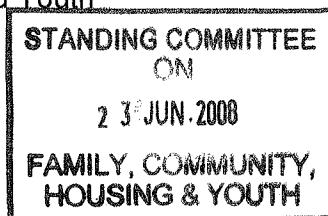


Committee Secretary
Inquiry into Better Support for Carers
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
Community, Housing and Youth
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA
ACT 2600



Submission No. 315
(Inq into better support for carers)

A.O.C 30/6/08

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.

I am submitting to the Inquiry because...

I care for my son who is 16 yrs old with Aspergers Syndrome, ADHD and has Dispraxia.

My Father in Law who has Dementia and has had 3 major strokes and several minor ones.

My ex-husband who is 52yrs of age with Parkinsons Disease.

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...

To make sure that everyone that I care for has the best care available, and is treated with dignity and respect that is equal to everyone else.

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 ...

Services take a long time to be activated. Careline does not work as efficiently as it could. It is too far removed from the real situation. We need a regionalized Careline where clients are not so far removed .

We need to be informed of all the that is available to help the carer and the caree.

Financial hardship is extremely difficult to deal with.

Only short breaks but no real holiday.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

The special needs of my carees. eg My caree with Parkinson's disease has feet that are swollen out of proportion due to medication. He needs custom made shoes.

*LINKAGE OR
ACARS PACKAGE*

The cost of the OT assessment for my son to be able to use a laptop for VCE

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 ...

Regionalise Careline

Centrelink to give payment for more than 2 carees per carer.

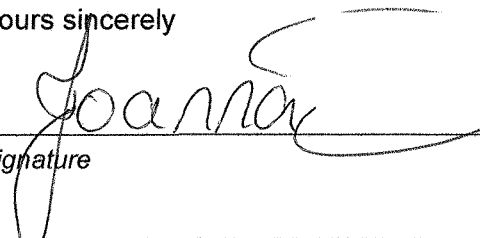
Increase carer allowance.

Inform carers of everything that is available to them before they become desperate or near breaking point.

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


Signature

Print your name

Joanna

Date 18th June 2008

Postal Address

Contact Telephone Number