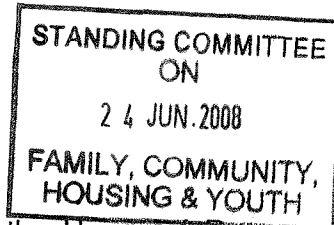


Committee Secretary
Inquiry into Better Support for Carers
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
Community, Housing and Youth
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Submission No. 424
(Inq into better support for carers)

A.O.C. 2/7/08



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 have been a carer of a Parkinsons sufferer for 24 years. During that period the stress factor has increased for me due to my spouse's health declining

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...

Of course 24/7, 365 days a year as a support to someone unable to make important decisions on a daily basis, he needs to be secure and so is my constant companion, which is very overwhelming and not able to say GO AWAY.

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 ...

Social outings are rare and can only be nearby for a very short time visiting a garden nursery by oneself is heaven, but on return the its, cook, cleaner, laundry, ironing, mending, money to prioritise, accounts as for house or car repairs they go to the bottom of the jobs.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

I am able to have home care but due to the cost I am unable to afford maintainance assistance, even cleaning windows would be wonderfull, able to have company for my spouse to relate to on low level of thinking would allow me more time for daily tasks.

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 ...

Making maintainance assistance more affordable, the carer bonus has been a great help - I would like to purchase a dressing gown - haven't had one for years - Electricity & Gas accounts assistance is minimal but using heaters for warmth and hot water is a must for the invalid

More information is attached on a separate sheet

I care for my spouse of 52 yrs with compassion - there are many times I could scream but he would feel so guilty so it gets bottled up and I turn to medication

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

E.

Print your name

05 / 06 / 2008

Date