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Health Partners New England to add up to 84 psychiatric beds in Western Mass.

Holyoke, MA - Today, Health Partners New England announced the purchase of the Providence Behavioral Health Hospital in Holyoke, previously owned and operated by Mercy Medical Center. This will be a joint venture between Health Partners New England and GFI Partners, LLC, a real estate advisory firm. The acquisition will enable the creation of up to 84 new behavioral health inpatient beds for children, adolescents, and adults from the Western Massachusetts region, and employ an estimated 200 people.

Selected services will be offered beginning in mid-April, under the name MiraVista Behavioral Health Center. The timing of the purchase is designed to prevent an interruption in service to current patients and supports the Executive Office of Health and Human Services' ongoing efforts to increase psychiatric bed capacity and decrease emergency room boarding times for individuals in need of services.

MiraVista will provide comprehensive mental health treatment for children and adolescents, as well as treatments for adults experiencing a primary mental or emotional health crisis, with or without co-occurring substance abuse, including the need for detoxification. A team of fully dedicated psychiatrists, social workers, nurse practitioners, nurses and mental health counselors who are specifically trained within behavioral health care will provide care for individuals at MiraVista.

"The opening of MiraVista comes at a crucial time, when mental health treatment and substance use disorder treatment is at a severe shortage in Western Massachusetts and demand is high state-wide," said **Dr. Michael Krupa, founder and CEO of Health Partners New England and TaraVista Behavioral Health Center in Devens**. "Our team will deliver state-of-the-art behavioral health care to children, adolescents and adults in a community in immediate need of new beds."

"The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the need and urgency to increase psychiatric inpatient capacity across the state," said **Marylou Sudders, Massachusetts Secretary of Health and Human Services and COVID-19 Command Center Director**. "The opening of the MiraVista facility will ease the strain on families needing services in Western Massachusetts and help the Commonwealth toward its goal of ensuring all residents are connected to the right treatment when and where people need it."

Health Partners New England and Mercy Medical Center have been working together closely to ensure a smooth transition of services for patients and to fill the need for mental health services in this region and around the Commonwealth. Health Partners New England is one of several providers who have committed to expanding psychiatric bed capacity with support from the Commonwealth.

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