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## **SAVE THE DATE: A CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING**

**Please Join Us for:**

### **AIDS Drug Assistance Program Wait Lists Triple What Congress Can Do To End the Wait**

**Thursday December 3rd, 2009 at 12:00pm**

**Cannon Caucus Room: Cannon House Office Building Room 345**

**Speakers:**

**The Honorable Barbara Lee (CA)**

*ADAP Wait Lists – Yet another health disparity*

**The Honorable Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL)**

*20 years of HIV/AIDS work in Congress*

**Holly Hanson, Iowa Ryan White CARE Act Director**

*Challenges of providing life-saving medications in a low-incidence state*

**Mary Edinger, Ryan White CARE Act Coordinator MSW CSW**

*Dealing with patients on the wait list in person*

**Laura Hanen, Director Government Relations - NASTAD**

*Why States May not be able to step up this time*

**Bryan J.R. Jackson, HIV+ 18 year old CANN “ADAP Ambassador”**

*What Happens to me without AIDS Drugs*

**Lunch provided**

**Please RSVP by December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 to Seth Koch at [gskoch@tiicann.org](mailto:gskoch@tiicann.org)**

AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) are in a state of emergency. In recent months, we have witnessed an exponential growth in ADAP waiting lists. According to the National Alliance for State and Territorial AIDS Directors, wait lists have tripled by state and increased by over 800% by count since the beginning of 2009. \$167 million in state budget cuts to AIDS programs has truly shaken ADAP. In 2000, Congress appropriated 72% of the federal ADAP earmark; a number which has fallen to 54% in 2009. This severe drop in the federal commitment to ADAP in addition to state budget crises has largely been the catalyst for the most recent spike in HIV patients placed on wait lists. It is anticipated that at least twelve states will have to implement some form of cost containment measure in the upcoming months, including wait lists. In light of our present predicament, please join us for a Congressional Briefing discussing the current ADAP wait lists, what they mean, and what Congress can do to end the wait.