

Hello my name is John McIntyre, I am writing to you concerning my brother James McIntyre who has an aquired brain injury from a car accident in January of 2004.

James is 23 years old and has been in hospital for almost 12 months now and we have had a family member with him every day since the accident. We are fully committed to James as a family to bringing him home and caring for him there ourselves.

We have already begun home modifications at our own expense, given up jobs, spent a fortune and tens of thousands of hours on James, all with the aim of keeping him out of institutional care.

We recently applied for a grant through ACT Disability Department for money to spend on care assistance. We were shortlisted and then were told that we were unsuccessful due to quality of life and need basis. I have met with five other familiers whose loved ones were also short listed then passed over and it seems that they were regarded for nursing homes and therefore given nothing.

James will never go to a nursing home, even without any support we will manage somehow. People should be with their families when they are well and when they are ill.

I would very much like to appear before your committee in February when you are in Canberra. I can be contacted on the following

Thankyou for your time
John McIntyre