

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. 323
STAN (Inq into better support for carers)
A.O.C. 30/6/08
2 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...

Although my husband is now in a nursing home (psychogeriatric) I am still a carer, have unhelpful memories of when he was at home and want other carers, battling at home to be helped to cope. 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 try to keep the person as calm + happy as possible (if they will accept the help) and in so doing fulfill a duty of care while keeping myself intact as a person who also has rights.

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 ...

Visits to nursing home can be very difficult - at times having to face accusations of dumping, impersoning, not caring and "not knowing why I cannot take him home" etc. This is not needed when I know I am supported by the family that we all did as much as possible to avoid this difficult situation. (Alcoholic dementia) More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

The lack of suitable accommodation because he is a "square peg in a round hole" where he is now because he has far more ability than the other patients, has no empathy with them and not enough brain power to understand his own More information is attached on a separate sheet
problems.

4. Strategies to assist carers to access opportunities and choices

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

acknowledging the sacrifices made and providing a wide range of facilities to cope with the wide range of disabilities physical & mentally for all age groups in the community. More information is attached on a separate sheet

Even the most resilient carers need a break before they break.

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

MARGARET

Date

21/6/08