Sussex Inlet Foundation for Community Development Inc.

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STANDING COMMITTEE 2 6 SEP 2005 ON HEALTH AND AGEING

To Stranding Committee on Ageing, House of Representatives Parliament House, Canberra. from A Beasley President,

Dear Honourable Members, As a submission to your inquiry I would like to inform you of the difficulties we have experienced in communications with the South Eastern Sydney & Illawarra Area Health Service.

In general we meet with our representatives through the auspices of the Shoahaven Rural Consumers Health Steering Committee based in Nowra New South Wales and several consultations with area representatives The problems arise

when specific 'in place' procedures fail, in our case the failure of the new organisation to issue our annual Bus Support Grant of \$3000 which is normally forthcoming every March providing the necessary funds to keep our all volunteer manned Medical Bus maintained and operational.

This year despite repeated written and oral requests the monies failed to appear until August leaving our Foundation with the cost of maintenance until the our support arrived. In the greater scheme of things our problem was far from one of major concern but does serve to illustrate that despite the organisational structures initiated to improve efficiency of our ageing health care we will need to remain vigilant and vocal to ensure that rural is not an anagram for forgotten

Yours Sincerely

Alan Beasley.

Cc S/haven Rural Health.

Central & Southern Rural Health Watch. File.