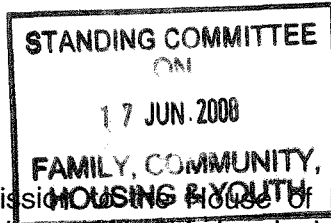


Committee Secretary
Inquiry into Better Support for Carers
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
Community, Housing and Youth
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Submission No. 82
(Inq into better support for carers)
A.O.C. 23/6/08



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...

As a carer to my 7 year old son, I believe I have a right for my voice to be heard. Also to allow others to understand the challenges we have faced in the past, the challenges we face now and the challenges for the future.

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 provide the best support for my son and be there to nurture and encourage his development. Provide emotional and a loving environment at home. Assist financially, where possible, with private services e.g. OT.

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 ...

The worry of how my son will cope when we are no longer around. He is an only child and what services will be available for him to access as an adult.. This plays on my mind an awful lot.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

Financial assistance e.g. the yearly carer's bonus. This assists for paying for his private O.T., swimming lessons for his gross motor skills. Taking him on outings and purchasing my specialist equipment he might need.

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 ...

- Financial support
- More early intervention programs (there seems to be a huge shortage) for young children.
- Appropriate accommodation options - when we are no longer around. Who will be there for my son.

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

ICAREN

Print your name

10/6/08

Date