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First name: Michael Last name: Wood Organization:

Title:

Comments: To say I am excited about the Trails at Mena project would be an understatement. I was born and raised in Mena and have chosen to raise my family here. The Trails project will bring life and vitality to our community by providing additional recreational opportunities, jobs, growth, and a much needed economic boom. I have the privilege of being the Director of Rehabilitation Services for Mena Regional Health System. As therapy professionals, promotion of an active lifestyle is a vital part of the role my team and I play in supporting the rehabilitation and functional movement needs of our community.

Mena Regional Rehabilitation Services currently provides services in the acute hospital, a 12 bed Inpatient Rehab Facility, and a large outpatient clinic. We offer Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy services to all age groups. As a rehab team, we are excited for the trails and ready to support the mountain biking community with all their rehabilitation and training needs.

In addition to the rehabilitation and movement enhancement skills of the rehab team, Mena Regional Health System has an excellent Orthopedic Surgery Program. We work closely with our partners in surgery to ensure anyone requiring surgery does so in a timely manner and that those individuals get back to their active lifestyles as soon as safely possible. Mena Regional is a level 4 Trauma Center with an excellent staff of nurses and Physicians who can help triage and stabilize any injuries that may result from the Trails.

As a proud member of the Healthcare community, I can confidently say that we are ready to grow and expand our services to match the increased needs that this trail project will demand. This trail project will be a major marketing and recruitment tool for our hospital. It will allow us to bring in additional staff to better serve our community's needs and to grow into a major Regional Hospital as our community seeks to become a regional, national, and international destination for outdoor recreation and pristine living amongst the beautifully unique Ouachita Mountains.