



The Secretary

Senate Community Affairs References Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

6 July 2006

re; Senate Inquiry into CSTDA.

My wife & I have been Family Carers for 49 years-- our Daughter has epilepsy & an intellectual impairment. We also cared for my Mother for 4 years, due to a stroke.

We have had respite care at the Korumburra Hillside Lodge , aged care facility for 8 years--- However, on the 8 October 2004, we were told by an ACAT assessment person, that we would no longer be eligible for further respite-- no reason given.

On the 18 October 2004, we received a letter from a CACPS referral worker, stating she would be contacting us re our Daughter's name being added to the waiting list for a Community Aged Care Package. NO contact has been made as yet, 21 months on ?

A call from Hillside Lodge, 10am-- 20 July 2005, offered permanent accommodation for our Daughter---- A call from Hillside Lodge 2-15 pm-- July 2005, that the offer had been withdrawn by ACAT. ?

17 November 2005- approval for respite care at Hillside Lodge was received .

This 13 month duration caused a great deal of distress for us, particularly to my wife. who is now in very poor health-- I am now caring for my wife & daughter

Now, at 78 years of age, my big worry is , " What will happen to my Daughter when I Die" ??

The Federal Government needs to accept TOTAL responsibility & take control of all the issues, relating to Disabled people & their Family Carers-- NOW , in order to stop the " BLAME GAME".

Yours sincerely

Bill Skinner