



EMPOWERING VETERANS THROUGH PEER ENGAGEMENT & OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

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24 May 2023

Rep. Bill Hager
House seat 122

Dear Rep. Hager,

Operation Patriots FOB (OPFOB) is a Veteran, active duty military and first responder nonprofit strategically located on a 268-acre recreational property in Ridgeland, SC. Our Mission is to create and foster positive experiences for Veterans, first responders, active duty and their families by connecting through outdoor and recreational activities. Outdoor recreation is a proven approach in helping those with PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury and the scars and nightmares from being in combat. OPFOB offers a facility for recreational opportunities which creates team building, peer-to-peer relationships, and a network of support with mentoring opportunities.

We are committed to helping reduce the alarming rate of Veterans and active duty military suicides. We have lost between 50,000–100,000 of our Vietnam Veterans to suicide. More dramatically, we have lost 4 times the number of our Iraq and Afghanistan heroes to suicide than we lost in those two combat zones: 30,000 suicides versus 7,000 Killed In Action.

Our facility and offerings are 100% free to those who have served and are currently serving. Within a 90 minute driving radius of our facility there are over 120,000 Veterans and 30,000 active duty. We serve on average over 1000 local heroes every month and are proud to say, we have not lost one to suicide.

I am writing to request \$100,000 from the state in support of our mission of helping our local heroes find purpose beyond their call of duty.

Best Regards,

Roy Brown JR, Founder/CEO
315-400-9397

