

FHAAN Monthly News Summary

Florida HIV/AIDS Advocacy Network

www.FHAAN.org



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Section 1: NETWORK MEETINGS

Upcoming FHAAN Monthly Meetings

Register for session by clicking date below:

Structure Committee: [Mon, Sep 17, 2012 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT](#)

Recruitment Committee: [Wed, Sep 19, 2012 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM EDT](#)

Advocacy Committee: [Mon, Oct 8, 2012 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT](#)

Full FHAAN Statewide Meeting: [Tuesday, Oct 9, 2012 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT](#)

Recent FHAAN Meetings' Notes

Access meeting notes by clicking each below (*drafts*):

[Full Statewide Meeting \(2012.09.04\)](#)

[Full Statewide Meeting \(2012.09.04\) - Laura Goodhue Florida CHAIN Presentation on ACA](#)

[Advocacy Committee Meeting Notes \(2012.09.10\)](#)

[Structure Committee Meeting Notes \(2012.08.20\)](#)

FHAAN Annual Co-Chair Election Results

Joey Wynn will continue as FHAAN Co-Chair for our 2012-2014 term. Alelia Munroe will continue as our Structure Committee Central/Metro Regional Chair.

Please join me in thanking both Joey and Alelia for their great work with FHAAN. We look forward to continued success with their leadership.

Section 2: AIDS DRUG ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ADAP)

Waiting List Update

As of August 30, 2012:



Florida ADAP Waiting List at **22** Individuals (**13%** of national total)

There are **170** individuals on ADAP waiting lists in **six (6)** states.

Common Application for HIV Patient Assistance Program Expedites Application Process for Lifesaving Drugs

The Common Patient Assistance Program Application (CPAPA), announced by Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius at the International AIDS Conference in July, went into effect today.

This single common application allows uninsured individuals living with HIV to use one application to apply for multiple assistance programs that together provide an entire course of antiretroviral therapy.

The application is a result of a public private partnership between HHS' Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA) and seven leading pharmaceutical companies and foundations, and their HIV patient assistance programs: Abbott Laboratories, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Gilead Sciences Inc., Johnson & Johnson, Merck and ViiV Healthcare. In addition, the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors assisted in the development and implementation of the application.

"The last thing someone living with HIV wants to think about is filling out another form," Secretary Sebelius said. "This application streamlines and simplifies the process, reduces barriers to medication access, and speeds access to lifesaving drugs."

Patient Assistance Programs provide free or discounted medication to qualifying patients who cannot afford it themselves. These programs serve an estimated 30,000 or more patients a year across the country, and this initiative will aim to expand access to these programs.

The application is in response to suggestions by advocates and providers in the field to greatly simplify the process of applying to different programs. Prior to the development of the common application, individuals living with HIV or his/her provider had to fill out multiple sets of paperwork because they were taking complicated, multi-drug regimens that many times involve multiple companies with varying application forms.

This initiative aligns with the goals of the President's National HIV/AIDS Strategy by increasing access to lifesaving drugs for eligible patients, and by helping more patients receive effective treatment for HIV.

The application can be found at <http://hab.hrsa.gov/patientassistance/index.html>.

AIDS.gov Blog (September 12, 2012)

Florida ADAP ITN

Timetable:

- August 29th - Evaluation of bids (Process is not public).

- **September - FHAAN Advocacy Committee is planning to get community input about ADAP program and ITN:**
 - **Survey our FHAAN members (late September).**
 - **Receive responses, and finalize results.**
 - October 3rd – Selection of winner or negotiations.
 - October 15 - Public notice of winner.
-

FHAAN's ADAP Grassroots Campaign of the Year 2011-2012 Award

These are two links about the ADAP conference where FHAAN received its award. [Click here for press release.](#)

The first link is a blog by aaa+ and discusses one of the panels presented at the conference: http://www.poz.com/articles/bienestar_discrimination_1_22894.shtml

The second is a link to my own blog on the conference that covers more panels and gives an overall view of the meetings: <http://www.hivhaven.com/mario-pinna-ferri/2829-we-are-still-at-war>



Many thanks to FHAAN member David Brakebill for accepting the award on behalf of FHAAN.

Section 3: PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Laura Goodhue, Executive Director at Florida CHAIN
FHAAN 9/4/2012 Guest Speaker



Please find linked here the presentation

slides: <http://www.theaidsinstitute.org/sites/default/files/attachments/FL%20CHAIN%20-%20FHAAN%20presentation%209%204%2012.pdf>

Please send any questions to Laura at laurag@floridachain.org, and cc FHAAN Advocacy Committee co-chairs Jesse Fry and Rick Vitale at jessefry@earthlink.net; bigskyranch@hotmail.com.

Section 4: MEDICAID



New Eligibility Requirement for Medicaid

We just became aware late yesterday that DCF has implemented a change where as of September 1 DCF will terminate eligibility for Medicaid if a recipient's mail comes back undeliverable. This can occur if the recipient's address in DCF's FLORIDA system is not up to date. We don't yet know the impact of this change but are concerned it could be significant. If feasible it is advisable that CHDs check Medicaid recipients' addresses in FMMIS (which is updated from FLORIDA) and confirm with the recipient that their most current address is on file. Below are the steps to follow to access the recipient's address in FMMIS:

- Log to FMMIS using the interchange application
- Click on recipient Search
- Enter either the Medicaid ID, recipient SSN, recipient card control number (number in the Medicaid ID card) or recipient name.
- Hit search
- The recipient screen comes up
- The address is in the center column.

Below is the DCF policy as stated in their release:

Starting September 1, 2012 Medicaid enrolled beneficiaries may experience a break in their Medicaid and SNAP (food stamps) benefits if the address in the ACCESS system is not up to date.

What is the process and policy?

DCF ACCESS determines eligibility for Medicaid and SNAP benefits. Sometimes ACCESS mails information to enrollees. DCF is centralizing its mailing function. Starting September 1, 2012, if ACCESS gets mail returned because the address is incorrect, the program will suspend Medicaid and SNAP benefits until the family updates the address in the ACCESS system. Once the family updates their address, benefits will be reinstated and made retroactive to the date of the suspension.

How can families prevent an interruption in benefits?

1. Families can update their address at any time by going to their ACCESS account on line.

<http://www.myflorida.com/accessflorida>

There is a link in light blue that the family can use to [report a change](#). The family will need their ACCESS account number and password for this. If a family does not have a computer, they can visit an ACCESS community partner to use a computer. Find the list of ACCESS community partners here

<http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/access/CPSLookup/search.aspx>

Or the family can visit an ACCESS service center, found here
<http://www.myflfamilies.com/service-programs/access-florida-food-medical-assistance-cash/locate-service-center-your-area>

2. The family can call [1-866-762-2237](tel:1-866-762-2237) to update the address, but families should expect long hold times using this approach.
3. The family can add an email address to their account (using the same methods above). Most communication from ACCESS will then be sent by email. More electronic communication means less snail mail and less chance that the mail will be returned.

How can I help my Medicaid families ensure continuous benefits?

When you talk with families of Medicaid enrolled children, ask them to verify their address. If the address is different than what you have on record, remind them to update their address through ACCESS as quickly as possible. Help them understand how important it is to have a correct address and help them understand how they can get their address corrected.

Phil Street
Senior Health Policy Coordinator
Health Statistics and Assessment
Florida Department of Health
[850-245-4036](tel:850-245-4036)

Statewide Medicaid Managed Care

Updated Information Now Available Online

September 11, 2012: Additional information has been posted regarding the SMMC program.

From time to time during program development and implementation, the Agency will post guidance statements to provide the public with clarification regarding program components.

The statements are located at the [Statewide Medicaid Managed Care](#) website. Click on the *Guidance Statements* tab to view the documents.

To learn more about this program, visit our website

http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/statewide_mc/index.shtml

Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA)

Medicaid Watch – September 1, 2012

Florida---The legislature (R) got a waiver to move patients (a court order had let them opt out) into managed care; but at first it did so in only 5 counties, but it's now expanding the waiver statewide (starting in 9/12 & to be completed by late 2014. It includes the aged & disabled, as well as families & children. HHS approved the plan— but only if 85% (not just 65%, as the state asked for) of premium dollars go to care & quality upgrades. Plans must meet the needs of 98.5% of enrollees & keep cost sharing below regular Medicaid ceilings. (Email JWynn@BrowardHouse.org for a summary of the state's managed care proposal.) The legislature & Gov Scott (both R) planned to cut MD fees and slash Medicaid costs \$1.8 billion. The state cut the aged & disabled level from 88% to SSI's \$698 mo rate, except for those in HCB care or in Medicare's 2 year disabled waiting period. The parent level is 20%/ 58% wkg ('11) & CHIP's is 300%. The state covers dentures (but little *other* adult dentistry), hearing aids & some autism care. Blue Cross & the Dade Co. Health Dept sponsor cheap & lean "Miami-Dade Blue" policies with no brand Rx benefit. Ex-Gov Crist (I) dropped hospice care and cut dialysis, mental health & substance abuse funds and MD fees. There are 19,000 are on HCB & home care waiting lists & advocates sued to force more home & HCB spending. Yet a GOP-run legislative panel *refused* a \$37 million *extra* US grant to fund more HCB slots. Crist made insurers sell Medigap policies nearly as fairly to the disabled as

to the aged. Miami's Jackson Mem Hosp closed 2 O/P clinics & 2 transplant units and ended dialysis for 175 indigents (many are illegals) ADAP cut its formulary, but its waiting list fell to 31 & new US funds may now curtail it (it has no asset test & its income level is 400%). Scott chose a panel to plan to change, cut or end taxes by the 20 hosp districts that help pay the state Medicaid matching share & for uncompensated care; he also seeks \$66 million in hosp rate cuts. He & the legislature passed a law to shift the bulk of \$325 million of as-yet-unpaid Medicaid costs to the counties---which they oppose. A US District Ct ordered Florida Medicaid to cover more autism care, but it may appeal
CANN (September 3, 2012)

Section 5: EVENTS

Florida at AIDS 2012 March on Washington

Pictures of the July 22, 2012 March on Washington at the start of the International Conference on AIDS:



Provided by:

Latrece M. Rowell, BA, CAP, CPS, CMHP
CEO/Executive Director
Florida Community Prevention Center, Inc.
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The AIDS Institute, Partners Remind RNC/DNC Convention Delegates to "Turn the Tide of HIV/AIDS in U.S."

[Click Here for Press Releases](#)



AIDS United, the Florida HIV/AIDS Advocacy Network (FHAAN), OASIS, The AIDS Institute, and Metro Wellness and Community Center

Webinar - National HIV/AIDS and Aging Day (NHAAAD) 2012



The AIDS Institute launched National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day (NHAAAD) on September 18, 2008.

Each year our nation observes NHAAAD and promotes activities on or around September 18th. National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness (NHAAA) is a national campaign highlighting the complex issues related to HIV prevention, care and treatment for aging populations in the United States.

Please join us on the 5th annual National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day (NHAAAD) as we host an educational webinar examining issues related to older adults and HIV/AIDS.

Date: Tuesday, September 18, 2012

Time: 1:00PM - 2:30PM (EDT)

Topics include:

- I. Introduction of NHAAAD and Webinar Overview
- II. A Call to Action for HIV Awareness, Education and Prevention for Older Adults
- III. Collaborations at the Federal Level to address HIV among Older Adults
- IV. Increased Need for Research on Older Adults with HIV

Registration is limited, so reserve your space early:

[2012 NHAAAD Webinar Registration](#)

For more information, please visit us at www.NHAAAD.org, or contact Michelle Scavnicky, Director of Education and CBA Programs at mscavnicky@theaidsinstitute.org, [813-258-5929](tel:813-258-5929).

Webinar - National Gay Men's HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NGMHAAD) 2012

The Florida Department of Health HIV/AIDS & Hepatitis Program will be hosting a webinar to support the observance of National Gay Men's HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NGMHAAD) 2012 and HIV prevention programming for MSM year-round. During the webinar, participants will receive tips and best practices for hosting events in observance of NGMHAAD. The webinar will feature Isaiah Webster, III, national expert from the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD), who will offer a national perspective on best practices for working with gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men. In addition, stakeholders and providers from around the state will also offer best practices and suggestions on how to raise awareness about the impact of HIV/AIDS among gay men and how to emphasize the importance of HIV testing. The new over-the-counter rapid HIV test will also be discussed. Please join us on this important webinar and share this announcement widely in your community. Thank you.

Topic: National Gay Men's HIV/AIDS Awareness Day 2012 Support Webinar

Date: Tuesday, September 25, 2012

Time: 10:00 am, Eastern Daylight Time (New York, GMT-04:00)

Meeting Number: 644 083 713

Meeting Password: 3227797814

To join the online meeting (now from mobile devices, too!):

1. Go to

<https://suncom.webex.com/suncom/j.php?ED=159621937&UID=1270816972&PW=NMDVkOGFkMTA2&RT=MIMxMQ%3D%3D>

2. If requested, enter your name and email address.

3. If a password is required, enter the meeting password: 3227797814

4. Click "Join".

5. Follow the instructions that appear on your screen.

To view in other time zones or languages, please click the link:

<https://suncom.webex.com/suncom/j.php?ED=159621937&UID=1270816972&PW=NMDVkOGFkMTA2&RT=MIMxMQ%3D%3D>

To join the teleconference/audio portion (You must dial-in to hear audio): Phone: [1-888-670-3525](tel:1-888-670-3525),
Participant code: 8525468744

The AIDS Institute is a Partner for the 2012 United States Conference on AIDS



The United States Conference on AIDS (USCA), set for September 30 - October 3, 2012, at Caesars Palace Hotel in Las Vegas, NV

Our Florida HIV/AIDS Advocacy Network (FHAAN) and The AIDS Institute (TAI) will have a booth together at this conference.

[Click Here for more information](#)

21st Annual HIV Conference

October 26-27, 2012

Buena Vista Palace Hotel and Spa, Lake Buena Vista, FL

The 21st Annual HIV Conference of the Florida/Caribbean AIDS Education and Training Center will be taking place from October 26-27, 2012 at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel and Spa in Lake Buena Vista, FL.

The conference is designed to increase the knowledge and skills of HIV health care providers. Three distinct tracks will allow participants to customize their conference experience to meet their professional needs:

- Advanced Topics for HIV Clinicians
- Fundamentals of HIV for Providers and Staff
- Women, Adolescents, and Children

This year, in our continual dedication to provide dynamic and innovative learning opportunities, we have collaborated with the Florida Consortium for HIV/AIDS Research (FCHAR) to incorporate scientific and behavioral research into a portion of our Advanced Topics for HIV Clinicians track.

Please visit www.fcaetc.org/Conference to register.

Section 6: INFORMATIONAL

HIP Notice of Grant Award Posted

The high-impact prevention awards are now posted. We are so excited that we are able to fund 27 of the 44 applications we received. You should be proud of your local agencies, they did a great job!

http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Admin/General_Services/purchasing/FA12-006Noticeofawardposting.pdf

Bruce Campbell

Community Programs Coordinator

Florida Department of Health

HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis Program

Patient Care Unit

[\(850\) 245-4444 Ext 2540](tel:(850)245-4444)

Fax [\(850\) 245-4920](tel:(850)245-4920)

Visit us at www.FloridaAids.org

Epidemiology of HIV in Florida

An Overview of Recent Trends

[Grand Rounds- Epidemiology of HIV in Florida.pdf](#)

Kate Goodin, MPH, Senior Epidemiologist

HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis Prevention Section

Bureau of Communicable Diseases

Florida Department of Health

Monthly Surveillance Data to date for Florida - January-August, 2012

[EIR2012_HIVinf \(2012.August\).xls](#)

[ytd 1012 \(2012.August\).xls](#)

Lorene Maddox, MPH

Florida Department of Health

HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis Program

September 4, 2012

[Drug Pricing Terms](#)

From the National ADAP Working Group

Via FHAAN Co-Chair Joey Wynn

About FHAAN

Florida HIV/AIDS Advocacy Network



FHAAN's Mission: Florida HIV/AIDS Advocacy Network (FHAAN) advocates for statewide HIV/AIDS resources including education, policies, programs, funding and legislation. FHAAN includes: Community Advocates, Leaders of Organizations, Pharmaceutical Industry Representatives, People Living with HIV/AIDS and Care Providers. Ongoing efforts include: Committee work, Listserv communications, Regular conference calls and In-person meetings, as needed.

FHAAN's Goals: To ensure that Federal & State Legislators, the Florida Department of Health, Bureau of HIV/AIDS staff and local leaders are continuously in touch with their constituents needs and are supportive of the following: (1) Effective research-supported community prevention programs; (2) Access to adequate, culturally appropriate and stigma-free, care, treatment, housing and social/support services; (3) Biomedical, clinical, and behavioral research; (4) Adequate funding for all aforementioned programs; and (5) Protection of the dignity of all people living with or at risk for HIV/AIDS, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or religious belief.

FHAAN's Objectives: In collaboration with local, state, regional and national organizations, FHAAN will develop and implement – (1) Public policy, education and advocacy strategies; (2) Engage in message development and media activities; and (3) Support community mobilization and grassroots activism.

Webpage: www.FHAAN.org

To become a member of FHAAN (voting rights and can run for office), click on the following link:

<http://conta.cc/mgdLA5>

To volunteer on our FHAAN committees, click on the following email link and let us know you would like to help: FHAAN@TheAIDSinstitute.org.

Your 2011 FHAAN Meetings' Registration Links on TAI's website:

<http://www.theaidsinstitute.org/florida-policy/advocacy-network/meetings>

<http://www.theaidsinstitute.org/about/events/calendar>

Please feel free to forward this information and newsletter to all your contacts who reside in Florida. For more information, contact Ted Howard, FHAAN Administrator directly at [\(813\) 258-5929](tel:8132585929) or FHAAN@TheAIDSInstitute.org.

FHAAN is administered by:



THE AIDS INSTITUTE

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