



Bush Administration Abandons Americans affected by HIV/AIDS

\$303 Million AIDS Drug Assistance Program Increase Critical Almost 2,000 Americans living with HIV/AIDS on Exploding Waiting Lists



For the last five years, President Bush and the Congress of the United States have ignored one of the largest public health crises in American History. Every year the number of newly infected Americans grows by 40,000 cases. The Center for Disease Control now estimates that there are now 1.185 million Americans living with HIV/AIDS, 70% of which need public assistance to be able to access their life saving drugs. Yet, for the last five years, the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) has not received the necessary increases in funding to keep pace with the growth of the AIDS pandemic. Without access to these life saving drugs, Americans living with HIV/AIDS have a future of declining health, increased infections and hospitalization, disability, and eventual death. In the richest nation in the world, this is an unacceptable future for our fellow Americans living with HIV/AIDS. Yet, with access to ADAP Americans living with HIV/AIDS can have long, productive lives.

We demand that President Bush stop abandoning us and provide the critical \$303 million immediately to ADAP to end the "waiting lists." We are bringing our demands to President Bush's back yard. SAVE ADAP will be hosting, on Thursday, August 25, 2005, the Crawford SAVE ADAP Summit, a town hall meeting to discuss the current HIV/AIDS crisis in Crawford, Texas. **WE WILL NO LONGER BE SILENT**

The program will be from 11:30 am- to 4:00 pm on Thursday, August 25th at the Old Amsler Building in down town Crawford, located at the corner of Lone Star Ave. and Ave. G with a working lunch provided by SAVE ADAP.

If you would have any questions please contact Robert Reed at contact 314- 518 - 2430 or Robert4Policy@aol.com or Jeff Bloom at 202-352-7150 or JLB2130@aol.com

HIV/AIDS Facts

- 1) The CDC reported that there now are 1.185 million Americans living with HIV/AIDS, representing an increase of 235,000 newly infected Americans since 2002.
- 2) Today 55% of HIV infections are due to heterosexual transmissions.
- 3) The CDC estimates that there are 40,000 newly HIV infected Americans every year, but funding of HIV/AIDS programs in the US have been consistently under funded since FY 2001.
- 4) Nearly 70% of all Americans living with HIV/AIDS in the US rely on public healthcare or are uninsured. Funding decisions for the Ryan White Care Act, including ADAP, are vital to the health and well-being of hundreds of thousands of Americans living with HIV/AIDS.
- 5) The ADAP program saves lives, promotes health, and allows Americans living with HIV/AIDS to live productive lives with dignity. Both the cost in lives lost as well as increased medical expenses are much higher than the \$303 million that can keep Americans living with HIV/AIDS healthy and productive.