

September 13, 2020

Secretary Robert Wilkie
US Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Washington DC 20420

Dear Mr. Secretary,

Please accept his letter of support for the approval of a Fischer House in Fargo North Dakota.

The Fargo VA Health Care Services (VAHCS) covers one of the largest geographic regions in the nation and includes the entire state of North Dakota, 17 counties in Minnesota and one county in South Dakota. This region contains 74996 veterans and is a highly rural area. In North Dakota 74% of veterans reside in this area and many must travel 400 miles one-way to seek services at the Fargo VAHCS.

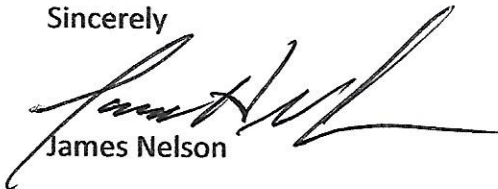
The Fargo VAHCS recently received the "National Excellence in Patient Experience Award" for being the number one in the nation in Patient experience with comparable complexity.

In proximity to the Fargo VAHCS the nearest Fischer House is, to the East: Minneapolis MN, the South: Texas, and the West: Washington State.

The veterans and their dependents residing in this highly rural region are greatly in need of this facility.

The North Dakota Veterans Legislative Council: comprising of members from the American Legion, AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America and The Veterans of Foreign Wars urge your approval of placing a Fisher House in Fargo ND

Sincerely



James Nelson

President

North Dakota Veterans Legislative Council