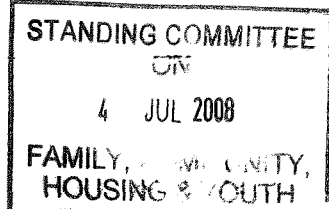


Committee Secretary
Inquiry into Better Support for Carers
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
Community, Housing and Youth
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



REC 1817/08

Submission No. 918

(Inq into better support for carers)

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...

as, I I am a carer for my husband John who has an acquired brain injury for the past 18.2 years. As well as, I conceded to be a sole parent since, for our 3 children who at the time their ages were 12yrs, 10yrs, 3 1/2 year

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 continue caring for my husband the same way he could have done to me if it was me who needed care. We had a very strong bond, good relationship, 100% trust in each other. Both of us have strong family values, morals, love and care all blended in our marriage commitments.

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 ...

That now, since December 06 my trust in the system of the service providers has ^{I gradually been} thrown out of the window. John was put in respite care on the 28th October 2006. John was in respite care prior to this and never experienced the awful treatment that I do now.

I feel I have become an outcast. My concerns are not heard and that precedents are not taken seriously.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

Restoring my trust with the service providers in:-
maintaining clear + honest communication.

To be provided with back up support or resources.

Considering the impact of the disability on all family members and their relationship with each other.

Keeping me well informed of appropriated services in regards to the solving the problems that may arise.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

Respect the believes, culture and values.

4. Strategies to assist carers to access opportunities and choices

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

Educating the service providers in all the above of no 3.

Make it compulsory to all service providers in mental health to include the primary carer as well as the family members

and to hear their concerns ^{all of} of their loved ^{about} ill person. After

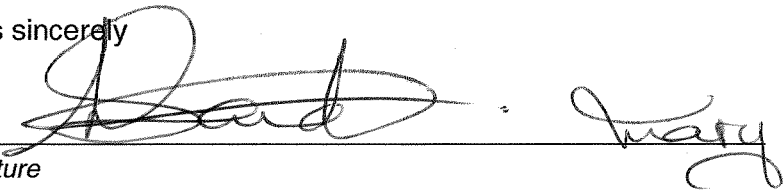
all the primary carer is the person who has first hand knowledge of the person being cared for. Therefore the services

More information is attached on a separate sheet

providers must provide support in a way that acknowledges the latter.

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

MARY

Date

2 - 07 - 2008