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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **BryLin Marks 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Caring in Western New York**

(Buffalo, NY) – Six decades ago, Leonard Pleskow asked a small group of community psychiatrists to come together with a vision to help create a hospital to serve their community.

In May of 1955, the doors opened to the Linwood-Bryant Hospital, a psychiatric hospital named after its location on the corner of Linwood and Bryant in the city of Buffalo. In 1976, the name changed to BryLin Hospital, addiction medicine services was added to their psychiatric services and the Hospital was relocated to 1263 Delaware Avenue, a former nursing home, where it remains today.

Once known for inpatient addiction medicine care, BryLin has rebranded as a primary resource for mental health care. Inpatient mental health care is provided at BryLin Hospital, a short-term, acute care psychiatric hospital for children, adolescents, and adults in crisis suffering from mental illness. A recent renovation project at the hospital highlights new flooring, improved common areas, and reconstructed patient rooms. A growing list of alternative treatment options are now available like yoga, massage therapy, tai-chi, drumming circles, pet therapy, and peer support, which provides a compliment the more traditional forms of mental health care.

In August of 2013, the BryLin Behavioral Health Center opened at 531 Farber Lakes Drive, in Williamsville, which offers both outpatient mental health and outpatient addiction medicine care at one convenient location. BryLin continues to monitor the needs of the community, in the everchanging field of behavioral health, with an eye on further expansion of services.

"Our dedicated staff, through the compassionate care they provide to our patients, are the foundation to BryLin's success as we strive to be the premier mental health provider in the region", says Eric Pleskow, BryLin President & CEO and founder's son. "Our energies are focused on having patient-centered care that brings respect and dignity to the patients and families we care for who are affected by mental health issues."

BryLin Behavioral Health System's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary coincides with Mental Health Awareness Month, also in the month of May.