

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2102

Stacy Bannerman  
The Sanctuary for Veterans & Families  
P.O. Box 3661  
Kent, WA 98089

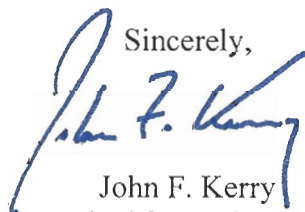
Dear Stacy,

Our nation's veterans deserve a strong commitment that we will support them in their return from the battlefield.

Since September 11, 2001 our armed forces and their families have endured challenges and stressful conditions that are unparalleled in recent history, including unrelenting operational demands and recurring deployments to combat zones. There are currently 700,000 children in America whose parents are deployed. Having a parent in a combat zone is one of the more stressful events that a child can endure. Further, reintegration back into the family often involves complicated emotions for everyone involved.

Veterans returning from the war and their families will be able to utilize the Sanctuary for Veterans and Families as a valuable resource when transitioning into life post-combat. I'm encouraged to see the amount of effort that you and the Sanctuary for Veterans and Families have committed to ensure that our nation's veterans and their families receive the first class care they deserve.

Sincerely,



John F. Kerry  
United States Senator