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HEALTH CARE

Latham & Watkins opens Johns Hopkins Medicine-run clinic in D.C. office

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Latham & Watkins LLP, a global law firm with a significant D.C. presence, has teamed up with Johns Hopkins Medicine to open a health clinic for its employees – inside of its downtown D.C. office building.

The LiveWell Center, which opened at the end of October at 555 11th St. NW, offers a range of acute and preventative care services, plus mental health and physical therapy. All services are available to the firm's nearly 800 employees at no charge, said Mandy Reeves, managing partner of Latham & Watkins' D.C. office.

Johns Hopkins Medicine is managing the center and providing four clinical staff: a physician assistant, nurse practitioner, physical therapist and mental well-being coach. Hopkins did not return requests for comment.

The firm decided to bring medical services onsite to make it easier for employees to take care of their health, Reeves said. It's also a benefit that could help attract and retain staff, thanks to the convenience and quality of care, she said.

And Latham has already proven the concept: The D.C. clinic is the firm's third to open in a handful of years, after it stood up similar centers in its Los Angeles and New York offices, said Elizabeth Arnold, director of well-being and benefits at Latham & Watkins. Those are also run by Johns Hopkins. Latham says it's the first law firm in the country to establish such a clinic with the Baltimore-based health system.

"The positive outcomes and high engagement levels made it a natural step," Arnold said, noting the D.C. office is Latham's third-largest hub by headcount and one of the biggest in Greater Washington. Its first two locations have "received tremendous positive feedback and testi-



monials," she said, adding that "this resource removes barriers to care – and makes it easy for our lawyers and business professionals to focus on their health proactively."

The firm's leadership hopes the D.C. site sees "high utilization rates, enthusiastic user feedback, and long-term positive health outcomes for our people," Reeves said.

The D.C. clinic offers acute care and sick visits, screenings, immunizations, chronic disease management and physical therapy. It also provides mental health coaching, from advice through life transitions and challenges, self-care plan building, guidance around obstacles and even informal chats, according to the firm. It's an in-person complement to LiveWell Latham, the firm's existing well-being and benefits platform that gives employees tools to support their physical and mental health.

The health center is open to the nearly 500 lawyers and 300 professionals working out of the firm's D.C. office, as well as summer associates, temporary employees and those visiting on firm business, Reeves said. It does not provide care to dependents or other nonfirm personnel.

The clinic's services are free to use and do not require that employees enroll in Latham's medical plan, according to Arnold. The firm is footing the bill for the services, except in cases that require bloodwork to be sent offsite, for which the lab would bill the patient's insurance. Latham declined to disclose the terms of the deal with Hopkins, projected costs associated with sustaining the clinic or its investment in the project.

The clinic comprises 1,000 square feet in an area on the building's eighth floor previously used for storage. Latham occupies eight and a half floors of the building's total 13.