



NEWS RELEASE

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St. Anthony's Big Bend Urgent Care Center to Open July 11

St. Anthony's Medical Center will open its fourth urgent care center on July 11 at Highway 44 and Big Bend Boulevard, to serve residents of Crestwood, Kirkwood, Sunset Hills, Webster Groves, Affton and surrounding communities.

Construction began in September 2007 on the two-story, 20,000-square-foot brick building at 10296 Big Bend Blvd. The building is owned by Metropolitan Urological Specialists, which will have offices there. St. Anthony's 5,000-square-foot Big Bend Urgent Care is located on the first floor, along with St. Anthony's primary care physician practices. The new urgent care center will begin seeing patients on July 11. A formal grand opening will take place in the fall.

"This new center will fill a definite need for immediate-care services in this community and provide residents with quick, convenient medical care for minor injuries and illnesses," said Mike Anderson, director of Urgent Care Centers for St. Anthony's. "When you can't get in to see your doctor and you don't need emergency room care, urgent care is the answer."

"People today are busy and they don't want to spend a lot of time waiting for medical care. They also don't want to drive across town to access the care they need,"

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said Donn Richards, M.D., medical director of St. Anthony’s Urgent Care. “Urgent care centers generally are less crowded and less expensive than emergency rooms, while offering the same high-quality care from credentialed St. Anthony’s physicians – and they are conveniently located right in people’s neighborhoods.”

Geri Tyrey, a Kirkwood resident as well as a therapeutic recreation specialist at St. Anthony’s, said she is especially appreciative of the convenience of urgent care centers.

“With St. Joseph Hospital leaving Kirkwood, it is reassuring to know that the local communities will still have convenient access to appropriate services for our healthcare needs,” Tyrey said. “I think the urgent care center is a wonderful option for minor emergency healthcare, leaving our local emergency rooms for life-threatening situations.”

St. Anthony’s Big Bend Urgent Care will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week to treat non-life-threatening illnesses and injuries, such as sprains, fractures, cuts, minor burns, eye injuries, cold and flu symptoms and animal and insect bites. No appointment is needed, and medical insurance covers urgent care visits.

St. Anthony’s also operates urgent care centers in Fenton, Arnold and Lemay, which have been embraced by their communities as area residents have come to understand the urgent care concept. Visits to those three facilities have increased 300 percent in the last five years, with more than 90,000 visits in the past year.

St. Anthony’s Fenton Urgent Care is located at 714 Gravois Road at Highway 141 and Old Gravois Road. Arnold Urgent Care is at 3619 Richardson Square Drive, across from the Arnold 14 Cinema. Lemay Urgent Care is at 2900 Lemay Ferry Road, just north of Mehlville High School.

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