

PRESS RELEASE - Buffalo, NY

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‘Difficult decision’: BryLin closing outpatient programs at Behavioral Health Center

BUFFALO, N.Y. – BryLin Behavioral Health System is closing its Behavioral Health Center in Williamsville, which includes the outpatient mental health programs for children, adolescents and adults as well as the outpatient addiction clinic for adolescents and adults.

“It was not an easy decision to make,” President and CEO Eric Pleskow said.

BryLin’s senior leadership advised the Behavioral Health Center staff the location will close once all care recipients have been linked with other community resources.

“We are notifying our care recipients and encouraging them to attend all appointments as scheduled. We are working to facilitate a warm handoff to other community providers as soon as possible,” states Pleskow.

Thirty-five employees will also be affected. BryLin is working to find those employees other jobs within BryLin or with other organizations.

BryLin Behavioral Health System opened the Behavioral Health Center in 2013 with their first outpatient mental health program for adults. One year later in 2014, BryLin consolidated by moving their outpatient addiction treatment clinic from the Georgetown Square Plaza, in Williamsville, to Farber Lakes Drive. Soon after the start of the pandemic, in March 2020, BryLin announced the opening of their first outpatient child and adolescent mental health program at the Center.

Pleskow said, “We had to make this very difficult decision because we simply cannot keep up, on an outpatient basis, with the funding that other local nonprofit outpatient clinics receive because of our for-profit status.”

BryLin will now concentrate all of their efforts towards their inpatient mental health treatment programs at BryLin Hospital on Delaware Ave, in Buffalo.

BryLin Hospital is upstate New York’s only private provider of short-term psychiatric hospitalization for children, adolescents and adults. On the fourth floor of the Hospital is their newly designated Center of Excellence in Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) program where both inpatient and ambulatory ECT is provided. “ECT is the most effective and rapidly acting FDA approved treatment for severe depression,” says Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Chief Medical Officer for BryLin.

“We made a difficult decision,” said Pleskow. “We are now going to refocus on what we do best, which is providing quality inpatient behavioral health care to the Western New York Community for 67 years.”

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