A Word from our Founder

Dear Afya Family,

Afya had a phenomenal 2019, seeing a huge number of partnerships, medical supply deliveries, equipment and durable medical material donations, events, volunteers, and more!

Afya is poised to respond to many types of situations and get medical supplies and equipment to those in need. We served our global community in monumental ways in 2019.

We nimbly created custom shipments for communities responding to crises such as hurricanes, cyclones, and earthquakes.

We developed strong relationships with clinics and community organizations so that they are empowered to serve their communities.

And we empowered our own Yonkers, Westchester, and New York community with opportunities to volunteer and give back, continuing a cycle of altruism that helps everyone!

Our staff worked around the clock in 2019 to ship over half a million pounds of medical supplies and equipment to 54 partner organizations in over 30 countries across the globe.

Over 3,800 individual volunteers served Afya for over 37,000 hours in our warehouse and at over 100 events!

We are extraordinarily grateful to our devoted and exceptional community for enabling us to create such an immense positive impact on the world in 2019. We look forward to new opportunities to positively contribute to our world in 2020.

Wishing health and happiness for all,

Danielle Butin, MPH, OTR
Founder and CEO of The Afya Foundation
AFYA’S IMPACT IN 2019

Afya has served healthcare systems in 32 countries and 9 U.S. areas.

- **313** TOTAL SHIPMENTS
- **54** PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS
- **592,396** POUNDS OF MATERIAL DELIVERED
- **3,896** INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEERS
- **37,902** VOLUNTEER HOURS SERVED
Afya’s Founding Story

By Danielle Butin, MPH, OTR

Africa had been calling me for a long time, and the moment I stepped on Tanzania’s earth, I instantly felt my life was about to change.

Afya was born on a hot day in the Serengeti Plains, when I noticed a woman crying alone in a tent. I sat down next to her and she said “I am a highly sought-after physician from London. I took a month off to volunteer here and work in the medical clinics. But they have nothing… absolutely nothing on their shelves.”

In that dusty tent, I realized there are moments in life when another person’s pain is so raw that we experience it as our own. It screams at us to do something. From my work experience, I knew there was a regulation-driven surplus of medical supplies that would land in waste streams back in the states. Witnessing the profound shortfall in health care supplies in Tanzania, the idea for the Afya Foundation took hold.

Prior to the fateful departure from my executive position at a Fortune 500 company, I had built a department from scratch and created innovative, award-winning health services for hundreds of thousands of older adults. Having begun as an occupational therapist and with years of clinical work, I was trained to value and believe in the simple act of listening carefully.

I came home from Tanzania and immediately put my experience in New York City healthcare to use.

Never expecting to find my calling on those sacred African plains, I chose the name Afya, which means “health” or “wellness” in Swahili, in honor of the land that inspired the work.

I launched Afya in 2007.

We’ve come so far and have learned at supersonic speed. In just 11 years, we have grown enormously. Not only have we rescued and shipped supplies valued at $36 million to 83 countries, we have diverted over 9.5 million pounds from New York’s waste streams.

I chose the name Afya, which means “health” or “wellness” in Swahili, in honor of the land that inspired the work.
I don’t believe in a “one-size-fits-all” aid agenda: Afya has crafted a unique and personal approach to our international effort. Taking the lead from doctors and local leaders in devastated communities, we provide custom relief packages and shipments to ensure patients receive care and support tailored to their specific needs. We listen carefully to the voices of practitioners and help them stay where they are, supported with supplies.

From our humble beginnings in my garage to our recently expanded 25,000 square foot warehouse space in NYC, Yonkers and Tarrytown, NY, our local and global footprint continues to multiply.

We’ve created an amazing, caring community that saves lives and our environment.

Afya (health) and access to care should be a basic human right.
Afya sends deliveries of vital medical equipment to our partners around the world and across the country in multiple ways. We send full containers of material by ship and truck, partial containers of material by ship, truck, and plane, and Afya Luggage for Life deliveries, which are duffel bags transported by individual travelers.

**Shipments**

- **313** Total Shipments in 2019
- **19** Full Container Shipments
- **27** Partial Container or Air Shipments
- **248** Afya Luggage for Life Shipments
- **19** Recycle Program Shipments

**2019 Places Served**

- **32** Countries Served
  - Bahamas
  - Bulgaria
  - Cape Verde
  - Colombia
  - Dominican Republic
  - Dominica
  - Fiji
  - Gambia
  - Ghana
  - Guatemala
  - Guyana
  - Haiti
  - Honduras
  - Iceland
  - Jamaica
  - Kenya
  - Mali
  - Mexico
  - Mozambique
  - Namibia
  - Nigeria
  - Pakistan
  - Peru
  - Senegal
  - Sierra Leone
  - South Africa
  - Tanzania
  - Uganda
  - USA
  - Yemen
  - Zimbabwe

- **9** US Areas Served
  - Flint, Michigan
  - Florida
  - Yonkers, NY
  - New York, NY
  - Puerto Rico
  - Queens, NY
  - Seattle, WA
  - US Virgin Islands
  - Utah
SPOTLIGHT ON
MOZAMBIQUE
RECOVERING FROM CYCLONE IDAI

11 pallets airlifted
4,393 pounds of supplies delivered, including medical supplies to treat all types of injuries and illnesses typical to environmental crises and displacement

In the wake of Cyclone Idai in Mozambique in March 2019, Afya sent vital medical materials to our partners at ADRA Mozambique.

From March 6th until March 21st, Cyclone Idai caused immense infrastructure damage, killed over 1,000 people, and displaced an estimated 2 million people. Our partners at ADRA Mozambique responded immediately by setting up emergency response shelters, distributing food and sanitation kits, and maintaining a supportive presence in the region through 2019. Material delivered by Afya played an essential role in treating people with critical injuries and illnesses.

SPOTLIGHT ON
THE BAHAMAS
RECOVERING FROM HURRICANE DORIAN

4 container shipments
2 private/chartered plane shipments
2 recovery groups brought Afya Luggage for Life Bags
47,600 pounds of material sent

Empact Northwest was on the ground in Abaco with our material 34 hours after the storm cleared.

Six physicians from Medical Professionals on a Mission (MPOM) provided medical services for 136 children, 2 adults, and 2 babies within five days at the National Stadium Shelter in Nassau.

UJA volunteers distributed 600 pairs of shoes, 150 hygiene kits, ambulation devices, and medical consumables directly outside of the National Stadium Shelter in Nassau.

IsraAID coordinated the last mile delivery of 38,800 pounds of material to Grand Bahamas Disaster Relief.
Volunteers are an essential part of our work. People of all ages and abilities deserve to experience altruism. Their work truly makes the world a better place. At risk and marginalized volunteer groups receive invaluable skill building and early job readiness training while volunteering at the Afya warehouse. We would not be able to get the amount of material out of our warehouse to our partners around the country and the world without our volunteers.

3,896 INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEERS

37,902 TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS SERVED

64 OFFSITE EVENTS

62 EVENTS AT THE WAREHOUSE

450 VULNERABLE POPULATION VOLUNTEERS

Get Involved

Visit our website to learn more. We are always looking for volunteers, groups, partners, and donors.

afyafoundation.org

For More Info

Visit our website to view Afya's most recent audited financials: afyafoundation.org/financials

Stay in Touch

info@afyafoundation.org
TheAfyaFoundation
@afyafoundation
@AfyaFoundation