



**// FAMILIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO STAY AT A FISHER HOUSE AS LONG AS THEIR LOVED ONES ARE RECEIVING TREATMENT AND CAN RETURN TO STAY AS MANY TIMES AS THEY NEED.**

Ken. “But when I say that the families support each other, I can’t stress how important that is. Tammy Duckworth, a democratic senator from Illinois, once stayed at a Fisher House with her family and told me about a time when they returned to the house one night to find their dinner had been wrapped up and put away for them because they had to leave abruptly. That’s how phenomenal these families are.”

Families are encouraged to stay at a Fisher House as long as their loved ones are receiving treatment and can return to stay as many times as they need. With the families living in close proximity to the hospital and having freedom from

financial burden, Ken says that a Fisher House affords people the freedom to be the best caretakers they can be.

**MILES OF HOPE**

In addition to providing housing, the Fisher House Foundation has expanded to offer other programs that have benefited thousands of military families. The foundation’s Hero Miles program collects unused airline miles so that military families can be near their loved ones undergoing treatment, while the Hotel for Heroes program collects unused rewards points to provide a place to stay near their injured loved ones when a Fisher House is not close by.



In addition, more than \$18 million in scholarship funds has been given through the Scholarships for Military Children, Scholarships for Military Spouses, and Heroes’ Legacy Scholarships—the last of which Ken says the foundation is particularly proud of. In 2010, President Obama even donated the proceeds from his children’s book, *Of Thee I Sing*, to the scholarship fund, which benefits the children of fallen or disabled soldiers.

Though the organization has always been dedicated to military members, veterans, and their families, Ken says he hopes that it has done its part to make all Americans aware of their plight and

sacrifice. “It’s no secret that there was a lot of bitterness toward service members after Vietnam,” he admits. “What my uncle sought to do was make sure that this would never happen to another generation of veterans. Saying ‘Thank you for your service’ is not enough anymore. We owe them a debt that we can never repay, and we feel it’s up to us to make this message heard.”

For more info, [fisherhouse.org](http://fisherhouse.org)