Renowned spine surgeon uses his talents to impact and encourage disadvantaged communities around the globe

AN INTERVIEW WITH

Daveed D. Frazier, M.D. Medical Director

WHAT INSPIRES YOUR PHILANTHROPY?

If everyone steps up and does just one thing, the world will be a much better place. I'm engaged in significant global and local non-profit work and hope to have a positive impact on the people I'm fortunate enough to reach. I have the great fortune to have trained with and become one of the world's top spinal surgeons and with that comes the responsibility to pay it forward.

WHERE DO YOU FOCUS YOUR CHARITABLE TIME?

I'm on the boards of many non-profits. Three charities I devote most of my time to include FilmAid, bringing film and other media with life-saving information, relief and hope to refugees around the world; NuVasive Spine Foundation, providing life-changing spine surgery and training to local surgeons in disadvantaged communities across the globe; and the Jazz Foundation of America, which assists musicians with emergency funds, medical care and instruments so they can continue working.



DAVEED D. FRAZIER

M.D., Medical Director, New York City Spine Surgery PLLC

WHAT TOUCHES YOU THE MOST ABOUT GIVING BACK?

I've been in refugee camps in Africa, homeless shelters in NYC, have had dinner with Grammy-award winning musicians who don't have a dime after losing everything in hurricane Katrina, have counseled child soldiers who have been forced to slaughter their families, have helped to feed paralyzed patients living with no resources, etc. What's common about these and other experiences is that frequently those in need don't ask for help and feel that their hardships are a fact of life. The humanity in seemingly desperate situations is inspiring and hopeful. In so many ways I receive more than I give.



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