

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. 497
(Inq into better support for carers)
A.O.C 7/7/08

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON

27 JUN. 2008

FAMILY, COMMUNITY,
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...

I feel that carers in our society really are "The Hidden Army" and we are constantly taken for granted.

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 care for my adult disabled son the best way I can. I also think that the goodwill and dedication shown by carers is often exploited. It's our "lot in life" and we should just get on with it.

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 ...

- inability to work full time in my chosen profession
- far less freedom to partake in social events than my peers as my son needs constant supervision

More information is attached on a separate sheet

- less choice for future accommodation for my son if desired i.e. just what is available if staying in the home becomes unviable.

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

- planning for my son's future living requirements.
- day to day care possibly access to a case manager.

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 ...

- providing more access to living away from home options. It seems that if a person is over 65 (aged care) it is far easier to gain accommodation for a loved one but if a person is younger such options are denied to carers.

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

Cilengs
Print your name

9/6/08
Date