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## EW Howell completes two projects for EmblemHealth's medical practice group AdvantageCare Physicians

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1055 Stewart Avenue - Bethpage, NY Credit: Den25 Creative Studio

70 Charles Lindbergh Blvd. - Uniondale, NY Credit: Den25 Creative Studio Bethpage and Uniondale, NY EW Howell Construction Group, one of the region's leading builders, has completed two new Long Island primary and specialty care medical facilities for EmblemHealth's medical practice group AdvantageCare Physicians (ACPNY). The firm served as the general contractor for the two projects at 1055 Stewart Ave. in Bethpage, NY and 70 Charles Lindbergh Blvd. in Uniondale, and was responsible for the construction and fit out, including reconfiguration of existing facilities.

AdvantageCare Physicians relocated and consolidated offices from Hicksville and Woodbury into an existing, 69,000 s/f space at 1055-1065 Stewart Ave. in Bethpage, which underwent a \$17 million renovation. The facility has been designed to include 50 examination rooms and a dozen consultation rooms, offering services in cardiology, gastroenterology, endocrinology, rheumatology, oncology, ophthalmology, and OB-GYN. A partnership with Radnet Radiology offers x-ray and imaging services on site. In addition to medical services, the Bethpage office also features the first EmblemHealth Neighborhood Care facility on Long Island offering free social services and resources, health and wellness classes, nutritional support, and education for all members of the community.

During the initial stages of construction COVID-19 became a factor in the re-design. As a result, ACPNY changed several programmatic and technical aspects to the project, such as the installation of UV lighting in the mechanical systems, filtration system enhancements, and the allocation of a specific room by the main entrance to serve as triage for current and future pandemic-type events. These operational and design changes required modifications throughout the course of construction. ACPNY also implemented other safety measures, including the adaptation of sneeze guards and barriers to prevent the spread of the virus at key public-facing areas, including receptionist desks, waiting room, and information exchange areas.

This project featured a unique design approach. Patients entering the facility will experience the existing familiar facility structural elements that have been integrated with the main core waiting room areas. The new center includes an effective wayfinding system along with a centralized information center which resides by the entry point where patients may seek directions or other services. The entrance connects to a central core, where waiting room areas have been selectively designed to serve each individual clinical care and specialty. The open plan design approach within the core also features furnishings, artwork, and other design features aimed at providing an inviting, comfortable, and relaxing environment.

EW Howell Construction Management Group was also the general contractor for the recently opened 25,155 s/f ACPNY facility at 70 Charles Lindbergh Blvd. in Uniondale. The space will offer a number of specialty clinical modules including pediatrics, primary care, medical and surgical

specialties, ophthalmology services, Radnet imaging, and future Quest lab support services.

The central core design includes a greeting desk upon entering, a sub-waiting room for each specialty, and registration areas. This site has been designed with two means of egress, with both east and west entrances to the common central core areas. The more prominent and highly visible west entrance is on Charles Lindbergh Boulevard.

"As innovations in healthcare continue to change, so does the way patients are seen, treated, and cared for. There's been a movement within the healthcare industry during the last decade that has led healthcare providers to realize that integrating medical services that are centrally located and easily accessible, overall, better serve local communities," said Tom Miranda, the project executive at EW Howell who oversaw the EmblemHealth/AdvantageCare Physicians project renovations.

"In collaboration with EW Howell, our state-of-the-art facilities are designed to strengthen our commitment to comprehensive, patient-centered healthcare on Long Island," said Dr. Navarra Rodriguez, chief medical officer of AdvantageCare Physicians. "We are excited to continue to deliver medical services and provide additional care options to the individuals, families, and communities of Bethpage and Uniondale.

"As the demand for more efficient, available healthcare grows, we can be sure that many other healthcare systems will follow ACPNY's centralized care center model," said Bob Timperio, vice president of the Healthcare Division at EW Howell. "By creating dedicated facilities with the latest innovations in technology and medicine, the healthcare industry can continue to provide access to the high-quality medical services and top professionals that many communities rely on."

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