

“ I think if India is to be saved, the very least and the very most that we need is to nurture kindness, let us at least nurture kindness, let us at most nurture kindness ”

- Mr. Harsh Mander



Left to right: Usha Jesudasan, Dr. J.V. Peter, Harsh Mander, Dr. Philip Ninan, Dr. Anna Pulimood

Mr. Harsh Mander Delivers the 8th Dr. Ida S. Scudder Humanitarian Oration: *Compassion – the Missing Link*

The Vellore CMC Foundation, together with CMC Vellore, established the Dr. Ida S. Scudder Memorial oration to recognize Dr. Scudder's immense contribution to the development and expansion of medical services in India. The annual Memorial is also intended to draw attention to the inspiring qualities of Dr. Scudder's character and life so that members of the healthcare profession may continue to emulate and embody these in their lives and service.

This year, we were proud to have Mr. Harsh Mander deliver the Oration at CMC, Vellore on Friday, August 9th. A peace activist and writer, Mr. Mander currently serves as the Director of the Centre for Equity Studies in New Delhi and advocates for the marginalized in India. Mr. Mander spoke passionately stating "the example of public compassion

which both Dr. Ida Scudder and CMC Vellore provide really represent to me the core – the missing link in finding a way out of the darkness of our times."

The principal challenges of our time, which he described as one of the most cruel in human history, are inequality coupled with indifference, rising hatred and legitimized bigotry, and climate change. While he generally spoke of inequality globally, he focused in on India and the caste system: caste - "the accident of our birth" - complicates and deepens inequality and allows a high level of comfort with the glaring inequalities all around us, he said.

The second crisis that he spoke about was the rising hate and intolerance that is becoming more engrained in our culture, and this "manifests itself in an epidemic of lynchings". Mr. Mander explained that

we are seeing incidents of lynching across India, and many don't notice. Yet, these lynchings are made public, legitimizing and valorizing hatred as evinced by their

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Bill Gates: "Vellore Ten Years Ahead of India in Achieving the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals"
On September 25, 2019, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation hosted the third annual Goalkeepers event in New York City.

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PLEASE SUPPORT THE FOUNDATION'S END-OF-YEAR GIVING CAMPAIGN

As we approach the end of the 2019 calendar year, it is with tremendous gratitude that we look back at the Foundation's activities and in particular its role in supporting CMC Vellore and its Alumni Association in their continued pursuit of excellence.

That we may continue to do so, we ask that you please consider making a year-end contribution in support of CMC's future and ongoing success. Your gifts allow us to provide transformational support to CMC and to its many programs in support of the poor and needy!

The Foundation Staff – John, Deepika, Mabel and Trish – wishes you and your family a very Happy and Blessed Christmas Season!



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends of CMC Vellore and the Foundation,

As 2019 now draws to a close, I find myself reflecting upon several of the more significant changes and accomplishments of this past year, for each has done much to set the stage for a promising future. Perhaps most significant amongst them is the transition in the Foundation's Chairperson position. In June of this year, we all observed the seamless shift in leadership from the compassionate and intellectual nature of Dr. Honorine Ward to an equally brilliant and impassioned vision of Dr. Philip "Teeps" Ninan. As they were with Honorine, the oversight activities of the Foundation are now in the very capable hands of Dr. Ninan.

This year also presented the Foundation with the opportunity to launch multiple new initiatives, which not only raised funds for CMC but also allowed us to pay tribute to CMC's founder, Dr. Ida S. Scudder, the niece of Dr. Ida, Dr. Ida Belle Scudder, and CMC alumni, Dr. Surjit Hermon and Dr. Mary Varghese.

Of special note is that after a six-year hiatus, CMC has once again been selected to participate in USAID's American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA) program. The \$630,000 grant will be used to assist CMC's medical staff with improving the survival outcomes for newborn babies afflicted with birth asphyxia.

Seeking out new ways to collaborate with the faith-based community, the Foundation successfully reinvigorated partnerships that have long played a meaningful role in the ongoing development and expansion of CMC. In June, we organized an Ecumenical Leadership Forum with the intent of gaining a fuller understanding of how the global missionary activities of our partners align with the need to also contribute to local charitable activities.

Also, by strengthening its ties with the Scudder family and with the Reformed Church in America – two groups with direct ties to the origins of Ida Scudder's missionary work in Vellore – the Foundation has formed a deeper understanding of how tying the missions of these three organizations together can bring greater meaning to the work we each embark upon in India.

During the remaining weeks of this year, the Foundation Board and staff will be focusing our efforts on our end-of-year campaign – one intended to permit CMC to further enhance its excellence in the areas of scientific research, education and service to the poor. Please join us in this important campaign so that we might together discover new and better ways to give witness to the healing ministry of Jesus Christ.

With much appreciation and my warmest regards,

John A. Riehl

video-taping and propagation on social media.

Though Mr. Mander shared troubling statistics and tragic stories to bring awareness to the crises, he was also confident that there is a core solution: public compassion. He spoke about the idea of social protection and our duty to care for each other. "Justice, liberty and equality can never become the natural order of things unless there is fraternity" – the brother and sisterhood that makes us feel as one.

As an example, he spoke about the 40,000 to 50,000 homeless children sleeping on the streets every night in India. While seemingly too big of an issue to tackle, Mander explained that "if you don't look away, solutions are not that difficult". After hearing a story about a young street girl being raped outside of a school, the principal of that school decided to open the doors after school hours



Not all of us are capable of great things, but everyone one of us is capable of doing small things with great love.



- Mother Theresa

to provide shelter for homeless children. Learning from this story, Mander worked with government schools across the country to convert them into safe spaces for homeless children, with the hope to expand to even more schools so that no child has to sleep under the open sky.

Quoting Mother Theresa, Mr. Mander shared "not all of us are capable of great things, but everyone one of us is capable of doing small things with great love." Mr. Mander reiterated that we need to nurture compassion in our society and in our own hearts. "I think if India is to be saved, the very least and the very most that we

need is to nurture kindness, let us at least nurture kindness, let us at most nurture kindness" said Mr. Mander.

CMC Director, Dr. J.V. Peter, welcomed the gathering. Chair of the Vellore CMC Foundation, New York, Dr. Philip Ninan, introduced the speaker. Local author and Foundation Board member, Ms. Usha Jesudasan read the Citation and presented it to Harsh Mander, and Dr. Anna Pulimood, Principal of the medical college proposed the vote of thanks. The oration was attended by students, community members, as well as Alumni who were on campus for their reunion weekend.

2019 Special Batch Project Giving

The Medical Alumni Reunion was held from August 8th to 10th, 2019 at CMC, Vellore. Over 200 alumni from various parts of the world gathered in Vellore to take part in the celebrations.

This year the Foundation supported Batches 1969 and 1994 in their fundraising efforts for their batch projects:



The Batch of 1969 raised \$11,000 in honor of their MBBS 50th Reunion; designated for Basketball Courts on Bagayam Campus in support of enhancing the campus life of present and future MBBS students, and a CT/MRI scanner for the Chittoor Hospital.

The Batch of 1994 raised \$23,000 in honor of their MBBS 25th Reunion; designated for RUHSA's Ophthalmology Clinic to address the immense need for more regularized eye care.



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Vellore Ten Years Ahead of India in Achieving the SGDs



In his keynote address, Microsoft co-founder and philanthropist Bill Gates presented the report card on child survival at the annual event, highlighting Vellore's progress in both health and education, which are keys to prosperity in a community. "In Vellore, the education and child survival figures are the same as in a rich country ...[with] 98 of 100 children likely to see their fifth birthday," Gates reported. He measured Vellore's success against other districts in India, like Buduan in Uttar Pradesh where almost 10% of children don't live to see their fifth year. The comparison, the two extremes in a developing world, was made to show the huge opportunity that exists to replicate the efforts and progress achieved in places like Vellore to the rest of the country. "Right now, India isn't on track to achieve the [Sustainable Development Goals], but Vellore is on track, in fact, they have achieved them 10 years before the deadline."

It is a great achievement for Vellore, and a testament to CMC's mission,

which Dr. Ida Scudder set into motion one hundred years ago. Ida's focus on women's health filled a void that has changed the course of history for Vellore. However, one doesn't have to look to another district in India to see disparities in health care. As was the case in the early years of Ida Scudder's life, the lives of too many mothers and children are being lost during labor and delivery just 50 miles away from Vellore in the tribal communities of the Jawadhi Hills.

The Foundation continues to work with CMC in implementing the Model Villages Project in the Jawadhi Hills, which provides comprehensive access to health care, clean water, hygiene and sanitation, education, and social programs to improve the health and socio-economic status of the 80,000 tribal people in the Jawadhi Hills. As we move forward, the Foundation's goal is to continue supporting CMC's efforts in the Jawadhi Hills, with a specific focus on maternal and child health in the area.



RENEWED COMMITMENT FROM USAID-ASHA HELPS TO MAXIMIZE CMC'S EFFORTS TO IMPROVE MATERNAL AND NEONATAL HEALTH OUTCOMES IN VELLORE

We are excited to announce the imminent implementation of this year's USAID - ASHA Grant award - Improving Maternal and Neonatal Health Outcomes.

USAID - ASHA has awarded CMC \$630,000 to improve the birthing conditions for labor and delivery for all mothers as well as the health outcomes of babies born with birth asphyxia.

We are appreciative of the people and government of the U.S. for their generosity in supporting universal human values that are a way of life here in the U.S. We look forward to continue working with USAID-ASHA and to an even more beneficial relationship. Stay tuned for periodic updates!



2019 Vellore CMC Foundation Annual Meeting



On June 26, 2019 the Vellore CMC Foundation held its annual Corporation meeting at the Interchurch Center in NYC. The Foundation welcomed Dr. Deepak Abraham, CMC Associate Director and his wife Dr. Elsy Abraham, GOTC Key Note speakers Drs. Anil & Shalini Cherian and Dr. Selva Titus Chacko, former the Dean

College of Nursing and her husband, CMC faculty member and oncologist Dr. Raju Titus Chacko. Dr. Abraham spoke about CMC highlighting the progress of the Foundation's key initiatives and projects.

The Foundation expressed their gratitude for the leadership of Dr. Honorine Ward and Mr. Prasad Palla as Board

Officers; their commitment and guidance in recent years has had an immeasurable impact on the Foundation. Dr. Honorine Ward was presented with a plaque to commemorate the naming of the Dr. Honorine Ward Senior Training Fellowship for her dedication to CMC as Board Chairperson. The Foundation is appreciative of the support and service of those other Board Members whose terms are ending - Ms. Emma Koshi and Dr. Bobby Cherayil.

Please join us in welcoming our new Board members, Mrs. Usha Jesudasan, Dr. Anita Raja, Dr. Cephas Swamidoss and Dr. Nissi Varki (Batch '68). We also welcome new Corporation members, Dr. Mrinalini Matcha (Batch '87), Dr. Kirti Shetty (Batch '83), Charles Scudder (SFA) and Scott Engelsman (RCA).

Newly-Elected Vellore Christian Medical College Foundation Board of Directors



Niissi Varki, MD



Usha Jesudasan



Cephas Swamidoss, MD



Anita Raja, PhD

Newly-Elected Vellore Christian Medical College Foundation Corporation Members



Mrinalini Matcha, MD



Kirti Shetty, MD



Charles Scudder



Scott Engelsman

Ecumenical Forum Brings Together Our Faith-Based Community

On June 25th, 2019 representatives from several different Christian organizations attended an “Ecumenical Leadership Forum” hosted by the Vellore CMC Foundation in the Interchurch Center in New York City. The main purpose of this forum was to begin a friendly dialogue with the hope that we can learn from each other to effectively engage in the world and make a difference in the lives of many. Our specific aim was to learn from each other and explore possibilities in making a united effort in helping with the “Healing Ministry of Christ” in India. The event was opened in prayer by Reverend Chandra Soans (Senior Pastor at Grace United Church of Christ), Our keynote speakers who launched us into discussion were Reverend Benjamin Chan (Area Director for South and East Asia, American Baptist Church), Reverend Kate Dunn (Senior Pastor and coordinator for the “Missions program” at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church), Dr. Deepak Abraham, CMC Associate Director and Dr. Anil Cherian (Director, Jonglei Health Sciences Institute, Batch ‘83). Some takeaways from our speakers and discussion were:

- *“Mission is not an option and it is less about us and what we can “do” for others. Mission is more about how we can join God, in God’s mission for the world.”*
- *“As we celebrate the past and envision the future, God’s faithfulness propels us into new and exciting areas of mission”*
- *“Mission partners are relationships built on reciprocal exchange and accountability.”*

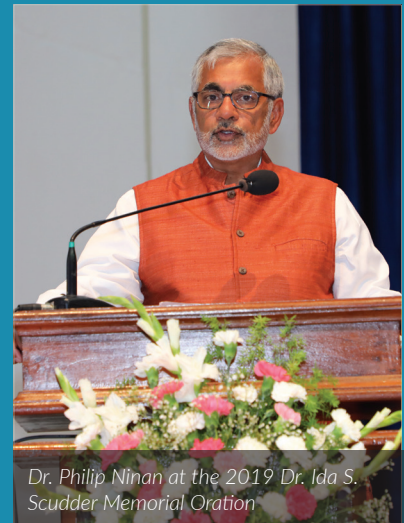
The event ended in a beautiful invocation by Dr. Meredith Hawkins, Professor of Medicine, Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Member of the Board.

This forum strengthened relationships and created new partnerships and initiatives. One such initiative is the North East Church wide event in Edison NJ scheduled for February 2020 (more details to follow).



Keynote speaker, Rev. Benjamin Chan

The Foundation Welcomes Dr. Philip T. Ninan as new Chairperson of the Board



Dr. Philip Ninan at the 2019 Dr. Ida S. Scudder Memorial Oration

“The Foundation plays a pivotal role in the transformation that’s happening in CMC – such as the new campus at Kannigapuram and expanding support for Jawadhi Hills. The Foundation Board, with the inspiring leadership of John Riehl, invite you, our supporters, to help serve the needs of the underprivileged and provide all-inclusive state-of-the-art health care to those who cannot afford it. CMC is a shining light and we can help fuel it.”

- Dr. Philip T. Ninan

CMC Directorate, Dr. J.V. Peter, Pays Visit to Canada and U.S. to Spend Time with Alumni and Friends of Vellore

In October 2019, members of the North American Alumni Association, along with other "Friends of Vellore", offered Dr. J.V. Peter the warmest of welcomes with alumni-hosted reception taking place in Toronto, New York, Boston and Hartford, CT. Dr. Peter was also presented with an opportunity to meet the medical and administrative leadership team at SickKids Children's Hospital (in Toronto) where prospects of a long-term global alliance were detailed.

The Foundation also took an active role in orchestrating opportunities for Dr. Peter to meet with multiple key donor organizations from within the faith-based community (of the New York City area), as well as with private sector grant making agencies. Our visit to United Methodist Women – the largest denominational faith organization for women in the world – resulted in the funding of five (5) full four-year nursing scholarships at the CMC College of Nursing, while a visit to the New Dover United Methodist Church in Edison, NJ, set the stage for the Global Medical Missions conference to take place in the first quarter of 2020.

Though the generosity of Drs. Hon-orine and Shiv Pallai and Drs. Tina and



NY area alumni and friends enjoying a beautiful day at the Narayan's residence



Dr. Peter presents an update on CMC at the lovely home of Drs. Pillai-Ward in Boston

Raj Narayan, Dr. Peter was treated to the warmth and hospitality of receptions hosted in the home of each – the Pallai's in Boston and the Narayan's in Long Island, NY. Peter shared his vision for CMC, which was highlighted by his announcement that the new CMC Level One Trauma Center would be opening in South India in the spring of 2020, and that plans were underway to construct a maternity hospital in the Jawadhi Hills and a Pediatric Center of Excellence on the same campus as the new trauma center.

A special word of thanks also goes out to Mr. Doug Virgin and Dr. Ponna Thurai-ratnam for organizing Dr. Peter's Toronto reception and for the kindness shown to our entire delegation while visiting the fair city.

Dr. Peter also found time for some quiet periods of reflection, while joining in prayer with Foundation Board members and staff alike. As it is always a pleasure to have Dr. Peter with us here in the US, we look forward to his return visit to New York and Minneapolis in June of 2020.



Dr. J.V. Peter and John Riehl at the Otis Elevator's testing facility exploring corporate social responsibility partnership opportunities



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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: DR. ROSHINE MARY KOSHY



Congratulations to Dr. Roshine Mary Koshy for the "Young Medical Missionary Award for Contribution to the Ministry of Healing and Serving in Rural India" awarded to her by the Christian Medical Association of India at their 45th Biennial Conference in November 2019.

Dr. Koshy serves as the Deputy Medical Superintendent at the Makunda Christian Leprosy and General Hospital.

2020 UPCOMING EVENTS

January 2020:

- RCA Mission Conference
- CMC Counsel Meeting in Vellore

March 2020:

- Ecumenical Global Mission Conference

June 2020:

- Kannigapuram Level One Trauma Center Opening
- GOTC in Minneapolis, MN
- Foundation Annual Meeting

November 2020:

- Foundation Fall Gala

December 2020:

- Ida S. Scudder Oration in Vellore

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