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September 9th, 2014

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita M. Lowey
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Rogers and Ranking Member Lowey,

As Congress continues to continue to focus on developing bipartisan solutions to assist Veterans' ability to receive adequate and timely healthcare, I am contacting you to advocate for continued funding of the Buffalo Veterans Hospital Administration (VHA) child care center, Kids Korner, in the FY 2015 continuing resolution.

Established in October 2011, under Sec. 205 of P.L. 111-163, Kids Korner provides supervised childcare services for children aged 3 weeks to twelve. It has assisted over 363 WNY Veteran families' ability in receiving high quality care. In July, 194 children were served in this program, the highest to date.

Military personnel - active duty, reserve, and retirees - deserve access to the best quality, most affordable health care. Kids Korner has aided local veterans seeking treatment for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) by removing the anxiety and stress of finding quality child care. Treatment for PTSD requires regular counseling and recurring follow up; on-site child care has removed an important obstacle for veterans and allowed them to keep their doctors' appointments.

We share a common goal of prioritizing high quality healthcare for our service members. This responsibility is even more profound when the illnesses from which they are suffering are linked directly to their service. It is essential Congress continue funding for Kids Korner, to honor the federal government's commitment to do everything possible to meet this obligation.

America's retired military personnel have placed their lives on the line for our freedom and we must ensure that our nation's veterans receive the benefits they earned serving our nation. Thank you for your support for this program and your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress