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## **GRAND FORKS PARK DISTRICT ANNOUNCES OFFICIAL PARTNERSHIP CONTRACT WITH ALTRU HEALTH SYSTEM**

[Grand Forks, ND] During the October 15 mid-month Board meeting, the Grand Forks Park District voted to accept a final contract with Altru Health System, defining their official partnership within the proposed new health and wellness facility. Currently, a group of citizens are working diligently to raise the funds needed to support the capital costs of a new facility, which will be the home to various leasing partners, one of which is Altru Health System.

GF Park District Director John Staley commented on the partnership, “We are proud and thrilled to announce the official partnership between the Park District and Altru. It has taken many years of consideration and perseverance to determine the best possible partnership between Altru and the Grand Forks Park District. The result will be optimum health and wellness programs and services for our community and region. The inclusion of Altru Health System within a new health and wellness facility will be extraordinary. Across the Midwest we have not yet found another partnership, which comprises the size of leased space and scope of services to be provided within this type of operation.”

The final contract states that Altru Health System will lease 7500 square feet with the proposed new facility and plans to move its current Center Court operations (outpatient therapies, nutrition and sports medicine) to the new facility, along with additional medical services, which will support the community in the area of wellness.

Altru Health System Director of Regional Operations, Brad Wehe describes the benefits of locating medical services within a fitness center, “One of the main benefits will be integrating many aspects of health care within one building, combined with several other groups focused on various pieces of fitness and wellness. It all fits together from a patient’s perspective, and that will be the great thing about this center. It will merge many of the services that Altru Health System provides to patients, along with several other areas that other wellness providers have to offer, which will assure a team approach to patient care and better outcomes overall.”

Brad Wehe adds, “One of the main goals is to bring the expertise of the Altru team together with multiple wellness providers to build a powerful experience for the patients and members. Altru Health System is excited to participate in this unique opportunity within our community that will bring wellness to a new level.”

John Staley ended with, “It is because of partners, such as Altru, the Grand Forks Park District is able to consider a new health and wellness center project. A major medical component within the facility will be a great advance to the future of Grand Forks.”

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*For additional information regarding this release, contact Brandy Chaffee at 787-2807.*