



Legislative Assembly for the
Australian Capital Territory

Select Committee on Social Policy

Submission cover sheet

Inquiry into Petition 017-25 and E-Petition 005-25: Closure of Burrangiri Aged Care Respite Centre in Rivett

Submission number: 08

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From: [Neville Jones](#)
To: [LA Committee - SP](#)
Subject: Burrangiri Aged Care Facilities

Dear Committee Members

My wife Jacqueline has severe dementia.

Jacqueline's condition deteriorated significantly over the past twelve months and unfortunately she became quite aggressive and difficult to care for in our family home. On two occasions Jacqueline absconded and was harassing neighbours and generally placing herself in danger. I called the police and ambulance to assist and Jacqueline was placed in the Canberra hospital.

This was a very expensive exercise but there was no other place available.

After eight weeks or so I was told to remove Jacqueline from the hospital.

I brought Jacqueline home and engaged carers to come in and help me cope with the care Jacqueline required.

We have now found a suitable nursing home providing Jacqueline with full time care but the last twelve months were very difficult and emotionally draining.

Unfortunately in Canberra there are few places available to provide full time care or respite facilities for the aged particularly for people like Jacqueline who present challenging behaviours.

If Burrangiri is to be closed this will be the removal of one of the few respite facilities available in Canberra.

Burrangiri needs to stay open and the government needs to do all that can be done to provide more facilities like Burrangiri.

Regards

Neville Jones