

## **Coastal Psychiatric Urgent Care, Inc. – Ribbon Cutting July 31st**

Coastal Psychiatric Urgent Care, Inc. is changing the way we think about how to get mental health treatment in Brevard County. As a non-profit corporation in Melbourne, FL, they will provide psychiatric treatment and brief therapy on a walk-in basis Monday through Friday 9:00 to 4:00 for individuals who may be experiencing a non-emergency mental health crisis. Care will be offered to insured children, adolescents, adults, and older adults and those who are willing to pay out of pocket. A sliding fee scale is available to those who qualify.

Several barriers to clients accessing care currently exist in the community, including lack of available treatment providers, lack of available treatment types, lack of insurance or inadequate insurance, and insufficient finances to cover costs. The wait time for an outpatient psychiatric appointment in Brevard County can take up to six months depending on the provider and insurance carrier. There is no centralized place such as a psychiatric walk-in clinic where Brevard County residents can go for immediate help unless they agree to be hospitalized. When people cannot wait and do not agree to be hospitalized voluntarily, the result is often involuntary hospitalization or incarceration and sometimes death.

Coastal Psychiatric Urgent Care's goal is to allow clients to get necessary psychiatric care and therapy when they need it. As a result, their services will prevent adverse outcomes for not only clients but also the community at large. Long-term plans include expanding to longer hours (nights, weekends, holidays) and expanding to other locations (Rockledge, Titusville) to offer services to the most people in Brevard County and possibly nearby counties. They also plan to provide services to the uninsured when they secure grant funding, donations, and revenue from paid services.

Want to know more? Attend their ribbon-cutting sponsored by Melbourne Regional Chamber on July 31<sup>st</sup> at noon. Also, visit their website at [www.coastalpsych.org](http://www.coastalpsych.org) to find out about upcoming open houses.