June 13th 2008

FAMILY, COMMUNITY, HOUSING & YOUTH

Submission No. 131 (Inq into better support for carers)

A.O.C. 25/6/08

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

Dear Secretary

I wish to make a submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family, Committee, Housing and Youth's Inquiry into Better support for Carers.

My role as a carer is taking care of my elderly uncle who will be 91 years old on the 21/07/2008. I have spent most of my time at the hospital accompanying him to appointments, hospital visits at the emergencies on many occasions due to hernia operation. He has prostrate cancer, lung cancer and is surviving on 30% capacity of his heart has a limited understanding of the English language, therefore I need to be available at all times for him.

I am also a carer for my husband who has been diagnosis with dementia I need to accompany him everywhere. The role of a carer as far as I am concerned is very important. My loved ones need to feel safe and secure in the thought that I will always be there with them and for them. Unfortunately there are times that I too need to feel save and secure in knowing that I can get the support and encouragement from others.

Looking for full time employment is not relevant at this point. The practical measures that would support me, would be moving into a housing commission in one of the areas mention on our list with housing Commission. This will support me and removed the stress of worrying what will happen to my loved ones once the house is sold. We have been on the waiting list since 2006.

At present the property that we are renting will soon be on the market for sale.

Thank you for taking my views into consideration as part of the Committee's Inquiry. I look forward to reviewing the recommendations you make in order to improve support for carers.

Yours_sincerely