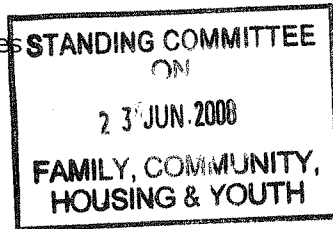


REC 18/8/08

Committee Secretary
Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing and Youth
PO Box 6021
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA



13.6.08

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.

As a Carer, I feel that my role is

to care physically for my 86 yr old wife. I also need to support her emotionally & psychologically as her mental condition makes her worry constantly about all things great & small.

I face the following problems ...

My wife only received 3 hours in home respite per week. We are very grateful for this time as it gives me a chance to get out of the house but the constant care she requires makes me very tired & physically exhausted. She will quite often wake me up several times during the night.

I need help with ...

The thing I would most appreciate would be more in home respite for my wife. An increase in the carers payment would mean I could employ a carer more often for in home respite & so give me a much needed break.

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

acknowledging the very worthwhile job carers do by increasing the Carers Payment. If the people being cared for at home were taking up hospital beds or nursing home beds the health system would be in an even worse state than it is now.

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

ADRIANUS

Inquiry into Better Support for Carers

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
Community, Housing and Youth