

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. 495  
(Inq into better support for carers)  
A.C.C. 7/7/08

STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
27 JUN. 2008  
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...

As carers we need to be recognized by what great work we do for our families. We need to be recognized, financially and within the community.

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 guide my twin boys who both have a special need (disability) so that they mature with independence. To provide for them security now and in their future eg: housing, disability payments etc.

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 ...

- Acceptance of disability in community. Peoples attitude to disability.
- The need for more respite as it gets very hard to get "peace" for one-self.
- financial assistance for hospital procedures etc.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

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

As a carer, I need help with ...

- Having more time to "think" at peace, where respite would help to look after my boys.
- Financial assistance for educational items my sons would need.
- Financial help to provide assistance when as a family we go on holidays.  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 ...

- Appreciating carers and telling the country that.
- Providing extra support in "respite times" through local government.
- Provide extra <sup>financial</sup> bonuses for carers during the year.
- ~~Provide~~ Have in place a forward plan for housing for the disabled.  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.