

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. 463

(Inq into better support for carers)

S1 A.O.C 2/7/08

30 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...

as a carer I worry a lot about the future for both ourselves and our child and what options will be available to us to provide care and appropriate accommodation.

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...

My child is young, so the roles of carer and parent are very blurred. In the future, I will continue to care for my child because I want her to stay in a happy, loving family environment.

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 ...

Socially, the environment can be limiting. It is surprising how many places are physically inaccessible. My caring role makes employment impossible. Relying on government payments mean that income is low, yet necessary equipment (wheelchairs, home modifications, etc) costs are incredibly high and Aids & Equipment waiting lists are very long and subsidies low.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

financially, assistance is always needed with regards to equipment, etc, but there needs to be more choice. One option does not suit all. Especially regarding respite, access to therapy services and home medical care.

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 ...

the possibilities are endless, and different for each carer. If only half the money we save Government by caring at home were put back into respite, medical, therapy and equipment services, it would make a big difference.

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

DONNA

Print your name

26.6.08

Date