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ADAP Advocacy Association Releases Resources Promoting Access to Care Among Transgender Men & Women Living with HIV/AIDS

“Resources include Infographic and Policy White Paper”

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WASHINGTON, D.C. (April 6, 2017) – The ADAP Advocacy Association, also known as **aaa+**[®], today released two important resources – an infographic and policy white paper – as part of its ongoing project, “**Improving Access to Care Among Transgender Men & Women Living with HIV/AIDS under the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)**.” The project aims to raise awareness about issues confronting transgender men and women living with HIV/AIDS who also access care and treatment (or whom could benefit from such care and treatment) under ADAP, as well as other public health programs.

“As a patient advocacy organization concerned about the rights and responsibilities afforded to people living with HIV/AIDS, it is incumbent upon us to ensure that *all* patients are being adequately served by our public health system – regardless of their gender or gender identity,” said **Brandon M. Macsata**, CEO of the ADAP Advocacy Association. “Our ongoing transgender health project is designed to educate patients and providers, but also inform public policy leaders about the inherent dangers associated with discrimination within the public health system toward people who identify as transgender.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), transgender communities in the United States are among the groups at highest risk for HIV infection. There is no concrete data on the number of male-to-female and female-to-male transgender persons, nor gender-nonconforming persons living with HIV-infection accessing services under ADAP.

RAD Remedy served as a collaborative partner in the development of these latest resources. The project is funded, in part, by grants received from Gilead Sciences, Janssen Therapeutics, and ViiV Healthcare.

Summarized **Jen Laws**, an HIV and transgender health advocate: “As public awareness of the transgender community increases, there are more examples of the disparities faced by this community, including HIV prevalence, health-related disparities, and lack of safety for these clients in spaces meant to serve them. These tools empower providers and public policy leaders to achieve a *‘Positive Presence’* for transgender people living with HIV.”

The infographic and policy white paper are available online at www.adapadvocacyassociation.org.

To learn more about the ADAP Advocacy Association or its transgender health project, please email info@adapadvocacyassociation.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. **aaa+**[®] 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.

About RAD Remedy: RAD Remedy's mission is to connect trans, gender non-conforming, intersex, and queer folks to accurate, safe, respectful, and comprehensive care in order to improve individual and community health.