

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

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
11 JUN 2008
FAMILY, COMMUNITY,
HOUSING & YOUTH

A.O.C. 26/6/08

Submission No. 180

(Inq into better support for carers)

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 the weight and pressure of being a carer and feel like I can't continue at times to keep my head above water. My hope is diminishing. What will happen to my daughter? What will become of her?

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...

EVERYTHING — PARENT, TEACHER, TRAINER, FRIEND, FINANCIAL SUPPORT, ADVISOR, ADVOCATE, EMPLOYER (I PAY my daughter out of my wages to make her bed etc.) COMPANION, HER CONTACT WITH THE WORLD.

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 ...

I have always been poor. I am a single mother and my daughter ^(28yrs old) who has a disability requires me to support her financially. I am more isolated than other parents and have lived on the perimeter of life for most of the 28 years that my daughter has been a part of my life. My daughter still lives with me.

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 SUPPORT

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

PROGRAMS

WOUNSELING

LITTLE HOLIDAYS / RESPITE

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 ...

believing in the role of carers enough to allocate more money into the budget for them -
1) Research the problem + 2) have the strategies employed at a govt. + local government, community + individual level. Don't waste money but channel it into support systems for the carers + those being cared for.

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

Margaret

Print your name

7 - 6 - 08

Date