

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Danielle Filson, <u>dfilson@skdknick.com</u> Wednesday, November 4, 2015

ADVOCATE COMMUNITY PROVIDERS (ACP) NAMES M. REZA MOAREFI, M.D. AS CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER



New York, NY – November 4, 2015 – Advocate Community Providers (ACP) today announced the appointment of Mehran Reza Moarefi, M.D. as Chief Medical Officer. Dr. Moarefi will oversee ACP's clinical projects, which are focused on reducing avoidable hospitalizations through proactive, coordinated care and evidence-based interventions with Medicaid members who are at risk for or experiencing chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension and asthma.

ACP is a non-profit network of physicians and providers who serve more than 644,000 Medicaid patients in predominately lower-income, underserved Hispanic, Asian and African-American communities throughout New York City.

Dr. Moarefi is a primary care physician who is Board certified in Internal Medicine. He has conducted a private practice in the Bronx for the past ten years while also serving as a member of the Mount Sinai network in Queens since 2010. He practiced at Brooklyn Medical Center from 2004 to 2007. Dr. Moarefi earned his medical degree at the Universidad Tecnológica de Santiago (UTESA) and completed his residency in internal medicine at Woodhull Medical and Mental Health Center in Brooklyn. He studied pre-med at the University of Windsor in Ontario, Canada and at Stockport College in Stockport, England. Dr. Moarefi is fluent in English, Spanish and Farsi.



"Advocate Community Providers is proud to welcome Dr. Moarefi as our Chief Medical Officer," said **Dr. Ramon Tallaj**, Chairman of ACP. "Dr. Moarefi brings extensive clinical experience in integrated medical care and behavioral health as well as a deep commitment to improving the quality of care in our underserved predominantly immigrant communities."

"Dr. Moarefi has practiced in underserved communities in Brooklyn, the Bronx and Queens, where he has earned the trust and respect of his patients," added ACP CEO **Mario Paredes**. "His experience will be invaluable in directing and advancing ACP's clinical initiatives."

"I believe that Medicaid patients deserve the same quality of care that I would want for my family," said **Dr. Moarefi**. "At Advocate Community Providers, we are building a network that cost-effectively ensures better care for at-risk individuals. Every unnecessary hospitalization that we prevent improves the quality of life for these individuals, their families and their communities."

Dr. Tallaj added: "On behalf of the ACP Board, I also would like to thank Dr. Jackson Kuan, who has helped build a solid foundation for our clinical projects."

Dr. Moarefi will lead a team that is working directly with ACP's participating physicians and providers. As one of 25 Performing Provider Systems (PPS) in New York's Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program, ACP has identified ten clinical priorities.

- 1. Integrated Delivery System
- 2. Health Home At-risk Intervention
- 3. ED Care Triage for At-risk Populations
- 4. Care Transition
- 5. Integration of Primary Care and Behavioral Health
- 6. Cardiovascular Disease Management
- 7. Diabetes Disease Management
- 8. Asthma Disease Management
- 9. Tobacco Use Cessation

10. Access to High Quality Chronic Disease Preventive Care and Management in Both Clinical and Community Settings



ACP's goal is to give individuals and families participating in Medicaid access to a state-of-theart, inter-connected system with hundreds of clinics and doctor offices throughout the city. ACP, which includes more than 1,700 independent physicians, hospital partners, communitybased organizations and other providers, supported by North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System, Inc. (NSLIJ), is the only community-based, physician-led network in New York State's Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program.

#

About Advocate Community Providers

Advocate Community Providers (ACP) unites 1,700 individual, independent physicians with 400 hospital partners and community-based organizations dedicated to health, wellness and social services in lower-income, underserved Hispanic, Asian and African-American communities throughout New York City. Representing 644,000 patients across four boroughs of New York City, ACP was created in partnership with North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System, Inc. (NSLIJ). ACP's mission is to convene safety-net providers, partners and other stakeholders to create a culturally competent, patient-centered, comprehensive and coordinated service care model to meet the needs of individuals and families participating in Medicaid. ACP is one of 25 Performing Provider Systems (PPS) in New York's Delivery Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program to transform the State's Medicaid system. DSRIP's goals include reducing avoidable hospitalizations and ensuring that patients and their families with Medicaid switch to a community-based care system that emphasizes preventative care over reliance on the emergency room.