



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Tom Schlueter (630) 444-3098

(630) 417-9729 cell

www.kanehealth.com

TB investigation uncovers three more cases

The Kane County Health Department's investigation of tuberculosis cases has uncovered three more, bringing the total to five confirmed cases. The three new cases are epidemiologically linked to the two discovered in January, who were clients at Hesed House, a homeless shelter in Aurora. One of the three new cases had been incarcerated at the Kane County Jail last fall.

All patients are on appropriate therapy for TB. The Health Department, Kane County Corrections Medical staff, Hesed House staff and the Illinois Department of Public Health are working together closely to identify staff, inmates, volunteers and others who may have had close contact with the patients.

Transmission of TB disease requires close and prolonged contact in a closed environment. Casual contact with a TB patient is not likely to lead to the transmission of the disease.

Symptoms of TB include a prolonged cough (three or more weeks), bloody sputum, and fever, night sweats and/or weight loss. TB is a curable disease especially when discovered early.

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