



September 28, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

St. Luke's Health System wholeheartedly supports Western Elmore County Recreation District's efforts to enhance access and opportunities for residents and visitors to be physically active. Providing healthy opportunities through a facility such as proposed, with two indoor swimming pools designed for all ages and abilities, improves physical health, fosters social interactions, and builds community vitality.

Compared to previous U.S. generations, physical activity has declined, according to the Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC). "The lack of physical activity is a major contributor to the steady rise in rates of obesity, diabetes, heart disease, stroke and other chronic health conditions in the United States," according to the CDC. Our recent 2019 St. Luke's Community Health Needs Assessment shows high rates of obesity, diabetes and mental health issues across Elmore County. Increasing physical activity is known to improve these health issues.

A prominent recreational facility serving all residents of Elmore County will attract visitors to events such as youth swimming competitions, and be life enriching for everyone living, working, and recreating in Elmore County.

I believe the people and organizations behind this facility and community opportunity will make it happen. They are dedicated to the future of Elmore County. Opening this facility will require partnering organizations, such as yours, to provide funding, volunteer hours, expertise, and in-kind support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angie Gribble".

Angie Gribble
Community Health Director
St. Luke's Health System