



ADAP Advocacy Association

aaa+

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## **ADAP Advocacy Association Collaborates with Former U.S. Surgeon General to Better Engage Congress on AIDS Drug Assistance Programs Crisis; Dr. David Satcher sends letter to House & Senate Members**

*16<sup>th</sup> Surgeon General's letter highlights treatment as prevention*

For Immediate Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. (September 22, 2011) – The [ADAP Advocacy Association](http://www.adapadvocacyassociation.org), also known as **aaa+**, today announced that it is collaborating with **Dr. David Satcher**, former U.S. Surgeon General, sending Members of Congress a letter outlining the importance of the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs). Dr. Satcher, who served as the 16<sup>th</sup> Surgeon General of the United States has been a vocal critic of the ADAP waiting lists.

“Who better than a former surgeon general with Dr. Satcher’s credentials to lend a helping hand to the nearly nine thousand people living with HIV/AIDS on ADAP waiting lists in this country,” asked **Brandon M. Macsata**, CEO of the ADAP Advocacy Association. “Whether it was his moving Op-Ed earlier this year in the Atlanta-Journal Constitution, or his keynote address during our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in July of this year, Dr. Satcher has clearly demonstrated his leadership on the ADAP crisis. We’re honored to have the opportunity to collaborate with him on his congressional letter, which is now being circulated on the Hill.”

The Honorable David Satcher, M.D., Ph.D. was sworn in on February 13, 1998 as the 16<sup>th</sup> U.S. Surgeon General. He was known as the Surgeon General who listened to the American people and who responded with effective programs; he continues in his mission to make public health work for all groups in this nation.

The letter, in part, reads: “In addition to the sad fact that many people are going without treatment, and certainly early treatment of their disease, there is the other fact that people who are treated early actually are receiving the most cost-effective intervention. Hospitalizing a person who is in the late stages of AIDS can cost up to \$100,000 or more for one hospitalization. In addition to being cost-effective, early treatment of people living with the AIDS virus also prevents spreading of the disease.”

To read Dr. Satcher’s congressional letter, go to <http://www.adapadvocacyassociation.org/pressroom.html>.

**As of September 15th, there were 8,804 individuals in 10 states on ADAP waiting lists, including Florida with 4,175 individuals; Georgia with 1,709 individuals; Idaho with 35 individuals; Louisiana with 1,087 individuals; Montana with 28 individuals; North Carolina with 350 individuals; Ohio with 21 individuals; South Carolina with 367 individuals; Utah with 58 individuals; and Virginia with 974 individuals.**

To learn more about Dr. David Satcher’s congressional letter, 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](mailto:info@adapadvocacyassociation.org).

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