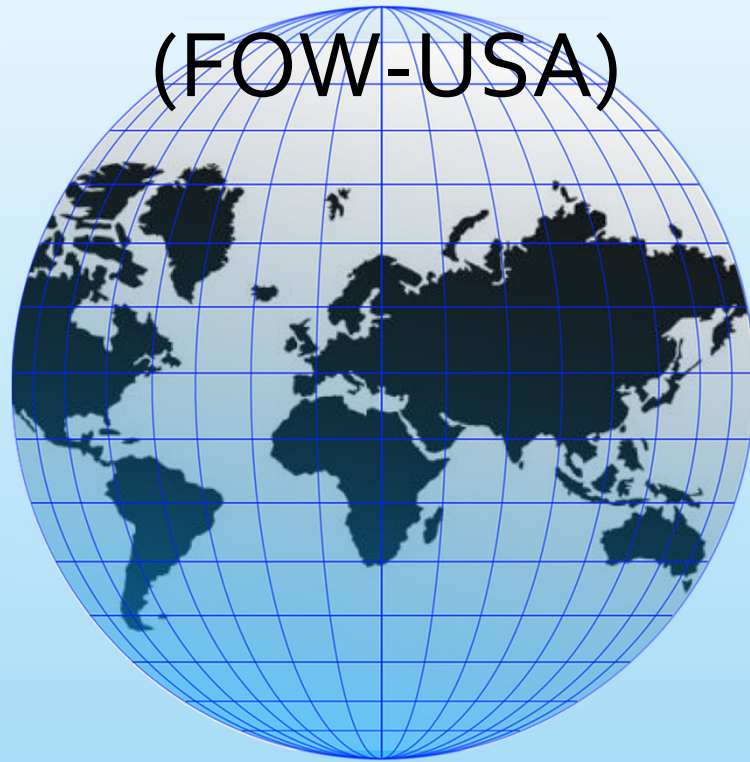


# Friends of Ostomates Worldwide-USA (FOW-USA)



**Thirty-three years of bringing hope  
to ostomates worldwide by providing  
donated ostomy supplies**



# What is FOW-USA?

FOW-USA is a volunteer run, non-profit founded in 1986

- Our primary mission is to:
  - collect new, unused ostomy supplies donated by individuals and organizations in the United States, and
  - send the supplies and educational resources, at no charge, to ostomates in need around the world.



# What is FOW-USA?

FOW-USA is a volunteer run, non-profit founded in 1986





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FOW-USA is managed by a  
volunteer Board who work on issues  
related to our mission.

2019 Board



February 2019





# Why is FOW-USA needed?

- Ostomates in developing countries may not be able to get affordable supplies, and may have to manage their ostomy using:
  - plastic bags
  - metal cans
  - rubber gloves or
  - rags or towels.
- The quality of life is poor.
- Skin care is a major issue
- Ostomates may be rejected by their families, friends and people in their communities.



# Why is FOW-USA needed?

A Nigerian man said “You won’t imagine how I have been managing myself ... It is really shameful and disgraceful. I pray for your help.” We sent supplies to Dr. Brian Camazine, a US surgeon who works in Nigeria.



# Where have we helped?

## 95 Countries Around the World





# Where we help

Afghanistan	Croatia	Iran	Moldova	Serbia
Algeria	Cuba	Iraq	Mongolia	South Africa
American Samoa (USA)	Czech Republic	Jamaica	Montenegro	Sri Lanka
Antigua and Barbuda	Dominican Republic	Jordan	Morocco	St. Lucia
Argentina	Ecuador	Kazakhstan	Nepal	St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Armenia	Egypt	Kenya	Nicaragua	Sudan
Bahamas	El Salvador	Korea	Nigeria	Syria
Belize	Eritrea	Kosovo	Pakistan	Tanzania
Bolivia	Ethiopia	Kyrgyzstan	Palestine	Thailand
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Gabon	Laos	Panama	Trinidad and Tobago
Brazil	Ghana	Latvia	Papua New Guinea	Uganda
Bulgaria	Grenada	Lebanon	Paraguay	Ukraine
Burkina Faso	Guam (USA)	Liberia	Peru	Uruguay
Cameroon	Guatemala	Libya	Philippines	USA
Canada	Haiti	Malawi	Puerto Rico (USA)	Uzbekistan
Chile	Honduras	Malaysia	Romania	Venezuela
China	Hungary	Mali	Russia	Vietnam
Colombia	India	Mauritius	Rwanda	Zambia
Congo	Indonesia	Mexico	Senegal	Zimbabwe



# Requirements of recipients



- Recipients must have the ability to receive the materials and distribute them free of charge to needy ostomates.

# Our partners



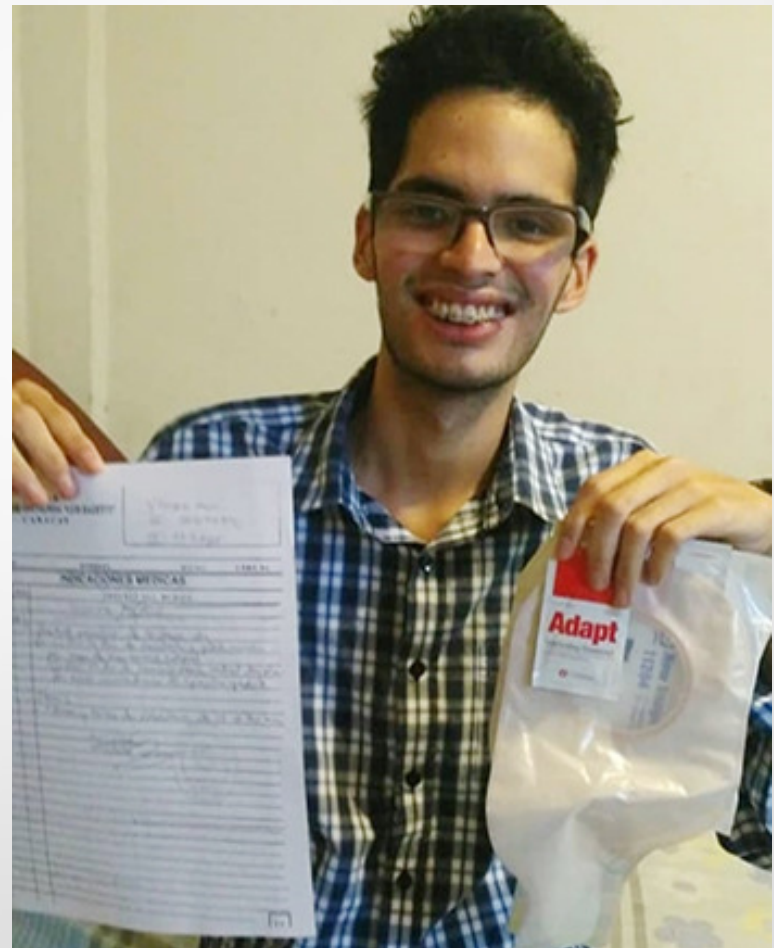
We coordinate efforts with the Friends of Ostomates Worldwide Canada, as well as the International Ostomy Association and its regional organizations.





# FOW-USA

Provides funds annually to the Lions for Stoma Care Project to support the stoma care education of doctors and nurses in developing countries.



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY

19.3 Million worth of  
supplies sent to  
people in need since  
1986

387 Thousand pounds  
of supplies sent to  
ostomates worldwide

At a shipping cost of  
over \$622,000+





# Collecting supplies

**Supplies are sent to a central warehouse in Louisville, Kentucky, USA.**

- ▶ Sources for supplies include:
  - people with surplus supplies no longer needed;
  - facilities that can no longer use supplies or are changing to other brands;
  - ostomy support groups that may have supplies donated by members.
- ▶ Donors send supplies at their own expense and receive an acknowledgement for tax purposes.







# Products ready for repacking



- At the warehouse, volunteers sort the supplies, putting the same sizes and brands together.
- Used supplies are not accepted





# What supplies are acceptable?



- Pouches
- Flanges
- Skin barriers
- Skin wipes
- Paste
- Tape
- Belts
- Pouch covers
- Scissors
- Pediatric products



# Sending supplies worldwide - process

- Requests for supplies are received through the internet and other sources and from previous clients.
- A volunteer communicates with trusted individuals and organizations in the receiving country, such as
  - hospitals,
  - clinics,
  - doctors,
  - ostomy nurses,
  - and ostomy associations.
- Product needs are identified.
- Plans are made to ensure that the supplies will be distributed free of charge to needy ostomates.



# Sending supplies worldwide

- Potential clients answer questions about:
  - The specific supplies needed
  - How we should ship supplies, including regulatory documents, such as consulate stamps
  - How instruction will be provided to the ostomates.



**ET nurse Mrs. Shanti Bajracharya speaking with the Nepal Ostomy Association**

# Repacking supplies for shipment





# The process works!

- We received the bags today. Thank you very much... We are in the process of letting our clients know that our stocks have arrived and they are relieved. – *St. Lucia Cancer Society*



- The appliances will be a big help... I plan to have the distribution of supplies printed in the local newspaper to further promote the advocacy. Thank you very much. - **Ronaldo Lora, Philippines**
- It was indeed kind of you for us to be recipient of your continued support by the supplies. On behalf of Nepalese ostomates, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to you and the entire FOW members for the generosity.- **Shanti Bajracharya, ET Nepal Ostomy Association**



# YOU CAN HELP

Donate your unused ostomy supplies, volunteer time, or give much needed funds to help us ship supplies all over the world to those who need it most. Every contribution makes a huge difference.

- We rely on financial contributions from individuals, corporations, foundations, and ostomy support groups to help us carry out our mission.
- The funding covers expenses, such as shipping costs, and the rental of warehouse space.
- Contributions can be made on-line at our website, [www.fowusa.org](http://www.fowusa.org)
- Designate FOW-USA when you purchase from Amazon.



# Get Involved by



Visit us on our Facebook page: [Facebook.com/The Friends of Ostomates Worldwide - USA \(FOW\)](https://www.facebook.com/TheFriendsOfOstomatesWorldwide-USA) and connect with our worldwide family.



Visit our website: [www.fowusa.org](http://www.fowusa.org) and read stories about how your contribution can make a difference, shipping history and available resources.



To receive our e-newsletter, sign up via the website: [www.fowusa.org](http://www.fowusa.org) and stay informed about activities.



Donate ostomy supplies by shipping to our warehouse. Send the products to: FOW-USA, 4018 Bishop Lane, Louisville, KY 40218-4539.



Make a financial contribution to support shipping costs and warehouse storage. Send to: FOW-USA, 4018 Bishop Lane, Louisville, KY 40218-4539.





# FOW-USA By the Numbers

- 1** Unique Mission - to provide ostomy supplies and educational resources at no cost to ostomates in need around the world.
- 2** Outstanding Newsletters per year
- 4** Industry Advisers that provide in-kind and financial support
- 16** Warehouse Volunteers who receive, sort, repack, and ship supplies (plus 18 additional "special event" Warehouse Volunteers this year)
- 18** Board Members who volunteer to do the work of FOW-USA
- 19.3** Million worth of supplies sent to people in need since 1986
- 33** Years of humanitarian service
- 95** Countries that receive donated ostomy supplies
- 150** Different sources of product donors
- 386,000+** Pounds of supplies shipped to ostomates in need since 1986
- 1** YOU, for making a difference in so many lives, through your financial and product support



# Donation process

- ▶ Send supplies and financial contributions to:  
FOW-USA, 4018 Bishop Lane, Louisville, KY  
40218-4539
- ▶ Include in supply shipment:
  - Your name and address on the return label as well as in the shipping box.
- ▶ All contributors will receive an acknowledgement letter.
- ▶ We are a registered 501(c)(3) corporation with the Internal Revenue Service. This means that your financial and supply donations and cost of postage may be tax-deductible on your Federal income tax.



