



ADAP Advocacy Association

aaa+

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ADAP Advocacy Association Announces 2010 Annual Conference as an AIDS Drug Assistance Program Crisis Summit

ADAPs in Crisis: Moving Beyond Waiting Lists & Improving Access to Care

For Immediate Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. (May 12, 2010) – The [ADAP Advocacy Association](http://www.adapadvocacyassociation.org), also known as **aaa+**, today announced that it will host its 2010 Annual Conference as an “AIDS Drug Assistance Program Summit” to raise awareness about the ongoing waiting list/cost containment crisis. This year’s conference theme is “**ADAPs in Crisis: Moving Beyond Wait Lists & Improving Access to Care**,” which aims to assemble ADAP stakeholders from all of the various constituency groups – including patients, advocates, service providers, health care providers, pharmaceutical companies, allied health professionals, specialty pharmacies and others.

“The purpose of our ADAP Crisis Summit is to identify key action steps to secure additional federal appropriations, programmatic reforms, available private resources and other remedies to move beyond ADAP wait lists and improve access to care for all people living with HIV/AIDS,” summarized **Brandon M. Macsata**, CEO of the ADAP Advocacy Association. “In March, we were increasingly alarmed when there were 777 Americans waiting for the very medications that we know will keep them healthy, productive members in their communities – only to witness that number exceed 1,000 only five weeks later raises some serious questions about our leader’s commitment to addressing this ongoing crisis.”

But according to **aaa+**, while the ongoing ADAP crisis represents a serious challenge facing HIV/AIDS patients, there remain other opportunities (i.e., health care reform, drug rebates, patient assistance programs, specialty pharmacies, etc.) that taken together can help to develop a successful strategy for ending the ADAP waiting lists immediately, as well as in the future.

The 2010 Annual Conference “**AIDS Drug Assistance Program Summit: ADAPs in Crisis: Moving Beyond the Waiting List & Improving Access to Care**” – which is being co-hosted by the [Community Access National Network](http://www.cann.org) (CANN) – will offer informative, practical and useful presentations and updates by leading industry experts on the following:

- **Health Care Reform Update** – How can key provisions of the new law help?
- **FY2010 ADAP Emergency Supplemental Update** – Where is the additional \$126 million?
- **Ryan White Program Update** – What needs to change to improve access?
- **Patient Assistance Programs (PAPs)** – How can private resources plug the gap?
- **Specialty HIV/AIDS Pharmacy Programs** – What are their role in improving access?
- **Benefits Coordination Programs** – How can they help more people receive care?
- **ADAP Advocacy Training** – Tips for self-advocates to educate their lawmakers
- **ADAP Congressional Briefing** – “*End The Crisis; End The Wait*”

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The ADAP Crisis Summit is being held on July 5th-7th in Washington, DC. [Registration](#) for the Summit is only \$150.00 per attendee, and a limited number of [scholarships](#) will be awarded based on need. It is being held at the Westin City Center, located at 1400 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Discounted room rates of \$119.00 per room, per night, plus tax is being offered to Summit attendees.

To learn more, please visit <http://www.adapadvocacyassociation.org/events.html>.

ADAPs provide life-saving medications under the Ryan White CARE Act to people living with HIV/AIDS nationwide, who are uninsured or under-insured. This vital federal-state program faces a \$126 million shortfall for Fiscal Year 2010, just to keep pace with current demand. That shortfall is currently fueling the growth of these waiting lists, now at 1,056 Americans – including 2 people in Hawaii, 27 people in Idaho, 77 people in Iowa, 200 people in Kentucky, 18 people in Montana, 506 people in North Carolina, 81 people in South Carolina, 30 people in South Dakota, 97 people in Utah and 17 people in Wyoming (as of May 10th, according to the National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors).

To learn more about the ADAP Crisis Summit, ADAP waiting lists or the ADAP Advocacy Association, please contact Brandon M. Macsata by phone at (305) 519-4256 or email at info@adapadvocacyassociation.org.

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