



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Anna McGrath, amcgrath@skdknick.com

ADVOCATE COMMUNITY PROVIDERS (ACP) NAMES DIEGO A. PONIEMAN M.D., MPH AS CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER



New York, NY – March 1, 2016 – Advocate Community Providers (ACP) announced the appointment of Diego A. Ponieman, M.D., MPH as Chief Medical Officer. Dr. Ponieman will oversee ACP’s clinical projects, which are focused on reducing avoidable hospitalizations through proactive, coordinated care and evidence-based interventions with Medicaid members 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 650,000 Medicaid patients in predominately lower-income, underserved Hispanic, Asian and African-American communities throughout New York City.

Dr. Ponieman is a member of the faculty at Mount Sinai Hospital and serves as a Primary Care Physician at Mount Sinai Doctors in Jackson Heights, Queens as well as in private practice in upper Manhattan. He also is Co-founder and Medical Director of Rapid Care Solutions, which provides medical home care for the homebound in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Manhattan.

Dr. Ponieman earned his medical degree at the University of Buenos Aires, completed a Residency in Internal Medicine at Montefiore Medical Center, and earned a Master’s in Public Health at Mount Sinai School of Medicine.



“Advocate Community Providers is proud to welcome Dr. Diego Ponieman as our Chief Medical Officer,” said **Dr. Ramon Tallaj**, Chairman of ACP. “Dr. Ponieman is a respected academic, teacher and primary-care physician who has dedicated his career to serving our communities.”

“Dr. Ponieman’s extensive experience and long-standing commitment to Hispanic-American communities across New York City make him an especially appropriate fit to lead ACP’s mission to serve our City’s most vulnerable and needy patients,” added ACP CEO **Mario Paredes**.

ACP’s goal is to give individuals and families participating in Medicaid access to a state-of-the-art, inter-connected health system with hundreds of clinics and doctor offices throughout the city. ACP, which includes 2,000 independent physicians and 950 hospital partners, community-based organizations and other providers, supported by Northwell Health, 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 2,000 independent physicians with 950 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 650,000 patients across four boroughs of New York City, ACP was created in partnership with Northwell Health (formerly North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System, Inc.). 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.