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ADVOCATE COMMUNITY PROVIDERS APPOINTS RICARDO A. RIVERA-CARDONA HEAD OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

New York, NY – February 13, 2017 – Advocate Community Providers (ACP) today announced the appointment of Ricardo A. Rivera-Cardona as head of Business Development. ACP is one of 25 Performing Provider Systems (PPSs) funded by New York’s Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program to transform the state’s Medicaid program.

Mr. Rivera-Cardona most recently served as Executive Director of the Puerto Rico Health Insurance Administration, a \$2.8 billion Government Health Plan that serves 1.5 million people. As Executive Director, he was successful in reducing operational costs, targeting fraud, waste, and abuse, and maximizing revenue initiatives while developing an integrated approach to improving care of high-frequency users.

“Ricardo Rivera-Cardona’s experience integrating and improving care across healthcare providers, governmental agencies, and community-based organizations will be invaluable to ACP’s mission in transforming healthcare for Medicaid beneficiaries in the most underserved communities in the Bronx, Manhattan, Queens and Brooklyn,” said Dr. Ramon Tallaj, ACP founder and chairman. “It is a testament to ACP’s development as DSRIP’s only physician-led PPS that we are able to attract someone of Ricardo’s stature.”

“We are delighted to welcome Ricardo Rivera-Cardona to ACP’s leadership team,” added Mario J. Paredes, Chief Executive Officer of ACP. “His clear vision and track record in executing large-scale healthcare transformation will enhance ACP’s ability to achieve our DSRIP goals even as we position ACP for the future.”

“It is with the upmost enthusiasm that I embrace this opportunity to transform the health care delivery system, empowering physicians and providers to improve the quality of life of thousands of patients, their families, and their communities,” added Mr. Rivera-Cardona. “This is a vision that I passionately believe in. I am honored to be part of the ACP family and feel very proud of what we stand for.”



Prior to serving as Executive Director of the Puerto Rico Health Insurance Administration from January 2013 to December 2016, Mr. Rivera-Cardona was President of Cooperativa De Seguros de Vida de PR (COSVI), a Puerto Rico-based health and life insurance company. From January 2005 to December 2007, he served as Secretary of the Department of Economic Development and Commerce and as Executive Director of the Puerto Rico Trade and Export Company. He previously held marketing and consulting positions at organizations including Eli Lilly, Procter & Gamble, and Arthur D. Little.

Mr. Rivera-Cardona earned a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and a Master's of Engineering from Cornell University. He is completing a Master's of Health Administration at Columbia University, is a Fellow of the second class of the Health Innovators Fellowship, and a member of the Aspen Global Leadership Network.

About Advocate Community Providers

Advocate Community Providers (ACP) unites 2,000 individual, 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).

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 program (DSRIP) 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.

For more information on ACP or DSRIP, visit <http://www.acppps.org/>.