

A0c 24/7/08

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. 1009**

(Inq into better support for carers)

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 am a Full Time Carer for my husband

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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...

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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 ...

Finding employment that works in with my husband. Employers and recruitment agencies are

very dubious about offering employment because of the restriction Carers face regarding availability. Centrelink allow 25 hours a week that you can work. The problem is, is that this includes travelling time. This is very hard for me as I live in a rural area and had to travel a long way to work. I lost 3 hours a day in travel time thus lowering my allowed hours of work. This is also very expensive in petrol. After deductions for petrol and Centrelink I made about \$30 for the day. Also any time spent on a training course to give you more options for work is also included in the 25 hour a week allowance. Carers are not able to work every time the employer requests because of doctors appointments and caring duties. Carers are discriminated against in the workforce, I know it, I have personally experienced it and also was laid off one position because of it.

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*More information is attached on a separate sheet*

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

As a carer, I need help with ...

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*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 ...

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*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

*Print your name*      *Rosalind*