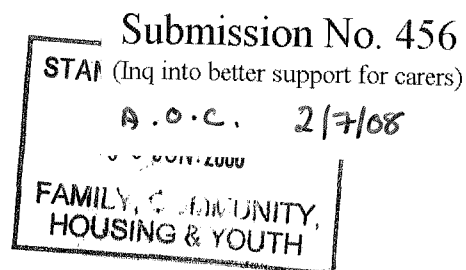


Committee Secretary
Inquiry into Better Support for Carers
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
Community, Housing and Youth
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



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...

as a carer, I feel that we are unsupported in the
hardwork we endure everyday.

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...

essential & irreplaceable by a regular member of
public, therefore I have to ensure that I am always
healthy & rested. Carer Respite don't have enough
funding to assist us carers with regular respite.
I have 2 other children that desperately need respite
but they are only provided non-regular respite, leaving
them fragile.

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 ...

Having to work to sustain a healthy living - to
pay bills, yet then caring for 2 sons with a
disability, I am exhausted. They have a health
care card but I don't. It would help immensely if
the carers received a health care card to assist
in bill payment which would reduce necessity to work, which would
reduce exhaustion.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

paying bills, respite hours increased ~ more funding for more practical respite such as movies rather than an in home carer. Waiting times for help needs to be reduced. Urgent respite for Siblings should be easier to access. eg - been waiting for continence nurse to call for 3 months. 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 carers with a Health Care Card
- Bonus payment to continue to enable equipment needed to be purchased. Fortnightly payments cover appointments, but in long term doesn't add up to much. Imagine the cost to G'ment if all carers handed responsibility & costs over to them. You couldn't afford it. You need us. 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

Lee-Anno

Print your name

26/6/2008

Date