

WASHINGTON, D.C. , Congressman John W. Olver (D-1st District) announced that the U.S. House of Representatives has approved funding for the construction of The Big Red Barn, a 2,000-square-foot facility to house a variety of smaller animals, such as rabbits, sheep, goats, donkeys and miniature horses.

The funding will go toward the construction of The Big Red Barn, a 2,000-square-foot facility to house a variety of smaller animals, such as rabbits, sheep, goats, donkeys and miniature horses.

Olver secured the funding in the FY07 Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development (HUD) appropriations bill.

Olver is the Ranking Member (most senior Democrat) of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, and the District of Columbia.

The Senate must still approve its appropriations bill and then both chambers will have to approve a reconciliation bill.

"The families and seniors in this wonderful intergenerational community, along with the eventual Big Red Barn Animal Therapy Program, will benefit greatly from this funding," Olver said.

"We are very pleased that Congressman Olver was able to secure this very important funding," Mayor M. James Healey said.

"We are very grateful to Congressman Olver for his support of the Big Red Barn Animal Therapy Program," said Judy Cockerton, Executive Director of Treehouse.

The Barn will house a variety of smaller animals, such as rabbits, sheep, goats, donkeys and miniature horses.

The mission of Treehouse is to provide children in the public child welfare system with enduring family relationships.

With Mt. Tom in the background, the community is located on Park Street, next to White Brook Middle School.

At Treehouse, 12 affordable rental homes will be ready this spring for families who are adopting children.

For more information about this project, contact:

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