Congressman Blumenauer met with clinicians and researchers from Oregon Health and Sciences University (OHSU) to discuss issues and advances in autism, traumatic brain injury, and post-traumatic stress disorder. It is estimated that there are 5,500 children in the Portland metropolitan region and around 9,000 children across Oregon that have autism spectrum disorder. OHSU's Child Development and Rehabilitation Center evaluates 500 children per year for this challenging disorder.

OHSU also has valuable partnerships with the Portland VA Medical Center for research and clinical care for returning veterans who have experienced a traumatic brain injury or post-traumatic stress disorder. Blumenauer is the founder and co-chair of the Congressional Neuroscience Caucus. In May, he successfully amended the Military Construction Bill to fund research for innovative new medicines, enhanced diagnostics, and improved treatment for soldiers and veterans who suffer from traumatic brain injuries and post-traumatic stress disorder.

"These issues are pressing for our community and our society at large," Blumenauer said. "Whether it concerns children, or our returning veterans, investing in neuroscience has huge implications and real benefits for people."