Dear Friends:

I would like to extend my heartiest congratulations and gratitude to everyone participating in today’s 5K, organized by the Hydrocephalus Association. This event is the first 5K in the Washington metropolitan area to raise research funds and build awareness of hydrocephalus – and each of you is making a difference through your participation.

Too many individuals and families have been touched by this condition, but few others know that hydrocephalus affects an estimated one million Americans and is as common as autism and Parkinson’s disease. Two out of every three U.S. soldiers returning from Iraq or Afghanistan with moderate to severe traumatic brain injuries will develop hydrocephalus. It is unacceptable that treatment for this condition has not advanced substantially since the 1950’s. And that’s why it is imperative that we all work together to ensure that research funding is available to find a modern medical solution. I have been proud to co-sponsor resolutions in the U.S. Congress in support of research and activities to increase awareness, education, diagnosis, and treatment of this hydrocephalus.

My thanks go to the Hydrocephalus Association for its great work in organizing today’s event and for all it does to provide individuals affected by this condition with hope for the future. Together, we must raise awareness and funds and find effective treatments that will make a life-changing difference to so many.

Thank you again for participating today, and have a great 5k!

Sincerely,

Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress