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On World AIDS Day, ADAP Advocacy Association Asks President-Elect Donald J. Trump: “Don’t Turn Your Back on AIDS”

New Administration Urged to Continue the Fight Against HIV/AIDS

WASHINGTON, D.C. (December 1, 2016) – The ADAP Advocacy Association, also known as **aaa+**[®], today on **World AIDS Day** urged President-Elect Donald J. Trump to continue the fight against HIV/AIDS. “**Don’t Turn Your Back on AIDS**” – an awareness campaign using art launched several years ago in Oakland, California by the Flowers Heritage Foundation – embodies the message being sent to the incoming 45th President of the United States.

“During the presidential campaign, then-candidate Donald J. Trump talked about the ‘*forgotten*’ Americans, and right now many people living with HIV/AIDS are fearful that they, too, could soon be among the forgotten ones,” said **Brandon M. Macsata**, CEO of the ADAP Advocacy Association. “World AIDS Day is a symbolic day, and we’re asking President-Elect Trump to preserve the public health safety net for people living with the disease, mandate an end to ‘adverse selection’ gimmicks by insurance companies, combat HIV-related stigma and discrimination, and end the archaic HIV-criminalization laws punishing people living with HIV/AIDS.”

According to the National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD), there are approximately 200,000 people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States enrolled under the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP).¹ Macsata argued that great progress was made in the fight against HIV/AIDS under the last two administrations for these patients and many others, but it could all be for naught unless the new administration continues the fight.

Macsata further stated: “The National AIDS Strategy is the blueprint for ending the epidemic in the United States, and the onus is on President-Elect Trump to ensure the strategy is implemented over the next four years.”

To learn more about the ADAP Advocacy Association or the AIDS Drug Assistance Program, please email info@adapadvocacyassociation.org.

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About the ADAP Advocacy Association: The ADAP Advocacy Association mission is to promote and enhance the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) and improves access to care for persons living with HIV/AIDS. **aaa+**[®] works with advocates, community, health care, government, patients, pharmaceutical companies and other stakeholders to raise awareness, offer patient educational program, and foster greater community collaboration.

¹ National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD), “2016 National ADAP Monitoring Project Annual Report,” January 2016, p. 16; available online at <https://www.nastad.org/sites/default/files/2016-National-ADAP-Monitoring-Project-Annual-Report.pdf>.