

AOC 4/8/08  
Submission No. 1195  
(Inq into better support for carers)

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

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 part time carer for my mother (My dad is her other carer). I feel that in order for us both to keep working we need more support in our community for people who become ill or disabled under the age of 60.

People who become ill under the age of 60 are dicriminated against financially, emotionally,

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 provide the best quality of life possible for my mother. I need to be her voice, her strength,

her motivation to live. We need to prevent depression, and reduce anxiety in her life. As my

mums carer I also feel that I need to be, and want to be support for my father. Who in a

sense has lost his wife as he knew her.

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 ...

Beause my father and myself work and share the load of being carers, my father is not Entitled to an allowance. We only get approx \$100.00 per fortnight, which these days Only covers the cost of petrol. The carer's bonus was a help more would be useful. If we Were both unable to look after mum she would have to go into a nursing home, She is only 56 years old! Rehab were initially NOT

going to rehabilitate her if we were going to send her to a nursing home and not bring her home. If we did not fight for her she may not have survived!

More information is attached on a separate sheet

### 3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

Qualified and reliable carers in the home. Respite in the home. Services all being linked

To save chasing up different services.

Better disabled taxi services.

Centrelink needs to reduce paperwork, to make it easier for people to claime what they are

Entitled to.

Reduce/ Cease Dicrimination against those under 60 with a disibility ie. Financially and provide services focused on this age group.

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 ...

Reducing paperwork through centrlink.

DO not discriminate towards those under 60 who become disabled.

Provide more services that have live in care for people who need respite.

Promote live in care rather than having to send people to nursing homes who are not elderly

Also promote live in care for those who are elderly. Keep people at home longer in their

Familiar environment to increse their quality of life!!!

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

Trudie

Signature

Trudie

8/7/08

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Date

9/07/2008