

## Centerforce Staff

**Dr. Julie Lifshay, MPH PhD**, is the manager of Centerforce's health based programs since 2006 including the peer health education programs at San Quentin State Prison and the Central California Women's Facility. Through this work, Dr. Lifshay was the lead staff for the development of the expanded health education curriculum to include new Hepatitis C-specific health education materials for prison settings. Additionally, Dr. Lifshay has conducted numerous trainings on Health Behavior Theory and the Culture of Corrections for non-profits and other outside provider. Her work at Centerforce includes Co-Principal Investigator and Project Director of a randomized controlled trial comparing the effect of enhanced prevention case management versus the standard of care on HIV-related risk behavior, access to care, and adherence to treatment among HIV-positive prisoners released from two California facilities.

Dr. Lifshay has worked extensively in the public health field both within The United States and abroad. Her work has mainly focused on HIV and STD prevention intervention. For her Doctoral Dissertation she traveled to Uganda with the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), where she studied the HIV transmission risks of HIV-positive patients who attended the AIDS Support Organization (TASO), including the distribution of sexual risk behaviors, the factors associated with those risk behaviors, and the prevalence of, and effectiveness of current treatment practices for, STIs in this population. While working with Centerforce Dr. Lifshay has been involved in the impact and opportunities of public health within incarcerated settings.

Dr. Lifshay received her Doctoral Degree from the School of Public Health at University of California, Berkeley in 2000, and was awarded the Warren Winkelstein Award for Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation.

Prior to her work at Centerforce and her doctoral work, Dr. Lifshay was a project director and behavioral scientist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In this role, she coordinated the efforts of a 5-site randomized control trial (Project START) that has now been designated as a DEBI. As a project director, Dr. Lifshay had to coordinate the collaboration of all five principal investigators and other project members at each site, including decision making processes, study design methodology and conduction, and transmission, collection, and analysis and dissemination of information.