



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Zablocki VA Spinal Cord Injury Medical Center
MEDICAL COLLEGE OF WISCONSIN
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Milwaukee, WI 53295



September 26, 2021

Re: Orban Foundation For Veterans: STIGMA FREE VET ZONE program

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of support for Orban Foundation For Veterans who is applying for your support. The Orban Foundation's goal is to continue their effort in podcast production and dissemination in their STIGMA FREE VET ZONE program.

I am currently the Chief of Spinal Cord Injury/Medicine Division at Milwaukee Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and a Combat Wounded Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran. More importantly, I have been a member of this podcast as a guest and as an avid listener.

My experience with the podcast is how incredibly real it is when other veterans share their true-life stories of struggles of their physical and mental health with others. It is raw and straight to the heart of the matter. The audience gets the real "boots on the ground" picture of what the veterans have gone through during their deployment and during their recovery at home.

When I was asked to participate in the podcast and share my story, I did not hesitate as I knew from listening to them, it is not just an education for those listening, to include the medical providers, but it will take one more step for my own healing process. I would be amiss if it was anything less than that. Even my children were able to express their emotions and experiences positively after hearing my podcast.

As a medical provider, I know we have strong education and knowledge gained from experiences of our patients. However, there is always a gap when connecting to those that are suffering from "silent wounds of war" of veterans with mental health conditions. But the Orban Foundation For Veterans podcast program brings those who listen, a huge step in closing the gap.

I hold no reservation in Orban Foundation For Veterans application for your gracious support to continue to produce the increasingly necessary podcast to take care of our deeply wounded heroes.

POC for this letter of recommendation is undersigned at 414-384-2000 x 41288.

Thank you.

Kenneth Lee

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