



JOINT STATEMENT

On Reported HIV Prevention Funding Cuts

March 19, 2025



Critical HIV Prevention Programs Facing Potential Elimination

WASHINGTON, DC (March 19, 2025) – The ADAP Advocacy Association and the Community Access National Network (CANN) express deep concern regarding a recent *Wall Street Journal* report that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is considering significant cuts to domestic HIV prevention funding. According to the report, programs potentially facing reduction or elimination include the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s PrEP initiative and other prevention efforts, potentially impacting the entire \$1.3 billion CDC HIV Prevention Program.

These reported considerations come at a critical time when prevention programs remain essential to our national HIV response. CDC data shows that while PrEP coverage has increased to approximately 36% of people who could benefit, significant racial and geographic disparities persist. The Southern region is disproportionately impacted by HIV, with states like Louisiana having the 6th highest rate of HIV diagnoses nationwide. If implemented, these cuts would directly contradict the goals established in President Trump's Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative, which aims to reduce new HIV infections by 90% by 2030. Prevention tools like PrEP, which can reduce HIV acquisition risk through sexual contact by approximately 99% when taken as prescribed, are essential components of this effort. These programs are critical to the nation's public health infrastructure and represent one of the most cost-effective investments in disease prevention, especially for Black and Hispanic populations who face systemic barriers to healthcare access.

Jen Laws, CANN President & CEO, argued: **"Prevention programs further support treatment programs with testing, screening activities, and linkage to care upon reactive tests. The economic impact of these programs can be measured in more jobs, more clinics, healthier families, and more productive employees. Conversely, cutting these programs and their associated funding will be measured in terms beyond economic loss. It would be measured in the human toll, the harm to our communities, untreated illness, late diagnoses, families torn apart, and lives lost."**

HIV prevention programs support activities across other programs meant to monitor, control, and prevent STI transmission, tuberculosis, and viral hepatitis, as well as aiding community responses to the opioid epidemic. In addition to the negative public health considerations of the proposed changes, states would also experience economic harm via job loss and potential clinic operations disruptions. The impact reaches beyond the CDC's line item of \$1.3 billion, reducing drug rebates for these critical programs and supporting even more employment opportunities than might be imagined.

Brandon M. Macsata, ADAP Advocacy Association CEO, added: **"During his first term, President Trump was applauded for his Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative, announced in 2019 during a State of the Union address to Congress. The news that potential funding cuts to HIV prevention programs not only would undercut the EHE efforts but would also put thousands of people needlessly at risk for acquiring HIV. A preventable increase in new HIV infections would strain already stretched federal resources dedicated to providing medical care and treatment to the 1.1 million people in the United States already living with HIV."**

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Both ADAP Advocacy and CANN advocate for continued and expanded funding for comprehensive HIV prevention services, which should remain a bipartisan public health priority. President Trump's own Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative recognized the critical importance of prevention efforts. Scientific evidence demonstrates that for every HIV transmission prevented, approximately \$420,000 in lifetime medical costs is saved.⁴ Maintaining robust prevention funding represents sound fiscal policy while protecting public health.

For more information about the proposed funding cuts to HIV prevention programs, please contact the ADAP Advocacy Association at info@adapadvocacy.org or CANN at info@tiicann.org.

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About ADAP Advocacy Association: The ADAP Advocacy mission is to promote and enhance the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) and improve access to care for persons living with HIV/AIDS. ADAP Advocacy works with advocates, community, health care, government, patients, pharmaceutical companies and other stakeholders to raise awareness, offer patient educational programs, and foster greater community collaboration.

About Community Access National Network: The Community Access National Network (CANN) mission is to define, promote, and improve access to healthcare services and supports for people living with HIV/AIDS and/or viral hepatitis through advocacy, education, and networking. CANN's coalition-based work is done on behalf of patient advocacy groups, pharmaceutical partners, and government agencies.