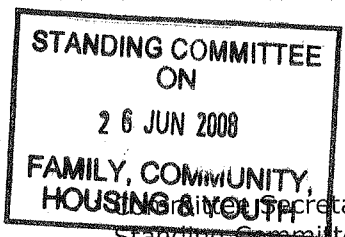


Tatiana



Secretary
Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing and Youth
PO Box 6021
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA

Submission No. 477
(Inq into better support for carers)

A.O.C. 2/7/08

22/6/08

[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 ... Grossly undervalued, appreciated, understood or recognised by all levels of government. (If I hear the phrase "working families" one more time, I'll vomit). Carers ARE, also WORKING!!! in most cases,

24/7 to care for someone they love. To pay someone \$15 ph x 24 hrs x 7 days for a year it would cost \$131,400!!!! we save government's money.

I face the following problems ... social isolation, poverty, personal chronic illness exacerbated by stress of caring role. Health service providers

and other service providers not understanding how to communicate with someone with Alzheimer's Disease - me being expected to somehow

"magically" communicate to my mother something now beyond
I need help with ... her comprehension.

Extra money to replace 1) a 20yr old washing machine with a rusting boat 2) 25 yr old fridge that is leaking 3) to put floor

coverings on our floors. 4) broken exhaust fans in bathroom + kitchen etc. etc. etc.

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

Increasing payments made to carers. Increase funding to service providers to hire extra care aides and find respite places. Raising the profile of carer issues in the public arena.

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]

Tatiana

Inquiry into Better Support for Carers

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

Prior to the last Federal election, I wrote John Howard a lengthy letter advising him not to ignore carers, pensioners and disabled people or he'd lose the election. He ignored us and he lost. We may not have a "loud" voice as we're too tired + busy caring, but we can, +