MUSKINGUM AQUATIC/RECREATION CENTER

12th Congressional District

A much-needed Aquatic and Fitness Center is coming to the Zanesville, Ohio-area to promote health, education and recreation as well as create jobs and foster economic development in this distressed community that has a 20.4 percent poverty rate.

Finance Fund provided $11 million in federal NMTC and $2.56 million in state NMTC as part of a public-private partnership to build the 70,750 sq. ft. facility.

The Muskingum Recreation Center (MRC) generated 100 construction jobs, retained 40 current employees and employs 35 additional full-time staff. It’s a joint effort with Genesis HealthCare System, the largest health care provider in its six-county region of southeastern Ohio. Other partners include Ohio University-Zanesville (OUZ), the Muskingum Family Y and the Muskingum County Community Foundation. The partners developed a business plan for the MRC to be 100% self-sustaining within the first year of operation.

The multi-purpose center includes fitness, education and exercise areas, a gymnasium, a lap pool, a family leisure/therapy pool, racquetball courts, locker rooms, multi-use programming rooms, a childcare center and indoor track. The facility was built on the OU-Zanesville campus adjacent to the Littick Hall Gymnasium.

“The accessible, centrally located facility will be an attraction for the entire community that will positively impact the overall quality of life in Muskingum County,” said Jim Fonseca, Ohio University-Zanesville dean. “Finance Fund understands the benefit and is essential to our success in bringing together the knowledge, the interest and the energy of the whole community.”