

ADAP Advocacy Association PO Box 846 Nags Head, NC 27959

adapadvocacy.org

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On World AIDS Day, ADAP Advocacy Association Urges Equitable Access to Ending the HIV Epidemic

End inequalities. End AIDS. End Pandemics.

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – The ADAP Advocacy Association today offered its strong support for the Biden Administration's efforts toward "addressing health inequities and inequalities and ensuring that the voices of people with HIV are at the center of our work to end the HIV epidemic globally." To that end, it also embraced the World Health Organization's call to *End inequalities. End AIDS. End Pandemics.*

"The ongoing global fight against the Covid-19 pandemic is also foundational in the forty-year fight against HIV/AIDS," said Brandon M. Macsata, CEO of the ADAP Advocacy Association. "We're witnessing much of the same misinformation, fear, stigma associated with Covid-19, like what we've seen in our struggle to end AIDS. Yet, we've also seen the promise of modern medicine, emerging therapeutics, and the potential for vaccines."

Macsata's words echoed the White House's World AIDS Day Proclamation: "The COVID-19 pandemic has added to the challenges our heroic health care and frontline workers face, yet they continue to deliver essential HIV prevention services and provide vital care and treatment to people living with HIV. The pandemic has also interrupted HIV research and highlighted the work that still remains to achieve equitable access to HIV prevention, care, and treatment in every community — particularly for communities of color, adolescent girls and young women, and the LGBTQI+ community."

Over the last two years the ADAP Advocacy Association has invested significant resources into the intersection between Covid-19 and HIV/AIDS, especially since they disproportionately impact marginalized communities. The World AIDS Day 2021 theme, *Equitable Access, Everyone's Voice*, complements those efforts.

Learn more at https://www.hiv.gov/events/awareness-days/world-aids-day.

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

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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 programs, and foster greater community collaboration.