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# The Missing \$101 Million in 2010

## AIDS Drug Assistance Programs Waiting Lists Continue to Grow

### Thursday September 23 @ 12:00pm

**Kennedy Caucus Room 325 Russell Senate Office Building**

**Lunch provided**

In fiscal years 2007 and 2008, the federal government cut funding to ADAP just when it was clear of the waiting list. By the end of 2008 the waiting list was reinstated. Patients enrolling for ADAP treatment increased by 80% due to the economic downturn and increasing unemployment during this time, according to the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD). Yet despite the rapid growth of ADAP utilization, the federal government's share of the ADAP budget has consistently decreased over the past decade, from nearly 70% to less than 50% in FY 2009. While there are many factors that have exacerbated the growth of the waiting list, this 20% drop in the federal commitment to ADAP is undoubtedly the root problem. Without additional funds from the federal government, Congress and the President are essentially consigning every individual in ADAP to remain on a waiting list or fear being placed on one. Join us to understand more about how ADAP fell into a crisis and what can be done to save ADAP.

**Moderated by: Brandon Macsata ED aaat**

**Senator Richard Burr (NC)**

***Feeling the brunt of the waiting list***

**Arch Bishop Joyce Turner Keller (Baton Rouge)**

***Going without Medication - the Impact on the Community***

**The Honorable Donna Christensen (VI)**

***Addressing racial disparities***

**Amy Bell, SC ADAP Patient**

***The Human Side of the Waiting lists***

**Ann Lefert, NASTAD**

***How much money will be enough***

**Todd Wills, MD**

***Pay now or Pay a LOT More Later***

### **Brandon M. Macsata**

Brandon Macsata serves as Managing Partner of The Macsata-Kornegay Group, Inc. – a national political and fundraising consulting firm specializing in grassroots campaigns, media messaging and political fundraising. He is widely recognized for his ability to connect national, state and local stakeholders interested in influencing public policy. Macsata has extensive experience working with political candidates, national and statewide trade associations, and other corporate entities. In November 2009, Macsata was acknowledged by HIV-Plus Magazine to be amongst the “Top 25 LGBT Leaders Fighting HIV/AIDS”. First diagnosed as HIV-positive in March 2002, Macsata has dedicated much of his professional and personal life advocating for persons living with HIV/AIDS. He currently serves as CEO of the ADAP Advocacy Association (aaa+), a national non-profit organization working to improve the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP). From November 2003 to March 2006, he authored a weekly news column on national HIV-related stories for The Weekly News in Miami, Florida. He is also a former ADAP recipient.

### **Senator Richard Burr (NC)**

On January 4, 2005, Richard Burr was sworn-in to serve North Carolina in the United States Senate. Elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1994, Richard is committed to promoting job growth by working to restore a vibrant economic environment in North Carolina. He is a vocal advocate for our men and women in the military and their families, and for the growing population of veterans across North Carolina. In the Senate, Richard serves as Ranking Member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee where he works to improve the quality of health care and service our nation's veterans receive. He also sits on the Senate Armed Services Committee; the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee; the Energy and Natural Resources Committee; and the Intelligence Committee. The son of a minister, Richard and his family moved to Winston-Salem, North Carolina when he was a young child. After graduating from Wake Forest University, he began his career far from the halls of Congress by spending seventeen years in business with Carswell Distributing, a wholesale commercial products company. He currently serves as a Board Member of Brenner Children's Hospital. Richard and his wife, Brooke, have two sons.

### **The Honorable Donna M Christian-Christensen (US – Virgin Islands)**

Representative Christensen continues to distinguish herself as a leader in the United States Congress. As a Member serving her seventh term, she is the first female physician in the history of the U.S. Congress, the first woman to represent an offshore Territory, and the first woman Delegate from the United States Virgin Islands. She was named to the Energy and Commerce Subcommittees on Health, Telecommunications and the Internet, and Oversight and Investigations. The Subcommittee on Health has jurisdiction over public health and quarantine, hospital construction, mental health and research, biomedical programs and health protection, Medicaid and national health insurance, food and drugs, and drug abuse. Christensen began her medical career in the Virgin Islands in 1975 as an emergency room physician. She served as staff physician at the Maternal & Child Health program, Medical Director of the Nesbitt Clinic in Frederiksted, Director of the Frederiksted Health Center, Director of Maternal and Child Health and Family Planning, served as the Medical Director of the St. Croix Hospital and rounded out her medical career as the Territorial Assistant Commissioner of Health and as the Acting Commissioner of Health. She maintained a private practice in family medicine from 1975 until her election to Congress in 1996.

### **Ann Lefert, MPP**

Ann Lefert is Associate Director of Government Relations at the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD). NASTAD represents the nation's chief state health agency staff who have programmatic responsibility for administering HIV/AIDS healthcare, prevention, education, and supportive service programs funded by state and federal governments. She has been with NASTAD since 2002 and is responsible for policy development and advocacy on appropriations and legislation related to HIV/AIDS care and treatment and prevention issues, including health care access. Ann is an active participant of the Federal AIDS Policy Partnership, the HIV Health Care Access Work Group, the ADAP Coalition and co-chairs the Ryan White Work Group. Ann received her Bachelor's degree from St. Olaf College in Minnesota and her Master's in Public Policy from Georgetown University.

### **Arch-Bishop Joyce Turner Keller**

Bishop Joyce Turner Keller has lofted the term "southern hospitality" to an entirely new level. She is not only the founder and CEO of Aspirations, a non-profit faith-based community service organization, but someone who is living with HIV/AIDS herself, and has dedicated herself to educating, supporting and inspiring others living with HIV/AIDS throughout the nation. In May 2006 she received proclamation from Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco of Louisiana for hosting the first Hepatitis Awareness Day, shortly after hosting the first National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in March of that year. Over the years, Bishop Joyce has incurred an extensive list of certifications, recognitions, and awards for her extensive work in community awareness and development in the HIV/AIDS arena. She is a certified HIV/AIDS – Hepatitis C Community Educator by the Louisiana State Office of Public Health and the Shreveport Office of Public Health through the Atlanta Center for Disease Control. She has been an ordained minister for thirty five years, is matriculating in the field of Psychology at Southern University Baton Rouge, and is the proud grandmother of thirteen grandchildren!

### **Amy Bell-May**

Amy Bell-May, 29 years old from Greenville, SC, is a peer advocate in her community, a member of P.O.S.I.T.I.V.E. Voices, and a coordinator of HIV 101s. She is also certified to test for HIV/AIDS. Amy is a motivational speaker on a local and national level. Since being diagnosed HIV positive in 2004 she has dedicated her life to educating the community, erasing stigma and being a representative and voice for those infected and affected by this epidemic. She is the mother of one daughter and has a great support system through her family. She is employed, is a member of a church, and she is willing and able to change the world when given the opportunity to do so.

### **Todd Wills, M.D., Ph.D.**

Dr. Wills is Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, Division of Infectious Disease and International Medicine at the University Of South Florida College Of Medicine and is Director of Fellowship Training for the division. He is actively involved in educating healthcare providers as Assistant Director of the Florida STD/HIV Prevention and Training Center, faculty member for the Florida Caribbean AIDS Education and Training Center and as Training Chief for the USF Center for Health, HIV/AIDS Research and Training (CHART) – India. He is a core member of the newly created University of South Florida Evaluation and Technical Assistance Center (ETAC) for HRSA's Hepatitis C Treatment Expansion Initiative. Dr. Wills received a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry from Rollins College in Winter Park Florida and his MD from the University of South Florida. He completed residency training in Internal Medicine at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and specialty training in Infectious Diseases at USF. His research interests include hematologic and metabolic complications of HIV infection, HIV/Hepatitis co-infection, and HIV in the developing world. Dr. Wills is medical director for the monthly free hepatitis C treatment clinic at the Judeo-Christian Clinic in Tampa.

Special acknowledgements and thanks go out to the supporters of this educational program:

