

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. 115
(Inq into better support for carers)

A.O.C. 23/6/08

HOUSING & YOUTH

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...

AFTER YEARS OF CARING FOR MY MUM I FEEL I'VE BEEN LEFT OUT IN THE COLD.

I WAS SICK, HAD OPERATION, MUM SICK SAME TIME, HOSPITAL, THEN NURSING HOME,

MUM WENT DOWN HILL FAST, SHE NEEDED ME MORE THAN EVER. HER DR. SAID SHE NEEDED

NONHOLITY, IT WORKED SHE IS SO MUCH BETTER, I AM STILL HER CARER AS I WAS

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 TAKE OVER THE "THINGS" AS THEY GOT TOO HARD FOR MUM TO DO, SHOPPING, COOKING,
TAKING MEDICATIONS, CUTTING NAILS, DOING HAIR. SENDING HER BIRTHDAY CARDS, WAITING TO FEED
ETC. ETC. KEEPING HER SPIRITS UP, MAKING HER FEEL OK. ABOUT HERSELF AND MOST
OF ALL GIVING HER SOME DIGNITY.

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 ...

APART FROM OCCASIONAL LUNCH WITH A FRIEND MY SOCIAL LIFE REVOLVES AROUND MY
MUM, TAKING HER OUT WITH FRIENDS TO LUNCH, MARKETS, DRIVE TO COAST, FAMILY
BIRTHDAYS ETC. NO MONEY FOR MORE THAN THIS. PEOPLE STOP ASKING YOU OUT WHEN
THEY KNOW YOUR MUM COMES FIRST.

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

JOB SEEKER FOR CARERS, HELP WITH CASUAL WORK, TIME FOR CARING AS WELL

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 ...

SUPERANUATION WOULD BE GOOD.

JOB SEEKER FOR CARERS AS ABOVE.

TRANSITION INTO AND OUT OF CARING WOULD HELP.

PLANNING FOR FUTURE WOULD HAVE HELPED ME.

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

KAYE

Date

10-06-08

WHEN SHE LIVED IN RETIREMENT VILLAGE.

I DONT GET CARER ALLOWENCE ANY MORE. IT DID HELP WITH PETROL, PHONE ETC.

I WAS ON SEMI-URGENT HOSPITAL LIST, WAS TO WAIT 9 MTHS. FOR OPERATION, AFTER WAITING 12 SICK MONTHS, PHONED, WAS TOLD WOULD BE ANOTHER 9 MTHS. AT LEAST. HAD TO BORROW MONEY CENTRELINK LENT ME 500.00 BROTHER IN LAW 1,000.00

NOW HAVE 473.00 FORTNIGHT TO LIVE ON 230.00 RENT, GAS, ELECT, PETROL FOOD ETC.

I NEED PART TIME WORK NOW.

My CONFIDENCE IS DOWN. I HAVE A DISC BULGE AND ARTHRITIS, 1/2 A DAYS WORK I COULD DO, GO AT THE END OF YEAR. HAVE MY RESUME IN CENTRELINK JOB SEEKER BUSINESS, HAVENT HEARD YET.

HOPE CARER BONUS IS PAID TO ~~ME~~^{ME} 10 MTHS PRO-RATA.

I KNOW THERE ARE LOTS OF PEOPLE OUT THERE IN MY POSITION CARING FOR SOMEONE YOU LOVE, GETTING LEFT BEHIND.

I HAVE NO TROUBLE WITH CENTRELINK, ITS TIME FOR CHANGE SO MORE PEOPLE DONT GET HURT.

