

10/6/08

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

Submission No. 102
(Inq into better support for carers)
23/6/08 A.O.C.

Dear Secretary

I wish to make a submission to the House of Representatives Standing Community, Housing and Youth` Inquiry into Better Support for Carers.

My husband and I care for our son Sean who is 12 years old and has Down syndrome and is in inclusive setting at a State Primary School. Our son is happy and achieving with our direct assistance.

- ① Our needs at present are assistance for me to gain employment in more regular hours(have juggled nursing shift work on weekend and family day care provider) for the past ten years this has led to burn out.
- ② I need to have and income to provide for our retirement and set our son up for an adult inclusive lifestyle. The aged pension and disability pension will

not be enough. We need help to help our selves this in the long run is a saving on government funds.

③ Housing that is not aged care is what I need to see in existence and working for our peace of mind for when we are not alive for intellectually and complex needs clients.

④ An increase in Disability pension for our son Sean as his income will always be small. He has the right to enjoy life and this take income.

⑤ Organisations that have power to check on a person with a disability and and stop situations of segretation and lonilness that exist I have witnessed this personally and as a health care worker have not been able to make changes there is still ignorance and lack of worth for people with disability. I have come up against apathy lack of knowledge with staff at all levels.

Thank you, for reading my letter the best way to support carers is to address all needs of the young and aged with a disability this will provide peace of mind and happiness for carers as all parents can achieve with their none disabled sons and daughter

Yours truly,
Denise