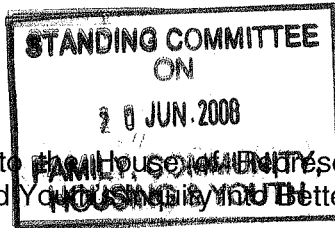


Committee Secretary
Inquiry into Better Support for Carers
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
Community, Housing and Youth
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Submission No. 268
(Inq into better support for carers)
A.O.C. 30/6/08



Dear Secretary

I wish to make a submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing and Youth in relation to Better Support for Carers.

I am submitting to the Inquiry because...

I would like more help for carers who are unable to have their 'special needs' child live with them eg we are pensioners in a retirement village.

I would like more financial help for incontinence aids. my whole carer's bonus is used by these. 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...

Vital. It gives mental & emotional support to a woman who would be very depressed & a significant drain on the resources of the Govt.

I help to give the motivation that gets her to attend some Brotherhood of St Lawrence activities.

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 ...

Taking my daughter out is sometimes hard because of the embarrassment of incontinence. It is hard to find weekend holidays for her for the same reason.

Having her live in supported accommodation only

partly helps & raises other economic & emotional issues

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers ^{- more subsidy for incontinence aids}

As a carer, I need help with ... extra finance for 'special needs' people in care.

The cost of having Rosie in care. Paying for incontinence aids & medical treatment needs to be addressed. Our whole family are paying into this which makes it difficult for us all - but what can we do?

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 ...

Addressing the vital question of accommodation for people whose carer can not provide for them at home. We are pensioners in a retirement village. However our caring role continues - mentally, emotionally & financially.

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

Valerie

Print your name

16-06-08

Date

A plea from parents of an ABI woman not living at home.

I am the Carer & mother of a 45 year old woman who has had brain damage from birth & is now incontinent. We live in a retirement village where our daughter is not allowed to live with us anyway. We are pensioners.

For most of our daughter's life we have had no help from anyone as we didn't know what was available [very little when she was born in 1964]. Over the past few years we have got some much needed help & are grateful. Rosie has been able to see a psychologist because of the funding available & it has made a difference to the whole family.

Another issue that I would like you to consider is the expense of keeping a person like this in Supported Care. Rosie is in the most appropriate place for her which is private special support accommodation. It cost us about \$900 a fortnight which burden is shared by her, us & her 2 sisters & their partners. You can imagine the strain that is & there is no money left for extras.

Rosie is incontinent & has many health issues requiring specialist treatment. The Carer's Bonus will be used totally for incontinence aids & that will not cover what she needs for a year.

Please give some thought to the expense of keeping special needs, adult children even when they do not live at home.

Sincerely.

Val [& Keith]

(001) 8071 2048

1998 01 01

1998 01 01

A list of all the people who have been living in the village since 1998

The list is divided into two parts. The first part contains the names of all the people who have been living in the village since 1998. The second part contains the names of all the people who have been living in the village since 1998.

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