

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

Submission No. 139
(Inq into better support for carers)
A.O.C. 25/6/08

[Insert date here]
11/06/08

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 ... HAS BECOME MY OVER-RIDING PURPOSE IN LIFE - DOMINATING WHO I AM; HOW I CAN LIVE AND WHAT I CAN AND CANNOT (IN SOME CASES - MUST/NEED) DO

I face the following problems ...

- o LOSS OF INDIVIDUALITY
- o RE-NEWAL INTO A ROLE WHICH I PRESUMED I HAD LEFT BEHIND (AS IN PARENT WITH FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILDREN)
- o FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS - REDUCED (GREATLY) INCOME
I need help with ...
- o FINDING MY OWN PURPOSE / DIRECTION IN LIFE
- o RENEWING MY SELF-WORTH / RESPECT
- o RE INSTATING MY ROLE IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY
- o BEING ABLE TO WORK IN MY CHOSEN CAREER - TEACHING - AGAIN
I think the Government can better help Carers by ...
- 1) PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES TO INCREASE THEIR INDEPENDENCE THIS ASSISTING CARERS TO PURSUE THEIR INDEPENDENCE.
- 2) RECOGNISE THE FINANCIAL RESTRAINTS PUT ON CARERS - REWARD EFFORT ON A REALISTIC SCALE

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.

ELIZABETH
Yours sincerely
[Sign your name here]

[Type or clearly print your name here]

Inquiry into Better Support for Carers

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