

Submission No. 1077

(Inq into better support for carers)

Acc 28/7/08

JOYCE

July 1, 2008

Committee Secretary  
Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing and Youth  
PO Box 6021  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Secretary,

I wish to make a submission to the house of Representatives Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing and Youth Inquiry in to better Support for Carers. I feel I contribute to Australian Society by caring for my Disabled Husband. He had a major stroke in 1999 and after Rehabilitation in The Hampstead Centre in Adelaide I have cared for him ever since with a couple of spells of Respite. Unfortunately I was unable to take advantage of either occasion due to problems with my own health. It would help me considerably if my husband was in care for at least a month. I realise this is not always possible.

I worry about my future as I don't know how much longer I can put up with my husbands' changing behaviour.

My husband is also very incontinent (both bowel & bladder), which makes for a lot of washing. He had radiotherapy in 1994 following prostate surgery.

In closing I would like to point out that I cared for my husband for 7 years before finding out that I could get a Carers Allowance thus Saving the Government money. My children help as much as they can but they have their employment and Families to consider also.

Yours Sincerely

Joyce