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New York State STD/HIV Prevention Training Center

The Professional Development Program (PDP) of Rockefeller College has been awarded a contract to aid in the development of a nationwide training program aimed at enhancing key job skills among those working to curb the spread of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and HIV/AIDS. Funded by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the project brings together four regional STD/HIV Prevention Training Centers (New York, Texas, California and Mid-America PTCs) to produce an updated national curriculum that will provide health workers with both classroom and online instruction related to Partner Services. Partner services is a public health intervention offered to persons with STDs/HIV and their partners. A key function is partner notification, a process through which infected persons are interviewed to elicit information about their partners, who are then confidentially notified of their possible exposure or potential risk (with prevention counseling, testing/screening and referral also included). The curriculum will include modules for both partner services specialists and for other providers (such as clinicians). Based on its past performance and innovation in creating online training for public health audiences, PDP was chosen to develop the online components of the training, which is expected to pilot in late fall, 2010.