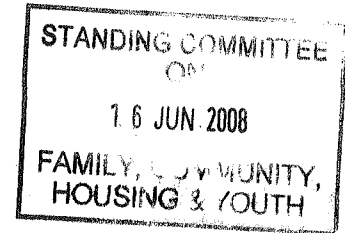


Committee Secretary
Inquiry into Better Support for Carers
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
Community, Housing and Youth
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Submission No. 151
(Inq into better support for carers)
A.O.C. 25/6/08

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...

I have been and am currently
still a full-time carer of my
elderly parents

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 care to my parents to
enable them to live in their own
home.
To me Nursing Homes are for people
who have nobody

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 ...

* too many restrictions on available Inhome
Respite hours
* Carer Payment needs to be increased
so that Carers are not living in poverty (eg
enough to enable Carers to maintain Private
Health cover, 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 ...

- # In Home Respite hours - not enough.
- # One central contact point.

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 ...

- ✓ Increasing the rate of Carer Payment.
- ✓ For DVA Gold Card holders - fixing the anomaly of "28 days of In Home Respite" (which should be 672 hours) which actually, is currently, 28 lots of 7 hrs (196 hrs)

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

Colleen

Print your name

6.6.2008

Date