

# End the Wait!

ADAP Advocacy Association Launches  
National Awareness Campaign on ADAP  
Waiting Lists...



Despite its vast wealth, America is all too familiar with people waiting in long lines to obtain access to their “*life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness*” as articulated in its Declaration of Independence. In the 1930s, lines formed to receive food during the Great Depression. In the 1960s, poverty-stricken areas of the South garnered the national conscious as the “Great Society” was launched to alleviate poverty, hunger and homelessness. **Yet in 2009, many Americans are still waiting to receive access to life-saving HIV/AIDS medications.** Sadly enough these are the same medications readily available under the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act.

It is a crisis that is all too familiar in the morning newspapers and on the evening news. Remember that several years ago, we learned that several Kentuckians and West Virginians living with HIV/AIDS died waiting for access to their care. That same year in South Carolina four Palmetto State residents passed away while lingering for their anti-retroviral medications. This was during a low point in our advocacy efforts when ADAP waiting lists ballooned into the thousands! And those are only the deaths that were reported!

And while these dreaded waiting lists were eliminated temporarily last year, they’re back now. What’s worse is like in years past these waiting lists are growing rapidly – fueled, in part, by the poor economic environment and budget cuts. **Currently, Nebraska is reporting 70 residents with HIV/AIDS on waiting lists, Kentucky with 50, Montana with 24, Iowa with 7, Wyoming with 3 and South Dakota with one.** More are also possible in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Hawaii, Indiana and Tennessee.

But together, we can change this...

In response to this growing crisis, the ADAP Advocacy Association (**aaa+**) is launching its “**End the Wait**” campaign to raise awareness about ADAP waiting lists and the perpetual under-funding of the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs. Our goal is to raise between \$5,000 - \$10,000 in the next 30 days to finance a targeted public awareness campaign to assure Americans living with HIV/AIDS are guaranteed accessed to qualified care by enhancing ADAPs and improving access to care for persons living with HIV/AIDS. But we cannot achieve this lofty goal without your support. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation today to our “**End the Wait**” campaign in amount of **\$10, \$25, \$50, \$100 or more** at <http://www.adapadvocacyassociation.org>.

**aaa+** works with advocates, community, health care agencies, government, patients, pharmaceutical companies and other stakeholders to assure that access to services recognize and afford persons living with HIV/AIDS to enjoy a healthy life. We are asking the U.S. Congress to secure additional funding for the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs so that we can once again eliminate these waiting lists. But we need to raise awareness!

**After all, no one living with HIV/AIDS should have to wait for their life saving medications. Please help us today by making a small tax-deductible donation in the amount of \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100 or more.**

Thank you very much!

**P.S. – We know that times are tough right now, and that you get approached to support numerous causes, so any financial support is greatly appreciated.** If everyone who receives this appeal donated just \$25, then we would exceed our goal and better positioned to tell Congress emergency funding is needed for the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs. Donate online at: <http://www.adapadvocacyassociation.org>