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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ADVOCATE COMMUNITY PARTNERS PASSES DOH-MANDATED STRESS TEST AS FIRST STEP IN DSRIP FUNDING APPLICATION

PHYSICIAN-LED HEALTHCARE IN LOWER-INCOME, DIVERSE COMMUNITIES ONE STEP CLOSER TO REALITY

(New York, NY) – **Advocate Community Providers** - a physician-led, first-of-its-kind alliance of a major health system and more than 3,000 physicians and other community-based partners - has passed the required New York State Department of Health stress test, officials announced today. This is the first critical step in New York’s Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) application. The U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) allocated \$6 billion in funding to New York State to improve quality and lower the cost of care provided to the Medicaid population.

Advocate Community Providers is a partnership between New York Community Preferred Providers (NYCPP) - and would be the largest patient-driven system New York City and Long Island - and North Shore Long Island Jewish Hospital System.

“Passage of the financial stability test is a critical and significant step in the right direction for Advocate Community Providers and the lower-income, diverse communities that we serve,” said **Dr. Ramon Tallaj**, CEO of Advocate Community Providers. “With our nuanced, physician-led provider system, we stand to revolutionize New York state healthcare, striving to better serve the underserved.”

“The state Department of Health’s stress test approval of Advocate Community Partners brings North Shore-LIJ Health System and New York Community Preferred Providers one stop closer to fulfilling our shared mission to better serve multi-cultural neighborhoods throughout the city and Long Island,” said **Michael Dowling**, President and CEO of the North Shore-LIJ Health System, which includes 18 hospitals and more than 400 outpatient facilities throughout the region.

“Today is an important milestone for Advocate Community Providers. We have been recognized by the state as financially viable and are moving forward to reach our goals of better serving high-need, low-income communities,” said **Peggy Sheng**, Chief Operating Officer of CAIPA, the Chinese American Independent Practice Association a key network within ACP. “This revolutionary physician-led health system will ensure healthier lives to the individuals in our underserved communities.”

Organizations applying for DSRIP funding were required to complete financial stability "stress tests" by November 10, 2014. Advocate PPS received a pass result, opening access to physician-led healthcare in lower-income diverse (Latino/Asian) communities. Only those entities that passed are approved to continue the DSRIP Project Plan Application process.

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