

# The Rockefeller University Hospital

## Community Service Plan

### *Implementation Report Calendar Year 2006*

#### **Introduction**

The Rockefeller University Hospital was the first medical institution in this country devoted solely to clinical research. Its mission, to serve as a clinical site for the conduct of medical research and to provide a place to educate young physicians in the laboratory sciences relevant to clinical investigation, remains essentially unchanged since its founding in 1910. All patients are voluntary research subjects who are not charged for their participation or care. These volunteer subjects are recruited both nationally and locally with a commitment to ensuring representation of women, children and ethnic and racial minorities.

#### **Mission Statement**

To promote health and enhance the quality of life by conducting clinical research and providing quality patient care in an environment where science, medical practice and learning blend to advance medical scholarship and alleviate human suffering.

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#### **Community Role and Public Benefit**

##### *Science Education in the Public Schools*

Rockefeller University Hospital has made collaboration with local Science Education Partnership Awardees (SEPA) a particularly high priority since this NCCR-supported program is of high quality and has a high impact on the community.

In 2006, as part of the SEPA program, The Rockefeller Hospital leadership continued to collaborate with Columbia University's Teachers College in the "Choice, Control & Change (C3) Program" led by Isobel R. Contento, PhD, Mary Swartz Rose Professor of Nutrition and Education at Columbia University Teachers College. As part of that program, in 2006, Hospital staff participated in presentations at 4 New York City Middle Schools starting in February with an assembly at the Kappa IV School on Edgecombe Avenue in

Harlem. Based on the extremely favorable responses from the students and the principal, Dr. Barry Collier, Rockefeller Hospital's Physician-in-Chief, was asked to lead several additional panels later in the year at other schools. Subsequently 3 other programs were held: at IS 238 in June, IS 322 in November, and IS 195 in 2006.

##### *Bionutrition Research Student Interns*

The Bionutrition Research Department provides a learning environment for students, interns, and volunteers. In 2006, the Bionutrition Department hosted 3 bionutrition interns: 2 students in the undergraduate Nutrition program at New York University and a student in the Doctoral Program in Clinical Nutrition at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Because of its unique focus this department also hosts visitors for tours and discussions. This year the department hosted 3 groups of 14 interns each from The New York Presbyterian Hospital Dietetic

Internship Program for a full day of meetings with the department members.

### **Community Engagement with Industry**

#### ***Bridges to Better Medicine***

The Rockefeller University sponsors the Bridges to Better Medicine Program which brings leaders in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industry, as well as leaders in the biotechnology investment community, to Rockefeller approximately 3-4 times per year to learn about new cutting edge research at Rockefeller and to share information about the state of the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries. In 2006 the program was hosted by Dr. Barry Collier, Physician-in-Chief of the Hospital. Dr. Collier, who previously was a Co-Director of the State University of New York at Stony Brook Biotechnology Center and a Director of the Long Island High Technology Incubator Facility, participated in a plenary session at the 2006 New York Biotechnology Association meeting in April 2006.

### **Community Engagement as Part of Patient and Physician Education**

#### ***Psoriasis Patient Support Group***

The psoriasis support group at Rockefeller University has been in existence for approximately 10 years. It is known as The Psore Skin Psoriasis Support Group and is registered and supported by The National Psoriasis Foundation (NPF). Patricia Gilleaudeau, FNP, the nurse practitioner coordinator of the psoriasis research studies at Rockefeller University continued to supervise the group in 2006. The meetings are led by a psoriasis patient. The forum is generally a discussion with a speaker or presenter. In accord with

the recommendations of the National Psoriasis Foundation, the purpose of this group is to provide a mechanism for patients to become knowledgeable about their disease and talk with others who share this disorder. To quote a patient, "Being connected to other people who have psoriasis is very important. Only other people with psoriasis know what it is like to have such a visible disease." The group meets at Rockefeller University the last Tuesday of every month from 7pm to 9pm.

#### ***Outreach at the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center***

The Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center (ADARC) remained an academic affiliate of The Rockefeller University in 2006. This center performs pioneering translational research in both elucidating the viral dynamics of HIV-1 infection and developing the highly active anti-retroviral therapy (HAART) and other novel drug and biological therapies for HIV/AIDS. Effective participant recruitment and sensitive community outreach efforts have been vital to the success of this work. From the beginning of the HIV epidemic they have developed respectful partnerships with the affected communities in New York City.

In 2006, ADARC continued its outreach and recruitment efforts in affected communities. All recruitment and outreach efforts are conducted with input from the community advisory board (CAB), which is composed of seven members of affected communities and meets monthly.

ADARC's programs also reach out to physicians who treat individuals with HIV/AIDS. With the changing nature of the epidemic, particular efforts to recruit

HIV-1 positive women and persons of color have been initiated. These efforts include outreach to Downstate Medical Center (Brooklyn) and Harlem Hospital Women's clinic. In addition, significant outreach is conducted at the grassroots level.

### **Service to the University Community**

As a part of the University the Hospital provides service as befitting its medical expertise and facilities in the following ways:

- ◆ Participation in University wide committees
- ◆ Provision of emergency medical response to the entire campus, including the children's center, employees, and visitors
- ◆ Provision of medical facilities for the conduct of campus community health screenings by the University's Occupational Health Department;
- ◆ Participation in the development of the University-wide disaster plan;
- ◆ Teaching on health matters or emergency procedures to other University departments;
- ◆ Service as a resource for calls to the University regarding access to care or access to clinical research, whether available at Rockefeller or outside of the institution.

Campus community support activities in 2006 included:

#### ***Participation on University Committees***

The Chief Executive Officer/Hospitalist joined the University Safety Committee. The Hospital's Director of Regulatory Affairs continued her active participation on that committee. The past CEO and Professor Emeritus is a member of the

University's Pandemic Influenza Preparedness subcommittee, a committee which also receives input from the Hospital Medical Staff Infection Control Committee.

The Chief Executive Officer/Hospitalist and the Medical Director continued to serve as the core members of the Isotope Human Use Subcommittee.

Members of the Senior Staff of the Hospital continued their service on the University's Institutional Review Board. Those members included the Chief Executive Officer/Hospitalist, the Medical Director, the Director of Nursing and Patient Care Services, the Center Administrator and the Research Pharmacist.

#### ***Support for Occupational Health Services***

The University's Occupational Health Department (OHS), while administratively separate from the Hospital, receives considerable support from the Hospital.

In 2006, the Hospital continued to provide support in the following ways:

- ◆ Provided full staffing of the campus emergency response, a response which provides trained first responders to the scene of any medical emergency on campus consisting of a member of the Hospital nursing staff, a licensed physician, and emergency equipment including oxygen and an AED. In 2006 this team responded to such an event more than once a month.
- ◆ Made the Hospital facilities available for University-wide screenings for prostate and skin cancer that were conducted throughout the year.

- ◆ Provided coverage for employee illnesses and injuries when the OHS staff was not available to provide its usual care.

#### ***Educational Outreach to the University***

In 2006, the Hospital's Director of Bionutrition provided several educational events on Nutrition for Children to the teachers at the Rockefeller University Children and Family Center.

#### ***Resource for callers to the University***

In 2006, the Hospital's Social Worker continued to field calls forwarded by the main University operator from individuals contacting the University for assistance on issues of access to medical care, access to local research or finding suitable research relevant to their condition. The needs of these callers range from a simple phone number to an extensive assessment of their needs that directs them to the right place. The Hospital's Social Worker is familiar with many sources of care and so can provide guidance to resources outside of the Rockefeller University.

#### **Service to the Scientific Community**

##### ***Clinical Seminar Series***

In 2006 the Hospital continued to sponsor a weekly seminar series throughout the academic year hosting world-renowned experts in clinical translational research. These seminars are open to the University community and to staff and scientists of the surrounding institutions.

##### ***Clinical Research Nurses Day***

In May 2006, Rockefeller University Hospital hosted "*Clinical Research Nurses Day*" inviting participants from the community. About 80 research

nurses from the metropolitan region attended the event that included presentations from leaders in Clinical Research Nursing at the University of Texas and the Massachusetts General Hospital. They spoke on the emerging role of the Clinical Research Nurse and the integration of the nurse practitioner into clinical research. Rockefeller's Director of Nursing is spearheading the effort to create a local association for Clinical Research Nurses to promote collaboration and develop best practice standards.

#### **Organizational Framework**

The Rockefeller University Hospital is a free standing clinical facility that is licensed by the New York State Department of Health, and fully accredited by the Joint Commission. The Hospital is owned by the University and is not a separate corporate entity although it functions as a distinct administrative unit of the University. The University fully supports the following Hospital departments: Bionutrition, Hospital Information Services (Medical Records), Nursing and Patient Care Services, Pharmacy, Social Work, Radiology, Regulatory Affairs, Medical Staff Services, and Art & Recreation. Additional support for the departments of Information Technology, Biostatistics and Patient Care Resources is provided by a cooperative agreement with the National Institutes of Health. All investigators at Rockefeller University Hospital and those from other institutions who conduct studies here must have Hospital appointments or be actively collaborating with a full-time Hospital appointee. Ultimate responsibility for patient care is always in the hands of a full-time Hospital staff member, who is accountable to the

Medical Director and Chief Executive Officer.

## Financial Statement

### *Corporate Structure*

The Rockefeller University Hospital operates under the charter of The Rockefeller University and is not incorporated as a separate legal entity. The Hospital is a division of the University, which is classified by the Internal Revenue Service as exempt from Federal income taxes under provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The absolute charter of The Rockefeller University, located in the city, county and state of New York, which was incorporated pursuant to the Membership Corporations Law under the corporate name "The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research" on or about June 13, 1901; which certificate of incorporation constituting the corporation's original charter was amended by Special Act of the Legislature pursuant to Chapter 227 of the Laws of 1908 on May 6, 1908 to restate the charter in its entirety; and by action of the Board of Regents on June 27, 1958 to change the corporate name to "The Rockefeller Institute"; and on May 27, 1965 to restate the charter in its entirety, changing the corporate name to "The Rockefeller University".

### *Charity Care*

The Hospital conducts research funded primarily through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), National Center for Research Resources division of the National Institutes of Health. Approximately 50% of the Hospital's operations are funded by this agreement. The balance of the

operating costs is funded primarily by a subsidy grant from The Rockefeller University. All patients are voluntary research subjects who are not charged for their participation in clinical research studies at the Rockefeller University Hospital.

In the process of performing patient-oriented research, the need for medically indicated and thus potentially reimbursable care could arise. In 2006 the Hospital did not bill any patient's insurance company for such service, nor did the Hospital attempt to collect charges from any patient. No amounts were billed or written off for uninsured patients in 2006.