WHAT IS AN OSTOMY?

AN OSTOMY causes a change in the way urine or stool exits the body as a result of a surgical procedure. Bodily waste is rerouted from its usual path because of malfunctioning parts of the urinary or digestive system. They can be temporary or permanent.

A STOMA is the opening created by ostomy surgery. It is located on the abdomen and is dark pink in color. For most ostomies, a pouch is worn over the stoma to collect stool or urine. For some people it is possible to have a continent diversion, which is a procedure that avoids having to wear a pouch, as an alternative to a conventional ostomy.

OSTOMIES ARE PROSTHETICS

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES?

A colostomy diverts stool from the colon.

A ileostomy diverts stool from the small intestines.

A urostomy diverts urine when the bladder has been removed or bypassed.

There are approximately **725,000 - 1,000,000** Persons living with an ostomy in the U.S.

**DID YOU KNOW…?**

You'd likely never know if you met a person with an ostomy.

Babies, kids and adults have ostomies.

Approximately **100,000** ostomy surgeries are performed annually in the United States.

People with ostomies live full & meaningful lives that include swimming, working, playing sports & having relationships.

OSTOMIES SAVE LIVES.