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**NEW COLLABORATION AIMS TO EXPAND USE OF COMMUNITY-BASED CORRECTIONAL CARE
APPROACH NATIONWIDE**

Private Company To Foster Connectivity Between Local Jails and Community Health Providers

Oakland, CA – Community Oriented Correctional Health Services (COCHS) today announced that it has entered into a collaborative agreement with Correctional Healthcare Companies (CHC) to help spread the COCHS community-based correctional care approach to jurisdictions across the country. The COCHS Board of Directors approved the agreement on June 4.

Under the agreement, CHC will work with various jurisdictions, helping them to understand, design, and build community connectivity into local correctional care. Paul Sheehan, currently chief operating officer of COCHS, will leave COCHS on June 15 to join CHC as its director of community health operations.

“Working with CHC, we will continue changing the way health care is provided to the 9 million people who cycle through our nation’s jails each year,” Keith Barton, M.D., medical director for COCHS, said. “We are excited that a private, for-profit company is making this kind of commitment to spreading community-based correctional care.” He added that COCHS continues to explore a variety of other ways to disseminate its approach for connecting health care in jails with health care in communities.

COCHS is a non-profit organization funded in part by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to foster partnerships between local jails and community health centers. COCHS’ goal is to establish medical homes for offenders in their communities where they can get regular, timely, and well-organized care, including management of chronic conditions.

COCHS works with a diversity of local correctional systems addressing a range of issues, including health care of juveniles and opiate addiction treatment. The program started in an effort to replicate the success of the Hampden County (MA) Jail and House of Corrections, which contracts with neighborhood health centers to bring physicians and case managers from the community inside the jail. To date, that work has led to the creation of two highly successful collaborations in Washington, DC, and Marion County, FL.

CHC is a privately held correctional health care management network serving 145 correctional facilities in 20 states. Two divisions of CHC, Correctional Healthcare Management (CHM) and Health

Professionals, Ltd (HPL), provide health care and behavioral health services for correctional facilities of all sizes.

The COCHS approach to community-based correctional care includes four key components: screening, discharge planning, case management, and community connectivity using health care practitioners based both in the jail and in the community.

COCHS recognizes that no two jails are alike, and that the communities they serve all have different problems and needs, as well as different capacities to serve returning offenders. There is no uniform method to building a solid program of connectivity because connectivity comes in many forms. The idea is to help each jurisdiction address its own individual issue.

“By linking offenders – often for the first time – with a local provider they can continue to see after release, jails can improve public health while supporting offender re-entry into the community,” Barton said. “That’s a win-win for everyone.”

For more information on COCHS, please visit www.cochs.org. COCHS is also supported by the California Endowment and the Jacob and Valeria Langeloth Foundation.

For more information about CHC, please visit www.correctioncare.com.