

Friends of Ostomates Worldwide-USA (FOW-USA)



***FRIENDS OF
OSTOMATES
WORLDWIDE - USA***

**Thirty-five years of bringing hope
to ostomates worldwide by
providing donated ostomy
supplies & educational
resources at no charge**

April 2020

What is FOW-USA?

FOW-USA is a volunteer run, non-profit founded in 1985

- 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.



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What is FOW-USA?

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



2020 Board

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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.



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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.



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Where have we helped?

96 Countries Around the World



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Where we help

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

Requirements of recipients



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

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Our partners



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

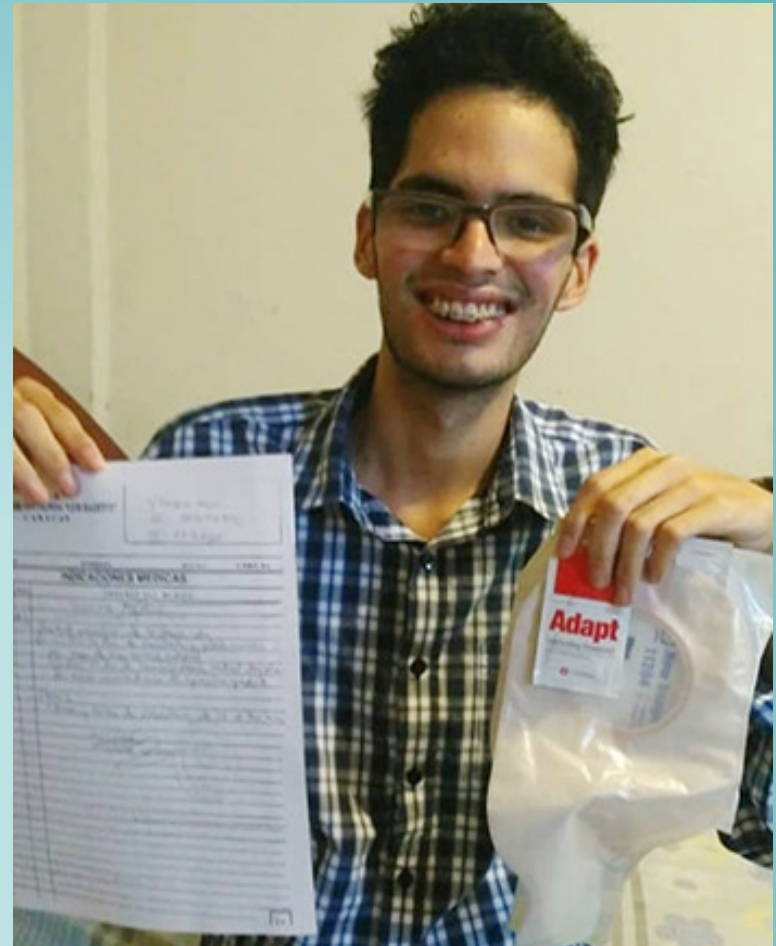


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FOW-USA

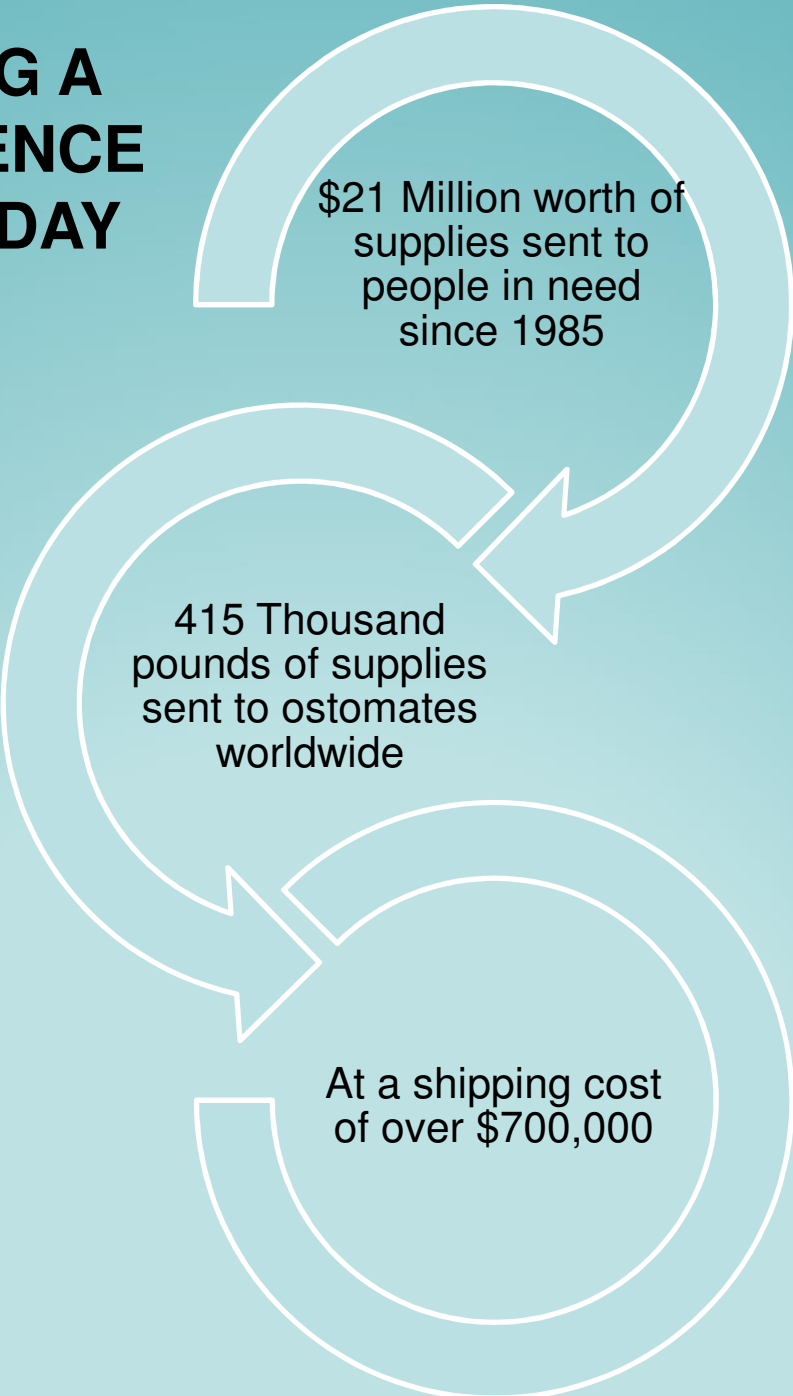
Provides funds annually to the Lions for Stoma Care Project to support the stoma care education of doctors and nurses in developing countries.



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MAKING A DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY



\$21 Million worth of
supplies sent to
people in need
since 1985

415 Thousand
pounds of supplies
sent to ostomates
worldwide

At a shipping cost
of over \$700,000

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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.



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Products ready for repacking



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



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What supplies are acceptable?

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



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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.



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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**

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Repacking supplies for shipment



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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
- Designate FOW-USA when you purchase from Amazon.



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Get Involved by



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



Follow us on Instagram



Visit our website: 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 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.

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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
- 3** Industry Advisers that provide in-kind and financial support
- 18** Warehouse Volunteers who receive, sort, repack, and ship supplies, (plus 18 additional 'special event' Warehouse Volunteers this year)
- 19** Board Members who volunteer to do the work of FOW-USA
- 21** Million worth of supplies sent to people in need since 1985
- 35** Years of humanitarian service
- 96** Countries that receive donated ostomy supplies
- 150** Different sources of product donors
- 415,000+** Pounds of supplies shipped to ostomates in need since 1985
- 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.

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