

A smiling woman with dark skin, wearing a yellow and black patterned headwrap and a light-colored shirt with a blue floral pattern, holds a small green seedling in a mound of reddish-brown soil. She is standing outdoors in a field with green trees in the background. The word 'tiba' is written in green at the top, and 'Cultivating Healthy Communities' is written in black across the middle of the image.

tiba

**Cultivating Healthy
Communities**

In Spite of Covid, Tiba had a Remarkable Year

Dear Friends of Tiba,

In 2021, we faced many challenges due to the ongoing pandemic; but because of the hard work of our Kenyan partners and our engaged Tiba community, we have had a successful year, uplifting and empowering rural Kenyans in unprecedented ways. We are grateful to FIGS Scrubs for their support of the OR, Rotary International for helping launch our telehealth program, and Kaiser Permanente for their continued investment in our work. We are excited to welcome many new members into the Tiba-Matibabu community this year. We thank you all for your transformative partnership!

Sincerely,

Gail Wagner
Founder & Board President of Tiba

Dan Ogola
Founder & CEO of Matibabu Foundation

HIGHLIGHTS



FIGS donates 25,000 pairs of scrubs to distribute to Kenyan healthcare workers.



Tiba & Matibabu launch Western Kenya Cervical Cancer Campaign to reach 10+ million.



New telehealth grant and launching of remote outreach and pregnancy ultrasounds.

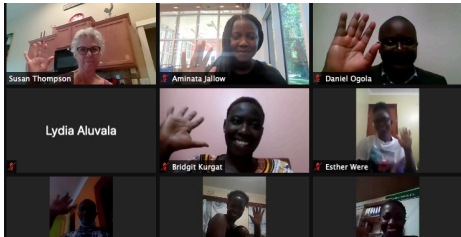


130 nursing students enrolled in Matibabu College of Health Sciences, and 70 enrolled in the new perioperative program.



28 Tiba volunteers lead 10 global health webinars and quality improvement lectures.

Boda Girls program trains women as motorcycle taxi drivers, promoting female health, education, and economic development.



More than 150 volunteers virtually attend our Annual Gala & Appreciation Events.



The Power of Rural Healthcare Professionals

This year Matibabu nurses delivered 458 babies and cared for more than 30,000 patients. For their hard work during the pandemic, they were awarded a “special appreciation bonus” from Tiba donors and a legacy bonus from Matibabu. Matibabu nurses are champions of community health and economic empowerment!

Nursing students at the Mary Ann van Dam School of Nursing at the Matibabu Founda-

tion College of Health Sciences also did their part – studying during vacations and working double rotations to make up for covid closures. And, notwithstanding the pandemic, the College continued its mission of developing capable and compassionate rural nurses. In 2020 the College offered a new specialty in preoperative nursing, with an enrollment of more than 70 students. This year, the college graduated 36 nurses, of whom 35 passed the National Exam and are already working.



East Africa desperately needs nurses. The World Health Organization recommends a ratio of 1 nurse for every 400 community residents (1:400). Unfortunately, in our area of Kenya, this ratio is only about 1:2000. Over the course of their career, a rural nurse might care for more than 200,000 patients.



Matibabu Brings Quality Medical Care to Remote Villages.

Although many rural areas of Kenya have health clinics, they are often understaffed and lack necessary equipment and medicines. Matibabu, with more than 100 medical professionals, stands out as a model of quality, providing access to such services as X-rays, ultra-sounds, surgery, and an award-winning laboratory. Matibabu also boasts a wholesale pharmacy that supplies not only Matibabu's hospital but 13 other rural clinics.

While Matibabu's hospital and clinic serve

more than 30,000 patients a year, many individuals cannot access these services because they live in outlying areas. To address this problem, Matibabu has begun offering two "medical camps" each month, sending teams to under-resourced local facilities or sometimes simply pitching a tent in a field. Among other benefits, these camps reduce the high rates of maternal and infant mortality, because Matibabu brings a portable ultra-sound machine to each camp and offers scans for free.

Since July, more than 25 Matibabu staff have mobilized to host 14 full-day "medical camps" in remote areas. Over a six-month period, these camps treated almost 9,000 patients. Many of these patients, who could never afford to go to a hospital or find transportation to do so, are now receiving quality care and medicines for the first time.



The maternal mortality rate is high in Siaya County, largely due to the lack of ultrasound tests to detect pregnancy complications. Thanks to Matibabu's efforts, however, maternity and perinatal mortality rates are decreasing. Between 2020 and 2021, the number of in-hospital deliveries at Matibabu increased by 74% (from 263 to 458), and the number of mothers attending pre-and post-natal classes conducted by Matibabu increased by 51% (from 744 to 1125).

Healthy Pregnancy, Healthy Baby Project

Matibabu's goal is to provide at least one free ultrasound scan to 95% of all pregnant women in the county each year. To that end, Matibabu hired a second sonographer and trained eight staff members to conduct scans on pregnant women, estimate dates of birth, check for chromosomal and structural anomalies, and follow up on referrals. In the first six months of a pilot program, 549

women received ultrasounds, 10% of which identified risk factors. The team also engages mothers in pre-and post-natal classes and enrolls them in an in-home nutrition counseling program for the first two years of the child's life. To date these efforts have been very successful, but Matibabu will need additional portable ultrasounds in order to reach every mother-to-be in need.

Cervical cancer takes more Kenyan women's lives than any other form of cancer, yet it is preventable and easily treatable if caught early. Our area of Kenya suffers from a high rate of HIV, which correlates to a high rate of HPV, the virus that causes cervical cancer. We believe that **all women have the right to access cervical cancer prevention and treatment**—together we can eliminate this cancer from Kenya!



Tiba launches Cervical Cancer Campaign in 14 Counties

In November Tiba, Matibabu, and Africa Cancer Foundations launched a Cervical Cancer Awareness Campaign in the 14 counties of Western Kenya. Our goal is to educate the population, numbering some 10 million, about cervical cancer and to provide cancer screening, treatment, and vaccinations throughout the region. We are grateful to the many partners who have joined us. These include Kaiser Permanente, which provided financial support; Merck

(known in Kenya as MSD) which coordinated 850,000 free vaccinations for the campaign; TogetHER for Health, which provided media support; and PINCC for its ongoing training work in the area. At our mid-campaign review, the number of screenings had **more than doubled compared to the prior year**. We celebrated our success and initiated Campaign 2.0 running through 2022 to provide even more life-saving screenings.

Boda Girls Drive Health, Education, and Economic Access for Women

We believe that female empowerment requires mobility—change happens when women can drive. Boda Girls are taught how to drive the most common form of transport, the “Boda Boda” (or motorcycle taxi). Traditionally Boda Boda driving has been a “male job” – one that pays up to ten times as much as the farm labor that women typically perform. Not only can the Boda Girls build their own businesses to help support their families (many are widows), they are health advocates for women and girls. They give free rides to the hospital for women seek-

ing family planning, pregnancy services, or cancer screening. They also teach reproductive health and entrepreneurial skills to 14 year-old girls and distribute much-needed sustainable menstrual kits.

Community elders and police are supportive. So are male taxi drivers, who are encouraged to take our training to become certified as “He for She - Boda Girl Allies.” These “Allies” receive health benefits and earnings opportunities.



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The Power of Investment in Local Organizations

The developing world bears 90% of the global disease burden, yet has access to only 10% of the resources that fund health initiatives. Of that, **only 1.1% goes to local organizations.** In light of this imbalance, Tiba's focus is to invest in trustworthy local community leaders and organizations – such as Matibabu – that are closest to those in need of services. For more than 15 years Matibabu has demonstrated its ability to bring significant benefits to the communities it serves and to faithfully represent those communities.

The Tiba board of directors covers the entirety of our US expenses, so that 100% of donations to Tiba go directly to healthcare needs in Kenya.

Please Partner with Us:

www.tibafoundation.org | ID 20-1102853

Diane Dodge, Executive Director

diane.dodge@tibafoundation.org | 510.435.4558 cell

344 20th Street #9D, Oakland, CA 94612