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To whom it concerns

I am a sole parent and I have a 27 year old son who suffers from Psychosis/Schizophrenia and he has been a patient at Joondalup Mental Health Campus.

There were times when I did not know who to turn to or what organisations were available for people in similar situations. I contacted my Labour MP Tony O'Gorman, in the hope that he could help me or offer assistance for my son. He mentioned that a local support group held a meeting every fortnight in his rooms.

I decided to go to this meeting where I met parents who had a family member who had been involved in drugs. I have found the group to be very supportive and the meetings provide a forum for us parents to able to discuss our fears and feelings. We have often found ourselves to be in sad and desperate situations, mainly due to a family member being ill or troublesome

There is a need within our local community for families to be aware of what is available through local drug support groups. I consider this group to be a lifeline to those who attend and I strongly recommend that the support and funding for our Parent Support group be continued through the appropriate agencies.

14 March 2007