

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. 459
(Inq into better support for carers)

A.O.C. 2/7/08

COMMUNITY,
HOUSING & YOUTH

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 it will make life a bit easier for other primary & secondary carers who struggle with the heartache seeing a loved one decline in health whether physical or mental.

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: was (mother died Nov '08)

to ease the burden on the primary carer, my father. My mum ⁽⁷⁹⁾ was unable at times to recognise Dad as her husband & having them living next door (independent dwelling) made it easier to go over day or night to help Dad & comfort my mother. ^{aged 84}

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 ...

Primary carer Dad at home but I needed to be available so ^{no} full-time job. You did without socially - didn't go out too often at night if I did I would receive calls or make calls (mobile) to ease situation, if away on holidays constant calls (so extra cost) plus a very stressed primary carer.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

So casual/temp. employment with considerable employers,

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

Dad didn't want help except family. Extended family need help to care with flexibility of work maybe via Centrelink (ie sons & daughters)

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 ...

Especially primary carers more Care Support Groups for Dementia esp MALE groups. Also better financial payments - you give up your time even though you love them but it's a struggle.

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

ANN

Print your name

26.6.08

Date