

AOC 17/10/08

Inquiries Secretary standing committee on family community housing and youth.
Committee hearing for better support for carers in Albury on the 1st October 2008.

To whom it may concern,

My name is Julie and I have a daughter with a disability. I was unable to attend the hearing, however I would like this opportunity to let you know briefly my concerns as a carer.

We as carers need better support to enable us to continue quality, loving and ongoing care to our children. The need to access more respite time is very important.

My main concern will always be what will happen to my child if I can no longer look after her.

I would like to be involved in all aspects of future supported accommodation for her.

We would like the opportunity to have a say on how this should occur.

A model village in Albury would be beneficial.

CHOICE on behalf of person with a disability to choose who she lives with and where she will live and who takes care of her and the knowledge that she will be in a safe, caring environment for life. The uncertainty for her future causes a lot of stress for our family.

Staying in the workforce is becoming very hard as my child gets older because of appropriate care not being available, programs are harder to access.

Lack of Speech therapy, behaviour management, support from case workers needs to be addressed.

A social network for people with disabilities needs to happen by way of more programs. They need more opportunities to be with their peers because they can get very frustrated by not being able to express their boredom. NO 18 year old wants to be with their parents All the time.

We love our child of course but we also need to be able to look after ourselves and the only way to have true quality time out is knowing that our child is happy, safe and in professional care whilst away from us.

Thankyou for taking the time to read my concerns.

Julie