

NEWSROOM UPDATE



Marlton, NJ — December 1, 2020 — [Advocare](#), a physician-owned multi-specialty medical group with nearly 600 providers, continues to expand to serve its patients by welcoming 3 new Care Center practices:

- **Advocare Benzel Pediatrics** – Elmwood Park, NJ
- **Advocare Rainbow Pediatrics** – Clermont, NJ; Egg Harbor Township, NJ; Rio Grande, NJ; Wildwood, NJ
- **Advocare Union Hill Pediatrics** – Manalapan, NJ

Irwin Benzel, DO runs Advocare Benzel Pediatrics. Dr. Benzel completed his pediatric residency training at Good Samaritan Hospital and Winthrop University Hospital in Long Island. During his summer after freshman year in college, Dr. Benzel was a counselor at Hebrew Academy for Special Children, a camp for children with disabilities. It was during this time he solidified his desire to be a pediatrician and took a special focus on children with disabilities.

Advocare Rainbow Pediatrics has four offices, managed by Thomas Dierkes, DO. Dr. Dierkes performed his pediatric training at the Children's Hospital of New Jersey. In 2010, Dr. Dierkes was recognized as a Caring Volunteer Physician by Volunteers In Medicine. He was also honored by Horizon NJ Health in 2011 for service and dedication to the community. Dr. Dierkes serves on the Board of Trustees for Cape Regional Medical Center.

Ernest Leva, MD manages Advocare Union Hill Pediatrics. Dr. Leva completed his residency in Pediatrics at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Robert Wood Johnson (UMDNJ -RWJ) Medical School. He also joined the faculty of RWJ Medical School, orchestrating the formation of the Division of Pediatric Emergency Medicine at St. Peter's Children's Hospital and The Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital. Currently, he is a Professor of Pediatrics at RWJ Medical School and serves as the Pediatric Emergency Medicine division director.

“We are excited to welcome 3 new Advocare Pediatric Care Centers into our growing organization,” said Howard Orel, MD, Advocare’s President and Chief Executive Officer and a practicing physician. “We continue to expand our New Jersey footprint and offer a greater number of families access to the highest quality, most compassionate healthcare.”

ABOUT ADVOCARE

[Advocare, LLC \(“Advocare”\)](#) is a physician-owned and governed multi-specialty medical group operating in New Jersey and the greater Philadelphia metropolitan region.

Founded in 1998 as an alliance of 26 physicians, Advocare has grown to become widely recognized and highly respected as one of the region’s largest multi-specialty physician groups.

With nearly 600 providers and 200 Care Center offices, Advocare serves approximately 590,000 patients throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Advocare physicians are regularly recognized among the region’s top doctors by both patients and consumer publications. Learn more at www.advocaredoctors.com.

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