



ADAP Advocacy Association

aaa+[®]

**Attn: Brandon M. Macsata, CEO
1501 M Street, NW – 7th Floor
Washington, DC 20005**

**info@adapadvocacyassociation.org
www.adapadvocacyassociation.org**

ADAP Advocacy Association (aaa+[®]) Annual Report – 2008 Performance Against Priorities

SUMMARY:

The ADAP Advocacy Association completed a short, but productive year in 2007 (our articles of incorporation were filed in July 2007) therefore the board of directors recognized the importance of implementing a focused action plan. From the outset of 2008, three objectives were identified by the board of directors – continue to put in place the needed infrastructure for a sustained national campaign, expand the grassroots advocacy network on AIDS Drug Assistance Program related issues, and convene a results-oriented, consumer-driven national conference. aaa+[®] met or exceeded its objectives in all three areas.

Many challenges remain, however, to further strengthen the organization and its ability to help improve access to care for people living with HIV/AIDS. These include the perpetual underfunding of ADAP programs at the national and state levels; waiting lists returning for people living with HIV/AIDS trying to access life-saving medications; addressing the growing epidemic throughout the South – especially in rural areas and among communities of color; the ongoing health crisis in Puerto Rico, and the need for strategies in combating the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS, most especially among the more recently infected demographic.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Released first Annual Report highlighting 2007 accomplishments;
- Garnered sixteen (16) corporate sponsors;
- Joined nationally-recognized Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD), and Coalition to Preserve Rehabilitation (CPR);
- Hosted two (2) wine tasting benefits (Ft. Lauderdale, FL and Washington, DC);
- Launched “Access to Care” domestic HIV/AIDS initiative;
- Initiated online resource dedicated to ongoing crisis in Puerto Rico;
- Sponsored the Access Summit hosted by the Southern AIDS Coalition in Birmingham, Alabama;
- Authored “The Politics of ADAPs” journal article published in ACHIEVE;
- Presented during Federal AIDS Policy Partnership’s (FAPP) post-election strategy meeting;
- Obtained trademark approval from the U.S. Patent Office on the organization’s name and logo;
- Spearheaded launch of ADAP Consumer Coalition;
- Hosted successfully first Annual Conference in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida;
- Published seventeen (17) CEO Updates;
- Issued six (6) legislative action alerts raising visibility on important policy initiatives;
- Initiated monthly e-newsletter on various HIV/AIDS-related issues (first edition: October 2008);
- Sent five (5) support letters on various HIV/AIDS-related issues;
- Supported twelve (12) national sign-on letters addressing various HIV/AIDS initiatives; and
- Obtained 7,693 website hits.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS:

January 21, 2008 – The ADAP Advocacy Association announced that it was supporting the “Rally to End AIDS” being held in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The rally was staged prior to the Congressional Black Caucus-sponsored Democratic Presidential debate.



January 23, 2008 – The ADAP Advocacy Association commended Tibotec Pharmaceuticals for its new anti-HIV Medicine, Intelence®, which received accelerated approval by the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) on January 18th. **aaa+**® joined the Fair Pricing Coalition in further welcoming Tibotec’s decision to establish an introductory pricing schedule below other antiretrovirals.

January 28, 2008 – The ADAP Advocacy Association released its 2007 Annual Report. The report demonstrates that as a new organization, **aaa+**® was successful at achieving its performance against priorities last year.

February 7, 2008 – The ADAP Advocacy Association recognized the importance of “National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.”

March 13, 2008 – The ADAP Advocacy Association and the Title II Community AIDS National Network (TIICANN) blasted the Health Resources Services Administration’s (HRSA) decision to limit emergency housing assistance for Americans living with HIV/AIDS. HRSA has proposed an amendment that would create a 24-month lifetime cap on Ryan White emergency and transitional housing benefits.

April 21, 2008 – The ADAP Advocacy Association called for the elimination of the 24-month waiting period for beneficiaries receiving Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) before qualifying for Medicare.



April 24, 2008 – The ADAP Advocacy Association announced that it is among the charities benefiting from a new SunTrust Bank program called the ‘MyCause’ program. New customers can choose to have SunTrust give \$100 to **aaa+**® upon opening a new SunTrust Personal or Business Checking account.

June 9, 2008 – The ADAP Advocacy Association announced that it is joining forces with the TIICANN to launch its “**Access to Care Domestic HIV/AIDS Initiative.**” The campaign is designed to highlight ongoing domestic challenges facing persons living with HIV/AIDS in America and surrounding territories.

June 30, 2008 – The ADAP Advocacy Association started a new online resource dedicated to highlighting the ongoing access to care crisis in Puerto Rico. The new online resource is part of the “Access to Care Domestic HIV/AIDS Initiative,” which was launched jointly by **aaa+**® and TIICANN. The health care crisis in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico has been characterized as nothing short of devastating to that small island’s HIV/AIDS population.



July 14, 2008 – The ADAP Advocacy Association sounded a cautionary alarm as waiting lists returned for Americans living with HIV/AIDS trying to access their life-saving medications through the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP). Last week, it was reported that 35 individuals residing in two states, Indiana and Montana, had 28 and 7 individuals respectively waiting to receive ADAP services.

CEO Challenge

July 16, 2008 – The ADAP Advocacy Association’s CEO, Brandon Macsata, issued his “CEO Challenge” designed to generate small dollar donations to **aaa+**®. As part of his challenge, he pledged to match each donation dollar-for-dollar. The fundraising campaign was highly successful, generating a total of \$2,300.00.

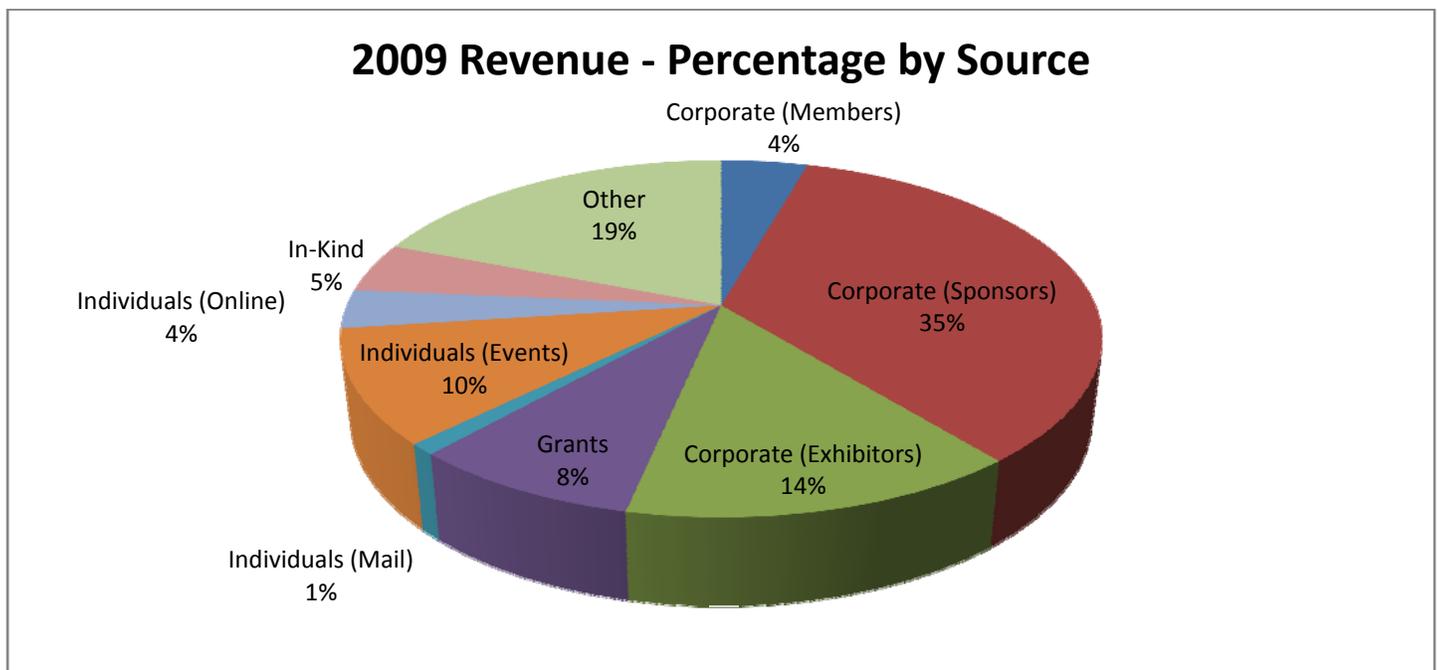
July 24, 2008 – The ADAP Advocacy Association announced that it has seated three members to its board of directors. During its 2008 Annual Meeting in Birmingham, Alabama, **aaa+®** re-elected two of its board members, Arch-Bishop Joyce Turner-Keller of Louisiana and Keita Simmons of Florida, and elected a new member, Elmer Cerano of Michigan. In addition, Rani Whitfield, M.D., was named the first Director Emeritus for his commitment and service to the ADAP Advocacy Association.

October 28, 2008 – The ADAP Advocacy Association qualified to be a participating member of a new online resource, greatnonprofits.org. Reviews are designed to raise **aaa+®** visibility, allowing others to hear from a real person. It will also provides helpful feedback on what people like about **aaa+®** and what may need improvement.

December 9, 2008 – The ADAP Advocacy Association announced that it successfully concluded its first Annual Conference, which was held in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida on December 3-5, 2008. Riding the Obama-Wave, **aaa+®** ushered in change and a new era of AIDS advocacy by returning the movement to its roots — a movement led by people living with HIV/AIDS.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

In 2008, the ADAP Advocacy Association could not have completed its first complete fiscal year without the financial support of its corporate sponsors and exhibitors, individual donors and the meaningful events hosted by the organization. The following chart demonstrates the diversity of the organization’s funding in 2009:



CONCLUSION:

It is widely recognized that the first year after the inception of a nonprofit organization is often its most difficult. Despite this, the ADAP Advocacy Association successfully completed 2008 stronger, more organized at the grassroots level and better equipped to represent the interests of Americans living with HIV/AIDS. At every level **aaa+®** demonstrated its ability to overcome the institutional barriers and current harsh economic realities to persevere on the national stage.

But more needs to be done, and only through collaborative efforts with all stakeholders can **aaa+®** continue its work on improving access to health care generally, and the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs, specifically.