Urban Health Study II

Investigator: Alex H. Kral

Project Partners: Tazima Jenkins

Conducted by RTI International's Urban Health Program (formerly the Urban Health Study), which worked in Oakland from 1992-2006 providing community-based HIV testing and counseling to drug using populations, the Urban Health Study II focuses on HIV testing and treatment for people who use drugs in Oakland. As part of this project, RTI International will provide confidential rapid HIV testing and counseling at community field sites, to about 2500 people over 2 years. Since field work began in August of 2011 over 1700 eligible participants in West and East Oakland. The next field site will be in Fruitvale.

The study is especially interested in connecting with people involved in the criminal justice system and seeks to explore whether HIV testing can be delivered effectively to people on probation or parole when offered outside of prison or jail. Another purpose of the study is to learn more about the best ways to keep HIV care consistent when people on probation or parole are caught in the "revolving door" between community and correctional settings. The information extracted from the study will help those that are at risk for contracting HIV know their HIV status and connect to primary care and treatment, in addition connecting and/or reconnecting those who are already HIV+ to care.