

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

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 am a carer for my husband who has dementia and also suffers regular diarrhoea due to cancer 3 years ago

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...

an important one as the Government would have to look after him full time while I only receive \$100 a fortnight. My job as carer is very demanding and an absolute necessity as he could not look after himself.

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 ...

I am mostly confined to the home with only respite - 6 hrs each Monday when he goes to a Dementia Group. Due to family interference he refuses to go to respite care to give me a break for longer periods.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

encouraging him to go to respite care on a regular basis and assistance during school holidays when the Dementia Group does not meet. These school holidays I will not get a break at all.

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 ...

providing funds to take carers away for a weekend and be pampered at least once a year. This should be available to all carers wishing to participate. There could be more help available at local council level

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

M.

Signature

MAVIS

Print your name

30-06-08

Date