

# First Look: CHOA opens new center on North Druid Hills campus

🔑 **SUBSCRIBER CONTENT:**

Jul 10, 2018, 2:14pm EDT

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Center for Advanced Pediatrics on Tuesday. The purpose of the project was to bring multiple clinics, programs, and specialists into one facility.

The first floor of the new, centralized center for outpatient care will open to the public on July 24. The rest of the floors will open on a rolling basis from August to October. The facility is not a hospital and will not offer walk-in services, but will house over 20 pediatric specialties and clinics — from gastroenterology to pulmonology.



JOANN VITELLI | ATLANTA BUSINESS CHRONICLE

The 260,000-square-foot, \$127 million building has eight floors, 255 rooms for patient care, and includes a teaching kitchen and 1,117 parking spaces. [Donna Hyland](#), president and CEO of CHOA, said they expect 100,000 clinic visits at the new building in its first year of use.

The building uses 66 percent less energy than the average medical office building and is seeking LEED Gold certification, [Tommy Holder](#), a member of the Facilities Operating Committee for CHOA, said.

The building is at the site of the former Bellsouth Tower, which was demolished in 2014. [Ron Frieson](#), president of the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Foundation, said the new CHOA facility came full-circle for him, as he used to work in the Bellsouth Tower.

[Lorenzo Zambino](#), a 6-year-old who got a kidney transplant from his mom at CHOA, helped cut the ribbon.

[Shaleah Zambino](#), Lorenzo's mom, said she feels good knowing all the specialists he sees will be together in one place so they can coordinate care, which she said can get complicated. In the past, she said, days for appointments could get long, starting with just finding parking, and often meant taking off from work and school. She hopes the new building will ease that and is also appreciative of the 1.4-acre garden next to the center.

"The environmental part is therapeutic too," she said. "You don't want a drab environment."

The Center for Advanced Pediatrics was first announced in 2015. In June of this year, CHOA filed a certificate of need, seeking state approval for the \$1.5 billion hospital that will also be located on the North Druid Hills campus.

