

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

Submission No. 338  
(Inq into better support for carers)

A.O.C. 1/7/08

STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
25 JUN 2008

FAMILY, COMMUNITY,  
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...

my 14 year old daughter was diagnosed at birth with Bardet  
Biedl syndrome a rare condition which is similar to down syndrome.

I am the carer for Dalia, I am also a single mother  
of 8 children 5, which are still under my care.

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 not only assist with daily chores, such as cleaning, cooking,  
bathing Dalia, helping her move around, but also trying to  
be as supportive as I can, not only as a Mother, but as  
one of her good friends. Another Role as a carer is making  
the child feel as happy as possible.

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 ...

honestly, facilities, although there have been many generous  
organised which volunteer there services and help, like  
Respite care, the Royal Childrens Hospital and Star Light,  
on a daily day to day basis Dalia struggles a lot.

Moving around in the House has become a really big  
issue, she bumps into everything,  
can't shower herself.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

the housing problem, (she has a care but she feels burden picking it up everytime she wants to go toilet) if there where rails and facilities to cater her disability things would be a lot easier. The only reasons I haven't done all this is because it requires money, money I don't have.

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 more funding, Dalia can't even ask me to go watch a Movie because I can't afford the petrol, the coke & the popcorn, with the money we get it kills me as we don't know how long she will be able to see for. Funding for housing, commission housing, ~~share the~~ <sup>disability</sup> ~~pay ment~~ shes on family tax benefit, the child struggles to get herself to a toilet, but shes not considered by the government disabled. We suffer and the government asks for our voices. We want to be heard.

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

Print your name

Mouna

Date

10-6-08