

Submission No. 1179

(Inq into better support for carers)

AD 4/8/08

**Sent:** Friday, 4 July 2008 4:07 AM

**To:** Committee, FCHY (REPS)

**Subject:** Carers Concerns

Beverly

To: The Inquiries Secretary;

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in regards to my concern about the well being of my son's future, carers, carers allowances and carers training.

I am currently the only carer for my son who has intellectual disabilities among other physical disabilities. I am 59, a widow and aging (rapidly). My current concern is what the future holds for my son in my aging years. What are the options available to him and who is going to look after him as I have NO family support? It is my wish that he remains in our family home. How and when can we start this process?

Please note that for the last 12 years of my husband's life, he had terminal cancer, I was also his carer, I feel, with no support, so you can understand my concerns for my son.

I feel that with the lack of funding in training and wages, that this type of work is not financially viable as a career option. This, I feel is doing a disservice not only to my son but others in the same position as me.

I am also concerned about the allowances that are given to us as this does not replace the income we could be earning if we were in the work force. As you are well aware, we as primary carers, being mothers and family members are saving the Government \$60 million per annum.

I am wondering what, if any, training the carers are given because at the moment I have over \$10,000 in hours accumulated because of the incompetence of the carers that are sent here and the lack of support given to them by the service providers.

This is doing a disservice to my son as it's not helping him reach his highest potential and at the end of the day, we as the primary carers have to try to train the carers who think they know better.

There are so many things I could say about how I feel, the isolation, the lack of emotional support, physical support and with all this if there is a carer all I do is worry again about their lack of training. It ends up being to stressful and so I give up.

I look forward to hearing from you in regards to the above.

4/07/2008

Yours sincerely,

Beverly