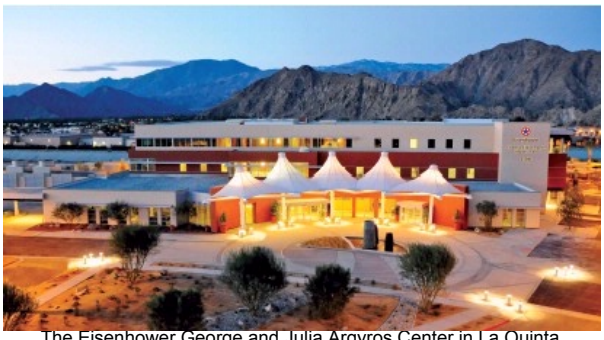
Invest In A Lifetime Of Good Health

Eisenhower George and Julia Argyros Health Center



The Eisenhower George and Julia Argyros Center in La Quinta.

The Argyros Health Center addresses an immediate need for increased health care services in one of the fastest growing cities in the Coachella Valley. La Quinta experienced a fiveyear growth rate of more than 52 percent from 2000 to 2005 according to the Coachella Valley Economic Partnership, and recent studies have shown that there are not enough primary care physicians in the area to meet the demand. Designed to serve a population of 80,000 to 100,000 people, the Eisenhower George and Julia Argyros Health Center will provide the La Quinta community with an additional 15 primary care physicians and 80 to 100 health care professionals within the first four years of its opening.

According to Joseph Scherger, MD, Vice President of Primary Care Services at Eisenhower, the new state-of-the-art Center will house a comprehensive set of services designed to provide residents of the La Quinta area the same world-class medical care patients receive on the main campus of Eisenhower Medical Center.

“At Eisenhower, our objective is to provide the finest health care available anywhere,” says Dr. Scherger. “The Eisenhower George and Julia Argyros Health Center is a place where we believe we can provide the “ideal patient experience,” and achieve the highest possible level of patient satisfaction. This Center will truly be a five-star facility. Our goal is to promote wellness through prevention, healing through compassionate care, and clinical excellence through our focus on comprehensive, technologically-advanced treatment options.”

When the Center opens, six primary care physicians will be in residence. The new practice will occupy the entire third floor which will ultimately house up to 15 physicians, including family physicians, internists, and gynecologists.

“Patients will not feel rushed,” shares Dr. Scherger, “And they will be encouraged to have ongoing communication with their physician through our Eisenhower 365 Personalized Care program. In addition to face-to-face office visits and phone calls, patients can communicate with their doctors online through our partnership with RelayHealth®. It’s a great benefit for patients,” explains Scherger, “enabling them to do an ‘E-visit’ with their doctor and to access their Eisenhower personal health record. It’s a relationship-based approach to care, and is the foundation of everything we will do at the new Argyros Center.”

Dr. Scherger adds that the mix of services and medical expertise available in the primary care center will be continuously adapted to meet the community’s needs. “We will constantly be looking at trends in the La Quinta community to ensure we are providing the optimum level of patient care.”

Also on the third floor, one of the unique services that will be available at the Argyros Center is Eisenhower’s new Executive Physical Program with pricing beginning at $1,500. The program offers a comprehensive, one-day health assessment combined with recommendations and prevention strategies to maintain and improve a patient’s health. The Executive Physical will include a comprehensive review of a patient’s medical history, followed by a full range of preventive screening tests for early detection of cancer, heart and lung disease, as well as other serious medical problems. The procedures are all done in one day, with a personal patient liaison coordinating the schedule.

Physicians in the Argyros Center will be able to conduct many diagnostic procedures on-site at the new Eisenhower Imaging Center on the first floor. Imaging technology will include computed tomography (CT) scanner, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machines, ultrasound machines, and diagnostic X-ray. The images will be available immediately online, so that referring physicians can confer with Eisenhower radiologists to review the results. There will also be an Eisenhower Labtechniques on-site to facilitate quick and efficient processing of all routine lab tests.

“On January 22, 2010, Eisenhower Medical Center will dedicate the new three-story, 92,000-square-foot Eisenhower George and Julia Argyros Health Center. Atop one of the highest elevations in the valley, this state-of-the-art health care facility is one of the most striking and beautifully constructed buildings in the area.”

Mammography, ultrasound testing, ultrasound-guided biopsies, and bone density scanning will be available on the second floor, in a new Eisenhower Schnitzer/Novack Breast Center dedicated to selected diagnostics and screening. Certain radiation treatment options will also be available at the Breast Center, as well as at a new Eisenhower BIGHORN Radiation Oncology center on the first floor, where Eisenhower Lucy Curci Cancer Center patients can receive radiation treatments.

The centerpiece of the Argyros Center’s first floor will be a 7,000- square-foot Immediate Care Center, a same-day primary care facility staffed by physicians who are Board Certified in emergency medicine, internal medicine or family medicine. The new clinic will contain 13 state-of-the-art treatment areas, including 12 exam rooms and a procedure room. The clinic at Argyros will replace the existing 4,500-square-foot Express Care on Highway 111 in La Quinta. (This facility will become the new La Quinta location for Eisenhower Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy programs.)

According to Lynn Hart, RN, MSN, Associate Vice President at Eisenhower and Project Manager for the new Center, the new clinic will focus on non-emergency complaints, including coughs, colds, earaches, sore throats, influenza, falls, bruises, strains, minor fractures and lacerations, allergies, urinary complaints, insect bites, rashes and skin infections. The Immediate Care Center will also offer routine vaccinations and school and sports physicals.

“Appointments are not necessary for treatment at the Center — walk-ins are accepted,”Hart says,“However, by calling for a same day appointment, patients will ensure they will not have to wait to see a medical professional.”

In addition to the clinic, the Eisenhower George and Julia Argyros Health Center’s first floor will include a Center for Healthy Living where visitors can obtain medical information on specific health topics and have weight and blood pressure checks. Computers will also be available so visitors can do health research online, as well as access RelayHealth. In addition, the Center for Healthy Living will offer many of the courses and health and wellness lectures that are available on the Eisenhower Medical Center campus.

Visitors looking for refreshments will find a popular Einstein Bros.® Bagels, with a healthy “grab and go” menu featuring bagels, salads, and beverages.

The second floor of the Center includes a number of classrooms that will be used for community lectures and education programs. The classrooms will be wired to the main Eisenhower campus, so that training sessions and lectures can be simulcast in the Argyros Center. Ultimately, the second floor will have two additional clinics: a family medicine clinic, staffed by Eisenhower medical residents affiliated with a major academic institution, and an orthopedics and sports medicine clinic.

“The health and wellness program at Argyros will have two principle components,” Dr. Scherger says. “One is to provide the community with critical health information that they can access on their own. They won’t need a doctor’s referral…they can just come in, talk to our staff, attend lectures, do their own research. The other service is providing patients with referrals to doctors at Argyros who can help them with their specific health needs.”

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