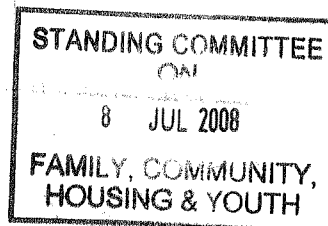


Committee Secretary
 Inquiry into Better Support for Carers
 House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
 Community, Housing and Youth
 PO Box 6021
 Parliament House
 CANBERRA ACT 2600

Doc 28/7/08



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 am the sole carer for a 24 year old girl with a severe degenerative illness which I also suffer from to a lesser degree. Life is stressful & emotionally draining.

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...

I am totally willing to look after my daughter & I want to. Our main problem is a huge gap in activities for young adults. She is not mentally ill just ill. The local council admits there is a huge shortage of young carers available because of poor wages.

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 ...

- * Isolation especially at night.
- * Future needs as illness progresses.
- * My own health & ability to keep going.
- * Suitable accommodation for a young person if she can't be at home any longer.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

One day or 5 hrs a week respite would keep me going a lot better. It is extremely stressful constantly squashing in shopping etc into tiny time slots.

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 ...

Offering weekly respite. In my own situation I would rather have respite than the money. \$100.60 per fortnight * \$600.00 = \$3,215.60. There should be a choice of respite subsidised by carer or financial assistance.

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

Annie

Print your name

Date

30/06/08