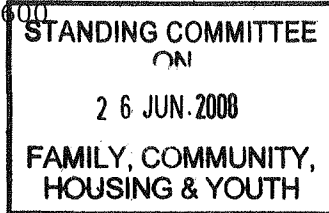


Submission No. 475
(Inq into better support for carers)

A.G.C. 2/7/08

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



June 23rd 2008
[Insert date here]

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.

As a Carer, I feel that my role is

As a carer I act as a proxy who has
enduring power of attorney. I am entrusted with a mandate to be an
able and honourable person with a conscience. I am mindful that I am
devoted and loyal to partner who lives "death in life" and values diligence in this
course of love.
I face the following problems ... Mainly medical, ie the carer is the day-to-day-to-night
monitor of medications, health concerns and/or conditions, the record keeper and
mobile chemist. Medical professionals initially have to be prompted to value the
carer in relation to state of health ie peaks and lows in health, as well as
medication changes as carers juggle multiple practitioners and medication
requirements.

I need help with ... Minor home maintenance, gardening, and house cleaning assistance

that is not constrained by separate funding agency assessment guidelines
eg. I can offer this but not that, you don't fit the age requirements, your service is
discontinued pending a review with no notice given nor any service
provided during this period.

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

listening and including carer representatives/groups at least six
months prior to budget decisions and committing budget
decisions for triennial periods

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
[Sign your name here]

[Type or clearly print your name here] LESLEY

Inquiry into Better Support for Carers

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
Community, Housing and Youth