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MEDIA RELEASE

Mountain Park Health Center Opens New Maryvale Clinic

Re-purposed vacant movie theater transformed into 'medical home'

PHOENIX, Aug. 25, 2011 -- A derelict Maryvale property that once housed a vacant Harkins movie theater and an all-night bar has been transformed into a beautiful, state-of-the-art medical facility where residents can access affordable, high-quality health care.

Mountain Park Health Center is pleased to announce its newly relocated Maryvale clinic at 6601 W. Thomas Road will open on Monday, Aug. 29, 2011. The new, larger space is designed to be a "medical home" that once fully complete will focus on primary care needs from well visits and dental care to cancer screenings and diabetes education. Existing Maryvale patients will receive the same great care, while the larger center will allow Mountain Park to accommodate more of the community.

"It was not easy to look past the obvious differences between a typical eight-plex movie theater and a medical clinic, says John Swagert, MD, CEO of Mountain Park Health Center. "With a little imagination, and help from our architect, we realized that a cul-de-sac of exam rooms could fit nicely into a former theater. The clinic fits so seamlessly into the space that I doubt our patients will be able to tell that the finished clinic ever was a movie theater.

"The conversion of this eyesore of a building into a thriving health care destination will help heal this struggling community as a whole," adds Dr. Swagert.

Since 2001, the Maryvale clinic (formerly located at 4616 N. 51st Ave.) has been expanding its services. Nearly 80 employees staff the Maryvale location. The clinic is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 8 pm. Appointments can be made by calling (602) 243-7277.

Construction on the 50,000 square-foot facility began in January 2011. Some specialty services such as mammography and dental care will be phased in over the next several months as construction of Phase 2 becomes the focus of the project.

The ambitious renovation project would not have been possible with the support of generous contributions from funders such as the Virginia G. Piper Foundation, the Board of Visitors, C.W. and Modene Neely Foundation, and The Mountain Park Health Center Foundation.

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“We are grateful for the generous donors and supporters of Mountain Park who share our dedication to the community of Maryvale, and who also support our mission to deliver affordable, high-quality medical services under one roof,” says Dr. Swagert.

About Mountain Park Health Center

Mountain Park Health Center is nonprofit community health center dedicated to providing access to affordable healthcare for today's families. By utilizing an innovative team approach, Mountain Park helps improve the care patients receive when they have been diagnosed with a chronic illness. Doctors, pharmacists, dieticians and behavioral health practitioners all work as a team to treat the special needs of patients with chronic medical conditions. Integrated behavioral health programs allow doctors and behavioral health consultants the opportunity to work in concert on behalf of their patients. More than 200,000 medical visits are provided each year by Mountain Park through its five clinic locations serving diverse neighborhoods. To learn more about Mountain Park Health Center, please visit mountainparkhealth.org.

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