

A.O.C. 20/6/08

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 COMMITTEE

ON

20 JUN 2008

FAM

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 feel I need extra care + support myself to maintain my husband's independence at home. My husband Kevin has dementia + Parkinson's Disease.

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 care for Kevin in his day to day needs whilst maintaining his ability to remain living at home.

By caring for people at home, carers save the government + society millions + millions of dollars.

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 ...

• I have a decreased social life due to my caring role and this impacts on my enjoyment of life. I can't do what I want to do, when I want to.

• lack of money due to caring role and ↑ in prices of services

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

• Respite during the day, so I can go out for an extended time with travel in the country to make an activity or outing effective, I need more time. • Help with gardening (not just lawn mowing) • Home Help • Finances

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 carers allowance and then maintaining it with timely adjustments with the CPI. • Increasing respite options by not limiting the km's that can be travelled by paid respite workers when taking out my husband.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

At present there is a limit of 50 km (total) that can be travelled. In a country area this limits the range of activities possible.

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

Print your name

LILLIAN

Date

16.6.2008