

AMY KLOBUCHAR  
MINNESOTA

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RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 17, 2020

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:

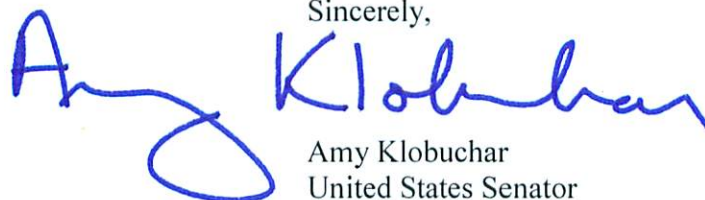
I am writing in support of the Fargo VA Health Care System's application for funding through the Fisher House Foundation. If awarded, the funding would be used to construct a Fisher House for the Fargo VA Hospital, where military and veteran families can stay free of charge when a family member is in the hospital.

The Fargo VA Health Care System provides health care to more than 34,000 veterans across 69 counties in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota - an area of more than 90,000 square miles. Nearly 70% of the veterans enrolled at the Fargo VA live in highly rural areas, requiring them to travel up to 400 miles one way to be seen for care. In addition, more than 45% of Fargo VA enrollees are 65 years of age or older and many of them live on fixed incomes, making it financially difficult for veterans and their families when they travel to Fargo for their care. There are also limited low-cost lodging options for veterans and their families in the Fargo metropolitan area.

Funding from the Fisher House Foundation would provide much-needed assistance to veterans and their families when they visit the Fargo VA Hospital. If awarded, the funding would support the construction and initial furnishing of a Fisher House at the Fargo VA. Support staff would be assigned by the Fargo VA to manage and maintain the Fisher House. Caregivers and family members play a vital role for many veterans on their road to recovery. The importance of such support cannot be understated, and a Fargo VA Fisher House would be an invaluable resource for many veterans and their families.

Again, I support the Fargo VA Health Care System's application for funding through the Fisher House Foundation. If you have any questions, please contact Rommel Lee in my Minnesota office at (612) 727-5220 or by email at [Rommel\\_Lee@Klobuchar.Senate.Gov](mailto:Rommel_Lee@Klobuchar.Senate.Gov).

Sincerely,

  
Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator