



Support \$126 Million in Emergency Supplemental AIDS Drug Assistance Program Funding

AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) provides free HIV medications to low-income people with HIV. However, ADAPs across the country are faced with a growing crisis. Stretched to the breaking point by scarce revenue, growing demand, and rising drug costs, ADAPs nationwide are being forced to institute waiting lists for new enrollees and establish other cost containment measures.

The federal government must immediately provide \$126 million in emergency supplemental funding for ADAP to prevent this crisis from becoming a catastrophe.

The State of the Crisis

Waiting lists continue to grow. Nationwide, more than 1,200 people in 11 states are now waiting to receive medications they need to stay alive.

Fewer medications covered. State ADAPs are also reducing the number and variety of medications they cover, leaving people living with HIV and their physicians with limited options to address complex and evolving HIV treatment needs.

More people are ineligible. More restrictive eligibility criteria for new enrollees mean fewer people will be able to access life-saving medications just when they need it most.

Key Points

ADAP waiting lists for HIV medications will cause people with HIV across the nation to become needlessly sick and die. Medications provided through ADAP mean the difference between life and certain health decline and potential death for people with HIV. Without HIV medications, people with HIV will experience preventable sickness, costly hospitalizations, and irreversible damage to their health.

ADAP waiting lists will worsen existing racial and economic health disparities. Wait lists will result in the denial of HIV treatment to African Americans and Latinos, who represent two out of three people newly diagnosed with HIV.

HIV treatment keeps people and communities healthier. HIV treatment is complicated but when managed properly it allows people with HIV to lead full, productive lives. By staying healthy, people with HIV work, pay taxes, and support their families. Treatment lowers viral load which also helps reduce the likelihood of transmitting the virus to others, complimenting other ongoing HIV prevention efforts.

For more information:

www.nastad.org
www.adapadvocacyassociation.org
www.statehealthfacts.org
www.hrsa.gov