April 27, 2012

Executive Office of the Governor  
400 S. Monroe Street, The Capitol  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor Scott:

We’re writing to thank you for approving an increase of $2.5 million of Florida’s AIDS Drug Assistance Program, popularly known as ADAP. Your authorization of the ADAP budget increase from general revenue shows remarkable leadership in the ongoing fight against HIV and AIDS in our state.

ADAP provides medications vital to HIV/AIDS patients, so they can stay healthy and remain in Florida’s workforce; they pay sales tax, property taxes, utilities taxes, taxes on their mobile phone, and so on, contributing to the state’s revenue base.

An ADAP program with enough capacity to avoid a waiting list also keeps patients off other programs that are more costly for Florida, like Medically Needy, Meds AD and Medicaid. Patients in those programs tend to be hospitalized more often and have higher annual treatment costs for which the state must pay at a much higher percentage rate than ADAP.

Medicaid patients also represent Floridians who have gone missing from Florida’s workforce and have been determined disabled.

Florida HIV/AIDS Advocacy Network is an organization with over 300 active members throughout our great state who volunteer their time to improve the lives of Floridians living with HIV and AIDS.

On behalf of those members, please accept our sincere thanks for recognizing the tremendous value of Florida’s ADAP program.

Sincerely,

Jesse Fry and Joey Wynn,  
Co-Chairmen of Florida HIV/AIDS Advocacy Network