Enhancing Linkages to HIV Primary Care in Jail Settings: Grantees Announced

Kevin Ramos and Anne Spaulding, MD, MPH, CCHP, FSCP

Since October 2005, we have been building a research program in correctional health at the Emory University Rollins School of Public Health, with a focus on the conduct of ethically responsible and scientifically rigorous health research in prisons, jails and post-incarceration settings. The ultimate goal of these efforts is to improve the health of those passing through correctional facilities.

Because of the heavy burden of HIV infection in the incarcerated population, the Health Resources Service Administration (HRSA) of the US Department of Health and Human Services initiated a five-year, ten site initiative to implement and evaluate enhanced linkages to HIV primary care in jail settings. In September 2006, the agency selected Dr. Anne Spaulding to serve as the Principal Investigator of an Evaluation and Support Center (ESC) for this initiative. Dr. Kimberly Jacob Arriola (Department of Behavioral Science and Health Education at Rollins School of Public Health) is the project's Co-Investigator and Mr. Kevin Ramos serves as its Project Coordinator. Experts in jail health at Abt Associates, Cambridge, Massachusetts, also collabo-

rate on this initiative. HRSA announced in August 2007, the following jails across the US were selected via a competitive process to serve as demonstration sites.

Each jail site will receive funding of up to \$400,000 a year for each of the next four years. Information on the goals of the demonstration project and plans for evaluation were published in the April 2007 issue of the *Journal of Correctional Health Care* and simultaneously made available at:

http://www.chip.emory.edu/documents/ConsultancyReport_update012907.pdf.

| City, State | Jail | Grantee | Investigator |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Providence, RI | RI DOC | Brown Univ./Miriam Hospital | Timothy Flanigan MD |
| Hartford, CT | CT DOC | Yale University | Frederic Altice MD |
| Atlanta, GA | Dekalb Co Jail | AID Atlanta | Jean Porter |
| Chicago, IL | Cook Co Jail | University of Illinois, Chicago | Lawrence Ouillet PhD |
| Springfield, MA | Hampden Co | Baystate Medical Center | Thomas Lincoln MD |
| Columbia, SC | Glenn Co Jail | USC Research Foundation | Divya Ahuja MD |
| Philadelphia., PA | Philadelphia Prison System | Philadelphia FIGHT | Jane Schull |
| Chester, PA | Chester Co Jail | AIDS Care Group | Howell Ira Strauss DMD |
| NYC, NY | Rikers Island Jails | NYC Dept. of Health and MH | Alison O. Jordan |
| Cleveland, OH | Cuyahoga Co | Care Alliance Health Center | Linda Somers |