

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2310

Kenneth Fisher
Chairman and CEO, Fisher House Foundation
12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 410
Rockville, Maryland 20852

RE: Fargo VA Health Care System, Fisher House Program

Dear Mr. Fisher:

I write today to support the Fargo VA Health Care System's application for a Fisher House funding grant. The addition of a Fisher House to the Fargo VA would provide much deserved free accommodations for the families of service members and veterans while their family member receives care.

The Fargo VA Health Care System provides healthcare coverage to a highly rural area covering the entirety of North Dakota and a large portion of northwest Minnesota. As such, Veterans seeking care from the Fargo VA often travel substantial distances to receive treatment. This places additional burden on the veteran's family to accompany them in seeking medical care and often results in the need for an overnight stay. A Fisher House in Fargo will provide convenient and affordable lodging for veterans and their families as they seek the veteran specific care they need at the Fargo VA.

The funding provided by the Fisher House Foundation would remove a significant burden to care our veterans face when they seek care at the Fargo VA facility. It would also help our veterans to recover faster by allowing caregivers and family members to be present throughout a veteran's course of treatment. The importance of such support cannot be underestimated, and a Fisher House will be key in supporting our veterans receive the care they need.

I strongly support the Fargo VA Health Care System's application for a Fisher House from the Fisher House Foundation. Please contact Alex Schueller on my staff at (651) 262-8439 or by email at alex_schueller@smith.senate.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Tina Smith
United States Senator