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New Health Center to Serve Perris Residents

Perris officials welcomed the opening June 15 of a new health center open to walk-in patients and those with appointments, saying the clinic meets an unserved need for many City residents.

The new health center, 1675 North Perris Blvd., is operated by North County Health Services, which is based in San Marcos. The company serves patients at 11 locations throughout San Diego County. Perris marks its first excursion into Riverside County.

Mayor Daryl Busch and City Councilman Mark Yarbrough represented the City of Perris at Wednesday's official ribbon-cutting ceremony. They were joined by representatives of the Perris Valley Chamber of Commerce and executives from the health-care provider.

"It's nice to have a new medical services provider here in Perris," Busch said. "It's a real pleasure to see them here. I'm sure the community will make good use of the services they provide."



Irma Cota, president and CEO of North County Health Services, prepares to cut the ribbon on the new health center on Perris Boulevard while Mayor Daryl Busch (black polo) and City Councilman Mark Yarbrough (left) look on.

The health center provides a wide range of services, including immunizations, physical exams and treatment for colds, flu and other medical conditions. The center currently is staffed by one doctor and two nurse practitioners who see about 50 to 60 patients per day since its soft-opening in March.

Future plans include adding dental care and psychological care. Center staff work with patients without insurance to enroll them in Medi Cal and Covered California programs. The building includes large conference rooms to conduct informational and question-and-answer sessions about conditions like diabetes.

Yarbrough noted that many Perris residents are economically disadvantaged and lack ready access to quality health care. The new health center should bridge that gap.

"The City of Perris is concerned about the health of its residents and is committed to improving it," he said. "This facility will improve community health. We could not be more pleased."

Irma Cota, president and chief executive officer of North County Health Services, said the company set up shop in Perris because many residents are underserved. She said the City worked closely with the clinic to get the doors opened on time.

"The cooperation from the City has been excellent," she said.

Company spokeswoman Carley Star said the healthcare provider plans to partner with Perris officials on their "Green City Farm Program," a community garden located on the City Hall Campus. North County Health Services would also like to work with Perris on nutrition-education and healthy-eating programs. The Perris clinic location will host a health fair on July 28 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Star said.



Perris Mayor Daryl Busch and City Councilman Mark Yarbrough check out an exam room at the new health center during a June 15 open house.

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