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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER OF FRANKLIN COUNTY IS AWARDED HIV GRANT**

**GREENFIELD, MA-** The Community Health Center of Franklin County (CHCFC) has been awarded the 2012/ 2013 HIV Education and Training Grant. The health center will be trained by the Aids and Education Training Center in Washington DC to develop HIV services at our two medical sites located in Greenfield and Orange, MA. The training will include educating providers, nurses and medical assistants in developing the knowledge and skills necessary to provide HIV services. This training will also assist the health center in developing outreach education to the community on HIV, and become a home to this population.

Currently there is no infectious disease management in Franklin County that treats HIV, thus having to refer patients out to Hampshire and Hampden County, as well as Brattleboro VT. CHCFC will now be designated an HIV access health care facility.

The grant was co-written by Development Director Amanda Majewski and Physician Assistant Ron Kelter who will lead the project. CHCFC has formed a project team consisting of CEO- Kerri Bohonowicz, Medical Director- Flora Sadri and Director of Nursing- Pat Pierson. Training begins April 18<sup>th</sup>, and will last two years.