

MRI center offers latest in technological advances

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Joshua Katke, owner of M1 Imaging Center in Berkley, touts the fact his facility has the state's only license for a weight-bearing imaging device.
(Photo: Submitted)

BERKLEY – Joshua Katke has always "had this entrepreneurial itch" since graduating from graduate school at the University of Michigan and working in strategy and business development for Trinity Health.

He just needed to find the right venture to scratch it, and looks to have found it with the creation of M1 Imaging Center in Berkley.

Katke, a health care administrator from Bloomfield Hills, along with Dr. Chintan Desai, a musculoskeletal neuroradiologist, opened M1 Imaging Center in April with the state's only license for a weight-bearing imaging device developed by NASA and used to treat chronic back, neck, leg and knee pain.

"Our goal was to open a facility and be able to go into doctor's offices and say we are not just another MRI center," Katke said. "We are better and different, and while initially we were met with skepticism, many doctors recognized the value of it."

The device, called the DynaWell L-Spine, allows patients to stand and bear weight during an MRI, thus providing a better reading, according to Katke.

"Historically patients with lower back pain are given an MRI laying on a table, but in our eyes you are only getting half of the picture," he said. "Obviously you feel the pain when standing our sitting ... and we were missing the diagnosis, which has a huge impact on outcomes for patients."

Katke said they would have had the center opened sooner but they were "dead set" on having frontage on Woodward and being between I-696 and 13 Mile Road.

The business is located inside the former Henderson Glass, a 75-year-old, 3,000-square-foot facility at 27501 Woodward Avenue.

"There is no one with this technology so we wanted to be in the best location possible from an access perspective," Katke said.