



# Humble Beginnings:

## Adya Care Foundation's Journey of Empowerment

Prince Dorvilus and Sueanne Vazquez

**In the bustling landscape of non-profit organizations, one beacon shines brightly with its commitment to empowerment and inclusivity: Adya Care Foundation.** Born from a pharmacist's compassionate heart and a desire to mend the gaps in healthcare accessibility, we embarked on a journey from humble beginnings to become a vital pillar of support for People Living with HIV (PLWH) facing challenges many others take for granted.

Behind the scenes of Adya Care Foundation's impactful initiatives, we stand with a dedication that is an unweaving desire to provide safe spaces and resources for those in need in the community. With no full or part-time paid staff, we rely on the altruism of volunteers and the unwavering support of the local community, agencies, and our organization partners to fulfill our mission. Due to the overwhelming support of our members and volunteers, we forge ahead, and our commitment to compassion, empowerment, and education remains unwavering. With each program, event, and partnership, our members and volunteers continue to sow seeds of support, ensuring that individuals facing health challenges find comfort, guidance, and a sense of belonging. With a vision of a world where everyone has equal access to healthcare resources and support, we stand as a beacon of hope and solidarity in times of need.

At our core lies a profound mission: to provide platforms that are a safe haven for individuals with challenging health backgrounds to interact, educate, collaborate to support one another through their unique health journey and combat social anxiety. From its inception, we and our core volunteers set forth a vision of communities seamlessly accessing critical social services, bridging the gap in understanding medications, addressing health conditions, and combating stigmas. Everyone involved understands that HIV is manageable, not insurmountable, but with the advancements in medication and healthcare, PLWH can live a fulfilling life supported by a community that embraces the values of accessibility, empowerment, and education.

Like the proverbial tree planted for future generations, Adya Care Foundation took root in the heart of its founder, who witnessed firsthand the neglected needs within the healthcare industry.

Fueled by the belief that good people sow seeds of support for others to flourish, we sprouted from a modest dwelling on a front lawn to hosting monthly Community Love Table events at a renowned community center in the heart of Orlando.

As the community commemorates our third anniversary, the journey of evolution and expansion continues. Transitioning from Community Love Feast to Community Love Table, we and our committed volunteers aim to dismantle barriers and ensure equitable access to information and resources for all PWLH and individuals of all backgrounds. With comprehensive programs and ceremonies, we are currently executing and rolling out with our partners like Community Love Table strives to offer critical social services, The Ryan White Outstanding Compassion Awards, where Case Managers & Peers are recognized for their astonishing work for the PWLH community throughout the year, our Golden Unity initiative will create inclusive spaces to address the unique needs of our Golden Community, One Wash at a Time offers assistance with laundry access and a food pantry, PFK provides fresh hot meals to the local community, Adapt A School will create opportunities for high school students to participate in our Internship program, the Enhancing Wellbeing Garden project will provide a peaceful, therapeutic and friendly workspace for our members, and our Hearts in Action initiative allows us to volunteer at symbolic events like the Salvation Army Bazaar sale and An Evening For Others hosted by The Salvation Army. Adya Care Foundation will continue to champion inclusivity and equality.

Adya Care Foundation remains steadfast in its dedication to serving those in need due to unwavering support from SmartCare Rx, with its virtual doors open to all who seek assistance and resources. We are determined to stand as a beacon of hope and solidarity in times of need. We are so thankful to all the members who have put their trust in us to uphold the mission and are truly grateful to the core volunteers who show up day in and day out to provide the support we need to be successful.

For more information about Adya Care Foundation and its initiatives, visit [www.adyacare.org](http://www.adyacare.org) or contact [info@adyacare.org](mailto:info@adyacare.org) if you are interested in learning more about how you can be a volunteer today or participate in any of our programs!