

Celebration Pediatrics Celebrates 7 Years!

By Jill White

In 2010 when Joseph Marcantel was just one year old he was suffering from sleep apnea and was struggling to gain weight. Dr. Marcantel and his wife Kelly were taking him weekly to pediatric appointments and commuting thirty to forty-five minutes since there were no pediatricians locally. At the time Dr. Marcantel owned Celebration Obstetrics & Gynecology, a busy women's private practice in Celebration. The practice delivered between 50-75 babies monthly and the physicians were referring all their expectant parents to various pediatric practices in Orlando and the surrounding areas. During this period is when the idea struck that Celebration needed its own pediatrician. Celebration needed a practice dedicated to children ONLY.

In 2011, Dr. Marcantel and Kelly decided because there was a clear need for a pediatrics only practice, that they would open one. What an exciting and difficult venture they set out on. Opening and operating a private practice is very tough, especially with so much hospital competition. The hospitals have unlimited marketing budgets as well as extensive networks for negotiating contracts and of course they have economies of scale that make expenses much lower.

It was a daunting task however, the doors opened, and the parents came! This April will mark 7 years since the doors opened on Celebration Pediatrics. Some of the things that helped the practice succeed were finding great staff and physicians. They were fortunate early on to find many wonderful pediatricians, one of them being Dr. Melanie Schlauder who moved here with her husband Dr. Scott Schlauder, a dermatologist and pathologist. The Schlauders also recognized the importance of a pediatric only private practice with board certified pediatricians. At the time they had 3 small children and they both worked hard to help the practice get off the ground. Back then the practice was a one physician practice operating out of 1500 square feet with 5 exam rooms. Today, the practice has added two more board certified pediatricians, Dr. Diego Heraud and Dr. Camino Reeves. Additionally, a wonderful, energetic and compassionate ARNP, Jessica Burr and grown to 12 exam rooms and 5,000 square feet!

Celebration Pediatrics moved to its current location two years ago and tripled their space to accommodate the growing market and increased need for pediatricians.



With the move to the new building came a greater location with easy parking and a locally owned pharmacy, Turner Drugs located in the lobby.

Dr. Marcantel & Kelly know that Celebration residents and members of the surrounding communities have a choice where they go for medical care. Their hope is that consumers appreciate small business, private practice and the family feel of these two local businesses. Most of the choices in healthcare now are owned by hospitals or physician groups and when a conglomerate owns a local business it no longer feels local.

One of the many benefits to operating a small business is being able to support the community. Celebration Pediatrics gives most of its profits back to the community by supporting the Celebration K8 School, Celebration High School, Celebration

Foundation, many area private schools and athletic programs as well as art and music programs. They participate in clothing, food and diaper drives and provide care to many in need.

The owners of Celebration Pediatrics hope you will consider the practice for your children's needs age newborn to 21! The office is located at 1530 Celebration Blvd on the 3rd floor in Suite 301. The phone number is 407-566-9700.



Celebration Pediatrics



www.CelebrationPediatrics.com