

ADAP Advocacy Association PO Box 15275 Washington, DC 20003

adapadvocacyassociation.org

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ADAP Advocacy Association Blasts Trump Administration's Plan to Divert Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Funding to Refugee Camps

Slate Reports HHS to Reallocate Nearly \$100 Million to the Office of Refugee Resettlement

For Immediate Release: July 11, 2018

Media Contact: Brandon M. Macsata (305) 519-4256

WASHINGTON, D.C. (July 11, 2018) – The ADAP Advocacy Association today cautioned against any attempt by the Trump Administration to divert funding from the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program to the ongoing efforts to separate children from their parents at the US-Mexican border. In a breaking news report, *Slate* revealed that the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services ("HHS") would reallocate \$79 million in funding from various HHS agencies and programs – including the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program – over to the department's Office of Refugee Resettlement.

"As if separating innocent children from their families at our southern border wasn't bad enough, using limited HIV/AIDS related resources to pay for it is quite shameful," argued **Brandon M. Macsata**, CEO of the ADAP Advocacy Association. "It is the latest in a long series of the ill-conceived policies coming out of this White House undermining the fight against HIV/AIDS in this country. Enough is enough!"

**Eddie Hamilton**, executive director of the Ohio-based ADAP Educational Initiative, echoed the concerns: "Even though the funds are technically unobligated, HHS is aware of the ongoing financial pressures put on the Ryan White program due to the constant erosion of the protections under the Affordable Care Act. As any prudent steward of taxpayer funds, it was saved for a rainy day fund, and the rainy days are now upon us."

The *Slate* article is available online at <a href="https://slate.com/news-and-politics/2018/07/trumps-office-of-refugee-resettlement-is-budgeting-for-a-surge-in-child-separations.html">https://slate.com/news-and-politics/2018/07/trumps-office-of-refugee-resettlement-is-budgeting-for-a-surge-in-child-separations.html</a>.

To learn more about the ADAP Advocacy Association or its concerns about the Trump Administration's plan to divert funding from the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program, please email <a href="mailto:info@adapadvocacyassociation.org">info@adapadvocacyassociation.org</a>.

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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.

ada+® 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.