

Committee Sec.
House of Reps
Po Box 6021
Parliament House
ACT 2600.

Submission No.
1069
(Inq into better
support for carers)
8/07/08

3rd July 2008.

Dear Secretary, I wish to make a submission to the House of Reps. into Better Support for Carers.

For over 35 years we have been caring for our two sons who suffer with mental health problems.

We still suffer verbal and physical threats from the younger son who still lives at home with us.

The local community health centre no longer offer case management support.

The Prince of Wales Hospital are unable to provide adequate treatment for the chronic mentally ill and are reluctant to admit them because they require longer periods of hospitalisation.

The current Government health policy of closing down hospitals, such as Gladerville and Callan Park and imprisoning the mentally ill at Long Bay, is a depressing prognosis for carers especially senior aged carers.

with an ever increasing population there is a serious shortage of 24 hour supervised accommodation in the community. It's been our experience that the majority of the public would prefer the mentally ill not to be living in their neighbourhood especially when they're experiencing psychotic episodes.

Our son has been socially isolating himself for the past five years and spends 22 hours a day in his rooms. He will not try to seek help and his mental and physical health continue to decline.

We have made submissions before to the Burdekin Report (1993) and the NSW Legislative Council Select Committee Report (2002) and we have not seen any improvements since those excellent reports were submitted.

Yours faithfully

Chris
