

ADAP Advocacy Association PO Box 846 Nags Head, NC 27959

adapadvocacy.org

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"Vulnerable populations disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 and HIV/AIDS deserve leadership that embraces science, and not stigma"

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – The ADAP Advocacy Association today, on World AIDS Day, urged the incoming Biden-Harris Administration to return the federal government to proven, science-based public health strategies, and abandon the stigma-fueled politics of the last four years.

"World AIDS Day is traditionally a somber time to reflect on the nearly 700,000 souls lost to HIV/AIDS in the United States, but also an opportunity to recommit our fight against the epidemic," said Brandon M. Macsata, CEO of the ADAP Advocacy. "Our racial & ethnic minorities, our rural communities, our LGBTQ community, our religious minority community, our aging and long-term survivor community, our survivors of domestic violence and intimate partner violence, and our immigrant community deserve compassion, empathy, and a keen understanding that sound public health policies are rooted in science."

According to the World Health Organization, "HIV prevention, testing, treatment and care services are all being disrupted particularly in countries with fragile heath systems. The breakdown in essential HIV services due to COVID-19 is threatening lives. Any slowing down in provision of these services will leave many vulnerable populations at greater risk of HIV infection and AIDS-related deaths. Nevertheless, all over the world, health workers and community representatives are doing their utmost to keep services going, adopting innovative ways to overcome disruptions in services caused by COVID-19."

Additional information about World AIDS Day and this year's campaign assets are available online at https://www.worldaidsday.org/campaign/.

To learn more about the ADAP Advocacy Association, AIDS Drug Assistance Programs, or World AIDS Day, please email info@adapadvocacy.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.

ada+® works with advocates, community, health care, government, patients, pharmaceutical companies and other stakeholders to raise awareness, offer patient educational programs, and foster greater community collaboration.