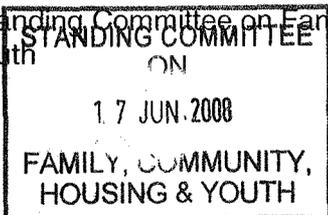


Committee Secretary
Inquiry into Better Support for Carers
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
Community, Housing and Youth
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Submission No. 94
(Inq into better support for carers)
A.O.C. 22/6/08



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...

I have been & still are a carer for my husband
who has had Multiple Sclerosis for 26 years.
We have been married 44 years.

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 support my husband, as a wife, nurse, financial
budgeter, housekeeper, being there 24hrs a day to
keep him physically & emotionally happy & well as possible.
Attending all his needs, as well as doctor's
appointments, podiatrist appointments - Blood tests, physio - hospital.

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 ...

Financial, physical & emotional problems -
every day of our lives - Plus the fact
that I am now in my 60's & have my own
health issues - making the road ahead - aging together
an even bigger & scary time ahead. Who wants to know
& who really cares.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

Finance, respite + affording a
holiday at least once a year.
As well as maintenance on our home

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 ...

Increasing the pension - to cover the
increasing costs in all areas of living. More
affordable, disabled friendly housing.
~~All~~ All money should be claimed back
from Medicare - from specialists - when on a
pension.

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

Helen

Date

11/6/08