Saint Luke’s Rehabilitation Institute is now open and accepting patients recovering from brain or spinal cord injuries, stroke, arthritis, and cardiovascular issues.

The 100,000-square-foot, 60-bed facility significantly expands Saint Luke’s ability to offer inpatient care close to home for people living in the Midwest.

“We’re already providing exceptional rehab care,” said Reagan Simpson, president of the Rehabilitation Institute and vice president of Saint Luke’s Health System. “With this new facility, we’ve created a premier regional destination that is on par with the nation’s best rehabilitation hospitals.”

The new facility includes multiple gyms, an outdoor rehabilitation garden, and model apartments for patients to practice navigating home-like environments. It also has a suite of 17 unique robotic devices, which will help 1,000 patients a year rebuild their strength, function, and confidence.

Personalized treatment plans executed by specially trained experts, the latest in intensive therapies, and low patient-to-staff ratios help differentiate the Rehabilitation Institute.

Philanthropic visionaries like you are helping to transform the health care landscape in Kansas City. We are grateful to everyone who has supported us as we work to help others live fuller lives.
Rehabilitation Institute Vision Becomes Reality

Dear Friends,

At Saint Luke’s Foundation, our goal is to enable supporters to positively impact the lives of Saint Luke’s patients and our community.

With the philanthropic support of our donors, we provide transformative research and education for our next generation of health care professionals and innovative patient-care practices. The Saint Luke’s Rehabilitation Institute is the latest innovative endeavor made possible by our generous donors.

I am grateful to everyone who has helped make this visionary facility a reality for the region. Because of people like you, this extraordinary facility helps patients reclaim lives stolen from strokes, brain or spinal cord injuries, orthopedic issues, traumatic accidents, and other circumstances that require intensive, inpatient rehab treatment.

Patients will travel from all over the region to Saint Luke’s to receive the world-class compassionate care they need and deserve. Thanks to you, Saint Luke’s is redefining rehabilitation. We appreciate each of you for believing in us and investing in the future of health care in Kansas City.

With gratitude,

Michael K. VanDerhoef
Senior Vice President for Development
Saint Luke’s Health System
CEO, Saint Luke’s Foundation

Newsworthy
A culture of giving takes center stage

Books & Boutiques
More than 800 people attended April’s Books & Boutiques event, raising more than $178,000 for Saint Luke’s South Hospital’s sports medicine program. During the past 12 years, the event has become Saint Luke’s South Hospital’s largest event, raising funds for the Goppert Breast Center, the Level III NICU, the ER, and the Rehabilitation Institute’s outdoor garden. We would like to thank everyone who supported this year’s Books & Boutiques celebration.

Annual Recognition Luncheon
In June, retired commodities trader David Gibson received the Foundation Fellow Award at our Annual Recognition Luncheon. David was acknowledged for his loyal giving and support of research, education, and medical programs at Saint Luke’s. He was also recognized for his service on multiple boards. In addition to honoring David, the newest members of the Heritage and Honor Societies were recognized for their legacy gifts and cumulative giving over $25,000.
Why I Give

Physician’s rehabilitation inspires couple’s giving

From chairing Books & Boutiques to bringing music therapy to the Rehabilitation Institute, Saint Luke’s cardiologist Dr. Tony Zink and his wife, Toni, have supported Saint Luke’s for nearly two decades. “We want to help improve the type and quality of health care available locally,” Toni Zink said. “We’re honored to support the Rehabilitation Institute so patients can receive the type of excellent treatment my husband received when he unexpectedly needed rehabilitative care.”

The Zink’s rehabilitation journey began in 1993. While a resident in Georgia, Dr. Zink’s car was crushed by an off-duty ambulance whose driver ran a red light. Following the accident, Dr. Zink’s condition was grim. He was unconscious for several days and was in ICU for three weeks. With his wife by his side every step of the way, Dr. Zink slowly began to recover, and after a month in acute care, he was transferred to an inpatient rehabilitation facility.

“I was in the rehabilitation setting for a month. We worked on brushing my teeth, writing, walking, and other necessary activities needed for daily living,” said Dr. Zink. During this time, he noticed his left hand had lost strength and coordination that would significantly limit his ability to do cardiac procedures as a physician. His care team recommended music therapy.

“I had played the piano for many years and started playing the small spinet in rehab for therapy of my left hand,” said Dr. Zink. “The music and the physical therapy of my hand also translated into excellent cognitive therapy and helped tremendously in my recovery.” His wife Toni agrees, “Participating in music therapy has benefits physically, mentally, and emotionally. It crosses all boundaries of gender, age, race, and abilities. Joy or comfort can be hard to find after a traumatic injury. That’s why we’re such strong advocates for the rehabilitation program at Saint Luke’s.”

Today, Dr. Zink competes in marathons, Ironman competitions, and carries a full patient caseload. Through the generosity of Dr. Zink and Toni, the Rehabilitation Institute now includes a music therapy program, with a full-time music therapist.

To learn more about how you can make an impact in rehabilitation care in Kansas City, contact 816-932-2252 or visit saintlukeskc.org/giving.
Gifts of Note
Rehabilitation Institute receives broad support

We are grateful for donors who are dedicated to helping as many people as possible have the chance to live healthy lives. Following are recent gifts supporting Saint Luke’s life-changing work.

The Sunderland Foundation has generously assisted Saint Luke’s for nearly 40 years, and, most recently, donated $1,000,000 for a dedicated gym for spinal-cord injury patients.

The William Randolph Hearst Foundation awarded $125,000 for robotic technology that will shorten the amount of time needed for patients to improve their conditions. The gift will help patients return home and get back to their lives more quickly.

Because patients are at the heart of all we do, our very own Saint Luke’s Health System medical staff—led by the dedicated staff at Saint Luke’s South Hospital—collectively contributed $100,000 for rehab patient care.

First National Bank, a loyal supporter of Saint Luke’s South Hospital, donated $50,000 for the outdoor therapy garden, which will give patients a peaceful, restorative environment for healing.

◆ Make a gift  
816-932-2252  
saintlukeskc.org/giving