

ADAP Advocacy Association

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## ADAP Advocacy Association Welcomes End of the ADAP Waiting Lists

For Immediate Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. (November 25, 2013) – The **ADAP Advocacy Association**, also known as **aaa+**\*, today welcomed the news reported by the National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD) that for the first time since January 2008, there were no waiting lists under the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs).

"Over the last five years, literally thousands of people living with HIV/AIDS have been denied access to timely, appropriate care and treatment as a direct result of the ADAP waiting list crisis," said Brandon M. Macsata, CEO of the ADAP Advocacy Association. "The ADAP Advocacy Association applauds the diligent work that has been done by every single ADAP stakeholder to eliminate these dreaded waiting lists. We thank President Obama; we thank our bipartisan coalition of lawmakers in the U.S. Congress led by the Bipartisan Congressional HIV/AIDS Caucus; we thank the State ADAP Directors; we thank our pharmaceutical partners; we thank our national and statewide advocacy partners; but most of all, we thank the hundreds of patients living with HIV/AIDS who rely on the AIDS Drug Assistance Program who stood up and demanded that their collective voices be heard."

Macsata noted that whereas the ADAP waiting lists have come to an end now, they can just as easily return.

According to NASTAD, "The elimination of ADAP waiting lists was possible in part due to ADAPs' receiving FY2013 Emergency Relief Funds (ERF). FY2013 ERF consisted of a total of \$75 million distributed to states that demonstrated financial need as a result of waiting lists or other cost-containment measures. Despite sequestration cuts to ADAP formula funding awards in FY2013, ERF funds allowed ADAPs to maintain their provision of ARV medications to individuals in need. In addition, continued supplemental rebates and discounts and price freezes on medications negotiated between the ADAP Crisis Task Force and pharmaceutical companies allowed ADAPs to maintain stability in their expenditures."<sup>1</sup>

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

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors, "The ADAP Watch," November 25, 2013.