



**ST. MARY'S COURT HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

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DC Zoning commission Case #02-26A  
Statement - St. Mary's Court  
Support of Expanded Use of  
George Washington University Health and Wellness Center

November 15, 2007  
Margaret Pully  
Executive Director, St. Mary's Court  
725 24<sup>th</sup> St. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20037

My name is Margaret Pully and I am the Executive Director of St. Mary's Court which is an apartment building for low-income seniors and disabled persons located adjacent to the Health and Wellness Center. I am here tonight on their behalf to express our support of GW's request to expand the use of the Center. When the Health and Wellness Center was first proposed, St. Mary's Court and residents were promised access to the facility by GW. Since it has opened we have not been permitted to use this facility and this has been a big disappointment to our residents. The Center is easily accessible to even our most frail residents who could walk over or even take their walker or scooter. Exercise and the use of the state of the art equipment would be extremely beneficial to all who live at SMC. Many are recuperating from joint replacements or dealing daily with the limitations of arthritis and other diseases. Having access to the Wellness Center and all it offers would greatly contribute to their well-being. Another plus would be the intergenerational benefits of having the seniors and the students working out together creating more harmony and better neighbors. The residents of SMC are also on very limited incomes and the cost to use any such facility is prohibitive. And although many of us at SMC were reluctant to see more construction right next to us the generous offer of GW to share this building was appreciated and very promising to us. We hope that the Zoning Commission will grant their request to expand its access to the residents of St. Mary's Court.

I am joined here tonight by several of the residents of St. Mary's Court and I am also submitting a letter of support from another resident who is not here tonight.  
Thank you.

ZONING COMMISSION  
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 02-26A

EXHIBIT NO. 36  
ZONING COMMISSION  
District of Columbia  
CASE NO. 02-26A  
EXHIBIT NO. 36

