



CITY OF KENNER

PRESS RELEASE

MICHAEL S. YENNI
MAYOR

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CVS Caremark Chooses Kenner Store for Minute Clinic Location

Kenner, LA. - Officials with CVS Caremark on Wednesday opened a Minute Clinic at the company's West Esplanade Avenue location – the first of its kind in Kenner and currently the only Minute Clinic in Jefferson Parish.

Minute Clinics are designed to provide an additional healthcare option for people who may not have the access they want to their own physicians, according to Donna Learned, State Practice Manager in Louisiana for CVS Caremark.

The company's first Minute Clinic was opened in 2005, after officials saw the beginnings of a gap in available healthcare for many people in the country, Learned said.

"That gap has only widened as more and more people find themselves without a primary care physician or with one but because practices are so full, it's very difficult to get (help) in a timely way," she said.

Retail healthcare is a fairly new phenomenon and one that CVS has embraced. The company has more than 700 clinics in the country in 28 different states. Louisiana became the 27th state for CVS when clinics were opened in Mandeville, Slidell, Baton Rouge and Thibodaux earlier this month, Learned said.

The Kenner clinic, at 823 W. Esplanade Avenue, was one of three that opened on Wednesday, including stores in Uptown New Orleans and Prairieville. Another is set to open soon in Metairie.

"We really like to have our clinics be a part of a thriving and vibrant community," Learned said. "And certainly Kenner fits that bill. We are very excited about that store. We feel we bring an important service to that community."

Minute Clinics can handle colds and flus, but people can go for some chronic disease management, as well as physicals for camps and school sports and even the physicals required from the Department of Transportation for commercial drivers. The clinics accept about 85 percent of all major insurance plans in the state, and it's possible to find out if your plan is compatible within a matter of moments.

Kenner Mayor Michael Yenni and council members Keith Reynaud and Maria DeFrancesch were present at the ribbon-cutting.

"This is a fabulous service now being provided in Kenner, particularly for people who are unable to get an appointment with their doctor as quickly as they would like," Yenni said. "It's an honor that CVS recognized the vitality of our city in making Kenner one of its first southshore locations in the metropolitan area, and we are lucky to have such a fine corporate citizen."

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1801 WILLIAMS BOULEVARD • CITY HALL • BUILDING B, SUITE 200 • KENNER, LOUISIANA 70062
OFFICE 504-468-7206 • FACSIMILE 504-468-7205 • MYENNI@KENNER.LA.US