



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Emergency relief HIV medication assistance for those displaced by Hurricane Katrina

AUSTIN – September 1, 2005 – The Texas HIV Medication Program (THMP), the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) for the State of Texas, has been working to develop a special program to provide emergency assistance to the ADAP clients in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama that have been displaced by Hurricane Katrina and seeking refuge in Texas. Because it is so critical to maintain continuity of care for persons living with HIV/AIDS on antiretroviral therapy, the THMP has taken the unprecedented step in expanding program access to non-Texas residents in their time of need.

Clients who were normally receiving access to HIV medications through the Louisiana, Mississippi or Alabama ADAPs will need to complete a single-page form, titled the Emergency Relief ADAP Application, along with proof of identity (such as a copy of their photo ID), a copy of their State ADAP ID card if available, and a completed Medical Certification Form if they're now being seen by a physician in Texas or receiving healthcare at a Texas location. Completed paperwork should be faxed to the THMP at (512) 371-4670 for processing. Once approved, the client will be able to obtain a 30-day supply of their approved medications at a designated participating pharmacy. The emergency assistance will be available for eight weeks from their date of approval; a new client application will be required for continued assistance if needed at that time.

Copies of the Emergency Relief ADAP Application can be obtained by calling the THMP at (800) 255-1090 or (512) 533-3000, or via their website at www.tdh.state.tx.us/hivstd/meds.