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Proliance Highlands Medical Center Opens to Serve Patients in Issaquah and Beyond

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Located at 510 8th Avenue NE in the Issaquah Highlands, Proliance Highlands Medical Center is a striking three-story facility featuring over 43,000 square feet of space. While supporting primarily orthopedic services, the building also houses an ambulatory surgical center, imaging center and a physical therapy suite; future plans include an ear, nose and throat (ENT) practice and an administrative suite. Situated on 2.5 acres of land in a pedestrian friendly zone, the medical

center serves the burgeoning population of the eastern corridor and reduces the necessity of driving to Bellevue or Seattle to receive care. “Our provider group, Proliance Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine, recognized the value of not only ‘owning the house they live

in’ but expanding their presence in the Issaquah area,” explains Frank Gilbert, Executive Director. “Establishing their initial practice in Issaquah over twenty-five years ago, expanding to Bellevue and now opening our new building in Issaquah to serve a growing patient

demand, these providers wanted a facility that would provide easy access and state-of-the-art technologies.” As part of Proliance Surgeons, Inc., the largest surgical medical group in Washington, Proliance Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine

offers services which include surgical and non-surgical procedures for problems of the bones, joints and muscles at the Highlands location. The facility, 99% built to suit, was designed to be as flexible as possible and to effectively accommodate all specialties. Gilbert

continues, “A multi-specialty group, our providers treat sports injuries, hand and arm problems, spinal injuries; they perform arthroscopic surgery and can even provide total joint replacements. Our goal is to maximize the efficiency of client visits and enhance our provider’s capabilities.”

In addition to the orthopedic clinics, the facility houses an imaging center on the first floor which features an MRI that doesn’t require a separate computer room. According to Gilbert, this unique system means the unit uses significantly less power while producing the same quality of images in much



Proliance Highlands Medical Center in Issaquah, Washington

less time. “Again, we increase the flexibility of our providers while improving the patient’s experience – and this MRI enhances the “green” capacities of our facility,” adds Gilbert.

Built in partnership with Marshall Erdman and Associates of Madison, Wisconsin (a Cogdell Spencer Company), the Proliance Highlands Medical Center was designed to reflect the environment which surrounds it. “Erdman is one of the top health care facility designers and builders in the country,” says Gilbert. “They worked with our providers in an open and flexible manner – allowing our physicians to design the type of delivery system they needed.”

With two sides of the building facing panoramic views of forested sections of land which will never be developed, the medical center was designed to convey a “lodge-type” look and feel. The exterior combines HardiePlank® siding with a stone façade and cedar beams. This feature is carried

into the interior as well, with exterior stone used in the lobby and cedar beams utilized throughout the building. A combination of light and dark cherry laminates adds to the lush feel and a gas fireplace in the lobby is an attractive and functional centerpiece. “Matching our architecture to the physical setting was pivotal in the design of this building,” adds Gilbert. “Designed and built with energy conservation in mind, we wanted it to be a pleasing addition to the Highlands area.”

Featuring an open stairway to all three floors, the center favors collaboration and uses totally digital support services. Digital x-ray machines, digital MRI and other equipment provide optimum imaging quality in an environment without film. They no longer have to waste space and use toxic chemicals to produce and store x-ray film. Someday, in combination with their electronic medical record system, they hope to have a virtually paperless environment.

Individual suites are situated in the building to foster quick access and flexibility. Each “pod” is physically configured the same way and with minimal modifications can be quickly converted for use with any of their orthopedic specialties. This allows providers to utilize any pod available creating the most efficient and flexible scheduling environment. Warm, natural colors create an inviting space for clients and natural light floods the building, enhancing the lodge-like feel.

Designed to integrate with the surrounding forested areas and committed to providing excellent care to its patients, Proliance Highlands Medical Center combines state-of-the art technologies with compassionate and comprehensive care. The Highlands location, with its easy access off I-90 allows the entire Issaquah area to be served as well as parts of Redmond, Bellevue, Snoqualmie and North Bend.

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