

ADAP Advocacy Association
aaa+

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ADAP Advocacy Association Announces Partnership with MyGov365; Nonpartisan platform empowers people living with HIV/AIDS with a free suite of tools to enhance communication and collaboration with the general public, peers and elected officials

ADAP Advocacy Association Inaugural HIV/AIDS Organization to Utilize MyGov365 Platform

For Immediate Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. (July 20, 2011) – The <u>ADAP Advocacy Association</u>, also known as <u>aaa</u>+, today announced an innovative partnership with MyGov365 designed to foster communication and collaboration between people living with HIV/AIDS with the general public, peers and elected officials. The partnership is the first in a series of steps <u>aaa</u>+ is taking to better engage ADAP constituencies and stakeholders to educate lawmakers at national, state and local levels on the importance of the AIDS Drug Assistance Program.

"We're excited to be the very first national HIV/AIDS organization to harness the power of the MyGov365 social media platform, which will serve as a vehicle to create a national online grassroots network of people living with HIV/AIDS interested in self-advocacy," said **Brandon M. Macsata**, CEO of the ADAP Advocacy Association. "The growing crisis facing the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs nationwide, and the inability of our national leaders inside the Beltway to remedy it, has created a vacuum whereby people living with HIV/AIDS need to better engage their elected officials."

To view the ada+ profile on MyGov365, go to http://www.mygov365.com/adapadvocacyassociation.

Macsata further stated, "At our recent 4th Annual Conference, we focused heavily on the importance of intensifying grassroots advocacy and shared valuable insight into becoming a better self-advocate. Our new partnership with MyGov365 is in keeping with that goal."

MyGov365 is comprised of a diverse mix of everyday citizens with one common passion: to use innovative technology to bridge the communications gaps between citizens, government, organizations and political professionals. MyGov365's platform intelligently matches users to their districts and elected officials, making it extremely easy for officials to share information and gather feedback. As updates occur such as introduced legislation, bill summaries, or discussions, constituents receive notifications about activity in their district and/or by their specific elected officials. This increases awareness and engagement, and can help lay the groundwork to build community support for various issues, which in turn makes it easier to get legislation considered. Individuals can create their own profile for free at http://www.mygov365.com!

MyGov365's platform is currently comprised (and growing) of legislation from the United States Congress, District of Columbia (DC) and 32 states – Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin.

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"We are excited to work with the ADAP Advocacy Association to help stakeholders supercharge their ongoing bi-partisan advocacy efforts using our civic engagement platform," said **Jay Resio**, President of MyGov365. "Our platform and its social media components will allow people living with HIV/AIDS to leverage their community grassroots network to be a more integral part of the decision making process in creating the laws that impact access to care at the federal, state and local levels."

According to Resio, using MyGov365's civic engagement platform, aaa+ will empower its new and existing members to stay informed and engaged about important issues, legislation and civic activities related to the organization's mission. Members can track legislation and receive updates, cast votes on legislative initiatives, collaborate in the ADAP Advocacy Association's network, and more. ADAP constituencies and stakeholders will benefit from MyGov365's ability to provide member feedback and insight to elected officials, civic leaders and other organizations to help expedite the legislative and civic decision-making process.

Said **Robert Breining**, aca+ board member and Founder of the <u>POZIAM.com</u> social network: "Earlier this year we witnessed entire government toppled by people using social media to effectively communicate and protest. It is time that the HIV/AIDS community mobilize and send a message to the President and Congress that it is time to 'End the Wait' for people waiting to access life-saving medications in the United States. The MyGov365 platform will better enable our community to bring about meaningful changes that will help end these ridiculous waiting lists."

As of July 14th, there were 8,689 individuals in 13 states on ADAP waiting lists, including Alabama with 88 individuals; Arkansas with 37 individuals; Florida with 3,558 individuals; Georgia with 1,669 individuals; Idaho with 23 individuals; Louisiana with 886 individuals; Montana with 29 individuals; North Carolina with 302 individuals; Ohio with 373 individuals; South Carolina with 858 individuals; Utah with 29 individuals; Virginia with 837 individuals; and Wyoming with 0 individuals.

To learn more about MyGov365, ADAP waiting lists, or the ADAP Advocacy Association, please contact Brandon M. Macsata by phone at (305) 519-4256 or email at info@adapadvocacyassociation.org.

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