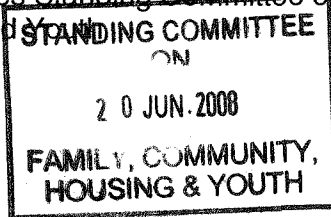


Committee Secretary  
Inquiry into Better Support for Carers  
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,  
Community, Housing and Youth  
PO Box 6021  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Submission No. 278  
(Inq into better support for carers)

A.O.C. 30/6/08



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...

I HOPE THAT THE ABOVE ENTRY CAN BE  
OF SOME HELP!

MY WIFE OF 37 YRS HAS HAD ALZHEIMERS + EPILEPSY  
FOR THE LAST 5 YRS. WE BATTLE ON!

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 PROVIDE AS NORMAL A HOME LIFE AS POSSIBLE  
FOR MY WIFE WITH LOVE + SECURITY AND BASIC COMFORTS  
AND TO STIMULATE HER EVER DECREASING MEMORY  
+ SKILLS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE FOR AS LONG AS I POSSIBLY CAN!

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 ...

I RETIRED EARLY (AGE 61) TO CARE FOR MY WIFE AND LIVING  
ON A PENSION IS VERY RESTRICTIVE. IT IS DIFFICULT TO  
HANDLE OUR FRIENDS AND TO FIND AFFORDABLE + SUITABLE  
ENTERTAINMENT OUTSIDE THE HOME. MOVIES + SHORT DRIVES  
TO RECREATE THE DOG ARE ABOUT THE EXTENT POSSIBLE.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

**3. The practical measures required to better support carers**

As a carer, I need help with ...

① INCONTINENCE - COSTS - THE SUBSIDY FROM GOV'T. ONLY COVERS ABOUT 25% OF THE COST OF DISPOSABLE PANTS + PADS FOR MY WIFE WITH ALZHEIMER'S.

② I WOULD LIKE A "PROTECTED" ENVIRONMENT TO TAKE MY WIFE ON A HOLIDAY & WITH SOME RESPIRE DURING THE HOLIDAY!

More information is attached on a separate sheet

**4. Strategies to assist carers to access opportunities and choices**

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

1. PROVIDING A HOLIDAY FACILITY WITH RESPIRE SUPPORT!

2. INCREASE FUNDING TO COVER INCONTINENCE ETC.!

3. MORE SOCIAL STRUCTURE FOR YOUNGER ONSET OF DEMENTIA

( I AM NOT TAKING MY WIFE TO A GROUP OF 75-90 YEAR OLDS. SHE IS STILL ONLY 64.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

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

RODNEY

Print your name

11-6-08.

Date