



ADAP Advocacy Association

aaa+

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ADAP Advocacy Association Names Two New Board Members; Community representation expands into Midwest and Great Plain States

For Immediate Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. (September 8, 2010) – The [ADAP Advocacy Association](http://www.adapadvocacyassociation.org), also known as **aaa+**[®], today announced that it has seated two new members to its Board of Directors, as well as returned five current members. The **aaa+**[®] Board of Directors voted unanimously to seat newcomers **Janine Brignola** of Omaha, Nebraska, and **Darryl Fore** of Cleveland, Ohio. The additions to the board expand the organization's representation by people living with HIV/AIDS into the Midwest and Great Plains States.

During its 2011 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, **aaa+**[®] also re-elected five of its board members, including: **William Arnold**, Executive Director of the Community Access National Network, **Robert Breining**, PLWHA and Founder & President of the POZIAM community, **Philip Haddad, MD**, Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine Department at the Louisiana State University School of Medicine, **Elizabeth Shepherd**, PLWHA and graduate student, and **Joey Wynn**, PLWHA and Public Policy Director at Broward House.

“The ADAP Advocacy Association is committed to maintaining a diverse, community-based board of directors, which is a goal we further achieved with the addition of both Janine and Darryl to our leadership,” said **Brandon M. Macsata**, CEO of the ADAP Advocacy Association. “Being two people personally effected by HIV/AIDS, they bring with them an extraordinary amount of personal and professional experience with the disease itself, but equally important the AIDS Drug Assistance Program.”

Macsata further stated, “Considering that Ohio has one of the largest ADAP waiting lists in the country, and Nebraska battled with its own waiting list last year, we felt that representation from these two states from the Midwest and Great Plain States was important to fulfilling our mission.”

Janine Brignola is a twenty nine year old woman, mother, college student, HIV activist and advocate, and she is herself positive. Janine has spent the last four plus years since she was diagnosed learning what she could about HIV disease, the stigma attached to HIV, and how HIV affects the lives of those living with HIV in America as well as abroad. After attending her first conference she decided to dedicate as much of her time and energy as possible to being a part of the solution. She has done advocacy campaigning both on the local, state level as well as the national level. Janine is an activist who speaks to educate, as well as by blogging both with written word and with video blogging, utilizing YouTube, she participated in anti-stigma campaign, by being in commercials and on billboards. She is currently majoring in biotechnology with the plan to obtain her PhD and do HIV/AIDS research; she currently is employed at Hope's Voice as both an agent for the company and a speaker. Janine enjoys spending as much time possible just being “mommy” to her four-year old son and she believes that it is her privilege and honor to be his mother and to be the activist she has become.

Darryl Fore is a native Clevelander, who resides in Cleveland, Ohio. Fore has been employed in the fields of Banking, Theatrical production, Sales, Information Technology, Education and Property Management. He has been actively involved in the HIV/AIDS arena for more than 20 years. After being diagnosed with HIV+ in 1991, his volunteer commitment to HIV/AIDS issues increased. He felt compelled to do more to help others affected by the disease because of the intensive HIV education he had acquire at the time of his diagnosis. His volunteer efforts have included: volunteering at his local AIDS taskforce, working as a HIV Pre-test Counselor, serving on the Ohio Department of Health's HIV/AIDS advisory board, participating on HIV Clinical Trials Unit advisory board, implementing various HIV/AIDS community outreach projects and serving as a member of Ryan White Part A Planning Council. Fore has a strong interest in all forms of the Arts, from visual arts to performance arts. He is a frequent volunteer in the Cleveland Theater and Film communities. He was once an avid reader of mystery novels until an opportunistic infection robbed him of that ability. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of The National Association of Black and White Men Together. He has a degree in Psychology from Cleveland State University.

aaa+® is governed by a dedicated, diverse volunteer board of directors. The organization now benefits from the combined experience of eight HIV-positive members, two ADAP recipient (plus three former ADAP recipients), one physician, one pharmacist, one religious leader, eight influential AIDS community activists and leaders, and three disability/diversity rights champions. The board of directors includes: **Michelle Anderson** of Dallas, Texas; **William E. Arnold** of Washington, DC 20009; **Robert Breining** of Levittown, Pennsylvania; **Elmer L. Cerano** of Lansing, Michigan; **Crosby Cromwell** of Bentonville, Arkansas (*Walmart corporate representative*); **Philip A. Haddad, MD** of Shreveport, Louisiana; **Arch-Bishop Joyce Turner Keller** of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; **Glen Pietrandoni** of Deerfield, Illinois (*Walgreens corporate representative*); **Elizabeth Shepherd** of Summerton, South Carolina; **Joey Wynn** of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; and **Brandon M. Macsata** (ex-officio) of Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

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

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