



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
John
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Roth
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.  
n/a
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
Area Seniors, Inc Community Recreation Center
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
102 South Maple Bellaire MI 49615
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
n/a
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
John Roth 104, Ken Borton 105
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution.  
ASI proposes to build and operate a transformational multi-use year-round recreation center on ASI unused property next to its existing Community Center in Bellaire. This property, located a few blocks from downtown Bellaire, is adjacent to the community bicycle and walking path that serves area seniors and all members of the community. The construction of the Community Recreation Center will be financed via grants and donations without local taxpayer support. Its operations will be

self-sustaining  
and will positively impact the community for generations.  
The ASI Community Recreation Center (CRC) will provide local communities with a venue, significantly  
expanding that currently available in Antrim County, by offering a wide range of recreational year-round  
activities. The CRC will help stimulate the downtown Bellaire area and contribute to the physical and  
mental well-being of its community members. With its location near the heart of Bellaire, the CRC will  
become a magnet of activity with citizens crossing paths daily. ASI's vision is to build a successful  
Community Recreation Center that will operate self-sufficiently and sustainably, serving a diverse  
range of residents and visitors, youth and families and various communities in Antrim County, all which  
align with ASI's mission to create a unique service to our local communities.

9. **Attach documents here if needed:**

Attachments added to the end of this file.

10. **The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.**

2400000

11. **Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.**

["Private", "Local"]

12. **Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:**

Non-profit organization

13. **For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?**

Yes

14. **For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?**

Yes

15. **For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?**

Yes

16. **For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'**

Bob Rodriguez-President, Sally Hannert-VP, Sylvia Schornak-Kalchik-Treas., Cassie Axtell-Secretary

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

10/2025-12/2027

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes



## THE ASK

To procure \$2.4M for the construction of a multi-functional Community Recreation Center located in the Village of Bellaire, Antrim County Michigan.

## THE NEED

Many residents of Antrim County seek year-round affordable exercise or recreational opportunities. The expense associated with available indoor workout facilities is often prohibitive, leaving many without options. Additionally, the absence of nearby malls limits opportunities for indoor walking during winter or inclement weather. Local youth organizations encounter difficulties in securing dependable indoor venues for recreational activities, and many of those wishing to play pickleball or other indoor sports during the colder months must travel outside the county.

## THE VISION

The Community Recreation Center is envisioned as a dynamic hub for community health and engagement, featuring a diverse range of activities tailored to individuals of all ages. The facility will include multipurpose courts for sports such as pickleball and basketball, a walking track, a dedicated space for fitness classes, and will adhere to ADA compliance to ensure accessibility for individuals utilizing walkers or wheelchairs.

ASI Community Center

"A facility like this would be truly transformational for our community!"



## THE PLAN

- 70' x 120' steel frame clear span structure
- Multi-use space with drop-down netting supporting:
  - 3 pickleball courts/3x3 basketball, volleyball, etc.
  - walking track
  - yoga/fitness classes
- Capital funding from grants & donations (not local taxes)
- Self-sustaining via user fees and donations

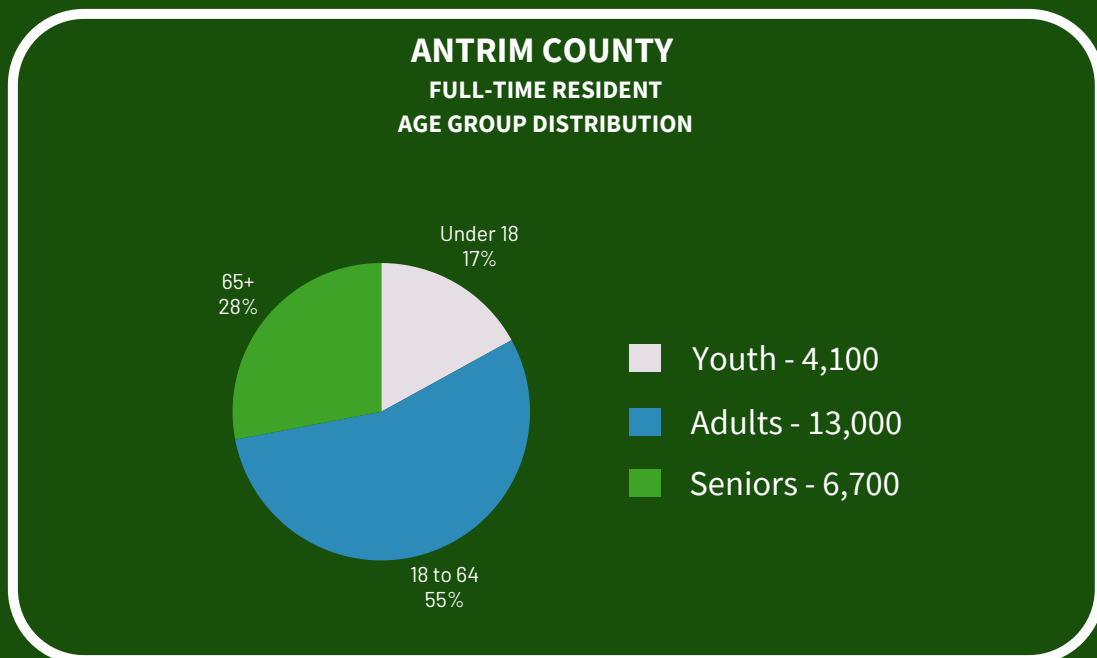
## THE SUPPORT

- ✓ Village of Bellaire Council
- ✓ Antrim County Economic Development Commission
- ✓ Rotary Club of Bellaire
- ✓ Bellaire Chamber of Commerce
- ✓ Bellaire Youth Initiative

# THE COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER WILL BENEFIT MANY PEOPLE OF ALL AGES

Including Full-time/Seasonal Residents & Visitors of Antrim County

ASI caters to both residents and visitors in Antrim County, Michigan.  
The planned ASI Community Recreation Center aims to serve the  
23,900 full-time residents of the county.



## Antrim County Population Increases Due to Seasonal Residents & Visitors

**Summer  
Population**  
**+153%**  
**59,000**

**Winter  
Population**  
**+32%**  
**31,000**



VILLAGE OF BELLAIRE  
202 N. BRIDGE STREET  
PO BOX 557  
BELLAIRE, MI 49615

February 19, 2025

Michigan State Representative John Roth  
S-1388 House Office Building  
PO Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909

To: Representative Roth,

I am writing to express my full support for Area Seniors, Inc. (ASI) and their initiative to develop and operate an Indoor Recreational Facility in Bellaire, Michigan. This much-needed facility will provide year-round recreational opportunities for individuals of all ages, interests, and income levels, addressing a significant gap in our community's resources and enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

The Indoor Recreational Facility will bring numerous benefits to our community, including promoting healthier lifestyles, supporting local businesses, and fostering stronger connections among residents. Over the past year, ASI has demonstrated exceptional leadership, conducting a comprehensive community survey and hosting engagement events to ensure this project aligns with the needs and aspirations of our community.

As ASI moves into this critical phase, securing funding is vital to maintaining momentum and achieving a successful outcome. Support for this initiative in the Michigan State 2025 Budget will be key to making this facility operational as soon as possible, creating a lasting positive impact for Bellaire and all of Antrim County.

For decades, Area Seniors Inc. has been a cornerstone of our region, delivering essential services and demonstrating unwavering commitment to community enrichment. We are confident in their ability to see this project through and grateful for their efforts to improve our area for current and future generations.

We strongly urge you to support ASI's request for funding in the 2025-26 budget. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Dan Bennett  
Village of Bellaire President

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

## OF THE COUNTY OF ANTRIM

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January 21, 2025

The Honorable John Roth  
Michigan State Representative for District 104  
S-1388 House Office Building  
Lansing, MI 48933

RE: Area Seniors, Inc

On behalf of the Antrim County Economic Development Corporation, I am writing to express our full support for Area Seniors, Inc. (ASI) and their initiative to develop and operate an Indoor Recreational Facility in Bellaire, Michigan. This much-needed facility will provide year-round recreational opportunities for individuals of all ages, interests, and income levels, addressing a significant gap in our community's resources and enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

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We strongly urge you to support ASI's request for funding in the 2025-26 budget. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

With regards,



Rachel Krino, President



Bellaire Chamber of Commerce  
PO Box 205  
Bellaire, MI 49615

February 5, 2025

Michigan State Representative John Roth  
S-1388 House Office Building  
PO Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909

To: Representative Roth,

I am writing to express my full support for Area Seniors, Inc. (ASI) and their initiative to develop and operate an Indoor Recreational Facility in Bellaire, Michigan. This much-needed facility will provide year-round recreational opportunities for individuals of all ages, interests, and income levels, addressing a significant gap in our community's resources and enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

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We strongly urge you to support ASI's request for funding in the 2025-26 budget. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

*Christy Wilson*

Executive Director

Bellaire Chamber of Commerce

231-533-6023 [info@bellairechamber.org](mailto:info@bellairechamber.org)



February 21, 2025

Michigan State Representative John Roth  
S-1388 House Office Building  
PO Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909

To: Representative Roth,

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We strongly urge you to support ASI's request for funding in the 2025-26 budget. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely, Judy Stilwell, Secretary

Rotary Club of Bellaire

[Judybaltz1@gmail.com](mailto:Judybaltz1@gmail.com) • 231-350-2543