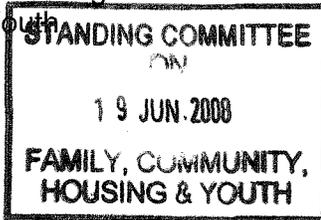


Committee Secretary
Inquiry into Better Support for Carers
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
Community, Housing and Youth
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Submission No. 281
(Inq into better support for carers)

A.O.C. 30/6/08

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 am a parent/carer of a person with a disability and therefore am better placed to see the shortfall in attitudes, understanding and needs of not only people with disabilities but their carers.

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 be available to our son twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week to ensure all of his basic needs are met including feeding, bathing & clothing, and he is kept safe & well looked after. Also to help him attain the best possible outcome to his life.

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 ...

I have a very limited social life. All of my social outings are arranged for my son. The restrictions on a social life that involves a person with a disability are endless. I am unable to take up work because I have to be at home when my son comes home & I have to meet his needs in the mornings. I also have to take him to

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

the basic costs associated with the increasing number
of medical appointments. Not only doctors fees, many
who don't recognise the disability card, but on top of that
there is parking fees, so help there would be beneficial,
Also gas/electricity & rates rebates would help as these increase
the burden on the carers.

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 ...

easing the financial burden on carers by at least maintaining
or improving the benefits that are available to them.
Giving initiatives for carers to work at home therefore still
being available for their loved on & still earning some sort
of income.

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

Kristine

Print your name

16/06/2008

Date

Question 2 Continued:-

never ending treatments and medical appointments, some of which are necessary to obtain basic disability benefits.

Question 4 Continued.

Understanding that a carer in most cases will be a carer for the whole of their life, and that is a sobering thought that you live your whole life for someone else because that is what you have to do.