



ADAP Advocacy Association

aaa+

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ADAP Advocacy Association Commends President Obama for Emergency Funding to Increase Access to HIV/AIDS Care & Treatment; AIDS Drug Assistance Programs to receive \$35 million in re-programmed funding to help 8,000 people living with HIV/AIDS

For Immediate Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. (May 22, 2013) – The [ADAP Advocacy Association](http://www.adapadvocacyassociation.org), also known as **aaa+**[®], today commended the Obama Administration’s announcement that it is re-programming \$35 million to increase access to HIV/AIDS care and treatment under the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs). The emergency funding will restore the \$35 million that was lost in the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriates Act of 2013, which was signed into law on March 26, 2013. The move will ensure that nearly 8,000 people living with HIV/AIDS will not lose access to their life-saving medications and placed on ADAP waiting lists.

As of April 11, 2013, there remained 31 people living with HIV/AIDS languishing on ADAP waiting lists in three states, but that figure does not accurately reflect the hundred of patients remaining on “invisible” ADAP waiting lists.¹

“After Congress inadvertently dropped the ball and forgot to include the \$35 million in this year’s appropriation, there was a genuine concern that the ADAP waiting lists would balloon over the summer,” said **Brandon M. Macsata**, CEO of the ADAP Advocacy Association. “The ADAP Advocacy Association applauds President Obama for commitment to preserving a robust ADAP, and standing up for the thousands of low-income individuals who rely on ADAPs for their life-saving medications. Make no mistake about it; without this funding restored we would have had a public health crisis on our hands.”

aaa+[®] recently published a blog, “*ADAPs Under the Gun with Federal Funding Cuts*,” that called attention to the looming crisis facing the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs. The blog can be read online at <http://adapadvocacyassociation.blogspot.com/2013/05/under-gun-with-federal-funding-cuts.html>.

To learn more about the ADAP Advocacy Association or the President’s ADAP investment, please contact Brandon M. Macsata by phone at (305) 519-4256 or email at info@adapadvocacyassociation.org.

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¹ National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors, “The ADAP Watch,” April 11, 2013.