

SIMONE

VISIONARY DEVELOPMENT

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For Immediate Release

Simone Development Signs Retailer GNC, Law Firm and Counseling Center to Leases at the Metro Center Atrium in the Bronx

Affinity Health Plan Lease at Nearby 1250 Waters Place Brings Total to Nearly 20,000 SF of New and Expanded Leases Signed at the Borough's Premier Office Destination



(BRONX, NY – January 10, 2017) – [Simone Development Companies](#) announces the signing of four new and expansion leases totaling nearly 20,000 square feet of office and medical space at the Metro Center Atrium at 1776 Eastchester Road and 1250 Waters Place at their flagship Hutchinson Metro Center in the Bronx.

GNC, one of the nation's leading nutritional supplement retailers, has signed a long-term lease for 1,100 square feet on the ground floor of the Atrium at 1776 Eastchester Road within the Hutch Metro Center. GNC joins other retail tenants such as LA Fitness, Applebee's, Dunkin Donuts and Tatiana Day Spa at the 360,000-square-foot mixed-use building featuring three floors of Class A office and medical space. The complex is also home to the borough's only nationally flagged hotel, the Marriott Residence Inn. Only one prime retail space of 850 square-feet remains at the nearly fully occupied property.

In another new lease, Gateway Counseling Center, Inc. (GCC), a 25-year old non-profit providing services to individuals, including those with mental illness and developmental disabilities, has signed a 4,600+ square-foot lease to move their executive offices to the Bronx in an expansion move.

"GCC is particularly excited about this move because it will provide growth and exposure to the agency," said Gateway CEO Fred Romero, MBA, LCSW. "With the clinical programs expanding and the innovative workforce coming up with new projects and ideas for programs for people with developmental disabilities or mental illness in our care GCC's Executive Team and Board of Directors felt it was necessary to move to allow for expansion."

The Law Offices of Joseph A. Romano P.C. has also signed a long-term lease expansion at the Metro Center, more than doubling its space to nearly 10,000 square feet.

At the nearby 1250 Waters Place on the Hutch Metro Campus, Affinity Health Plan has signed a new long-term lease for 2,000 square-feet long term lease for their new retail information center. For almost 30 years, Affinity Health Plan has been offering New York State-sponsored free or low-cost health coverage to New Yorkers who have Medicaid or no health insurance at all. They are a long-term tenant at the Hutch Metro Center, and one of the largest tenants in the portfolio.

Josh Gopan, Director of Leasing for Hutch Metro Center, represented the owner, Simone Development, in all transactions

Simone Development's Hutchinson Metro Center is one of the most successful commercial projects in the history of the Bronx, totaling over 1.4 million square feet of office, medical and retail space that is nearly completely occupied by some of the leading medical, educational and government tenants in New York City, including Montefiore Hospital, Affinity Health Systems, Mercy College, the NYC Housing Authority, the IRS and the NYC Administration of Children's Services among dozens of tenants employing over 6,000 individuals.

"The Metro Center Atrium, the latest addition to the growing Hutch Metro Campus, has been extremely attractive to retail, medical and office tenants since opening just two years ago," said Mr. Gopan. "The property already offers convenient access to Manhattan, Queens, Long Island and Westchester, and with the planned addition of a MetroNorth station directly adjacent to the Metro Center Atrium, the Hutch Metro Center offers the convenience and opportunity for expansion of a suburban office park setting in the heart of New York City."

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[About Simone Development Companies](#)

Simone Development Companies is a full-service real estate investment company specializing in the acquisition and development of office, retail, industrial and residential properties in the New York tri-state area. Headquartered in the Bronx, the privately held company owns and manages more than 5 million square feet of property in the Bronx, Westchester County, Queens, Long Island and Connecticut. The company's portfolio includes more than 100 properties and ranges from multi-building office parks to retail and industrial space.