

Submission Number: 3
Date Received: 25/03/2011

JE.

Thank you for your clarification regarding my submission/story. I have made the adjustments as requested to discard any names associated with my story as follows.

When making enquires in relation to the above subject I was advised to submit my story to you for consideration and discussion as I believe that Parliament is currently conducting an inquiry into this very issue.

I would like to take this opportunity to tell my story in the hope that my voice will be heard.

In 2005 my daughter suffered a severe psychotic episode. To this date my husband and I will never know what caused this event. She was hospitalised for a period of 2 years during this time she was diagnosed with a Schzoaffective Disorder. As a consequence it was very long journey to wellness and for her to be rehabilitated back into the community and to be able to live independently.

She is now 34 years old and to this date she is as well as can be expected, living independantly coping with all the normal day to day activities that is required to run a household. Last October she married a young man who suffers from Paranoia Schizophrenia. With the assistance of his Case Manager to gain employment he has made many efforts but has also been unsuccessful. My daughter is currently studying at TAFE in the hope that she can gain employment

As a consequence of their many efforts to gain employment I have given a lot of thought to the idea of creating a Skills Centre here in my home town for those people who suffer from a mental illness and are unable to gain employment despite maintaing their well being and trying their hardest to achieve a sense of belonging in society.

The Skills Centre would provide the necessary training, communication and abilities to make them ready for the work force so as to get them past the front door.

I firmly believe that anyone who is seeking employment require some form of training whether it is in the area of a trade, office, profession, factory or labourer if they are going to be successfull. I think it is only fair that employers expect their employees to be trained to do the best job possible.

I would appreciate it if you could consider my proposal and I would be very interested in being part of any dicussion into Employment for Mental Health in the near future.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email.