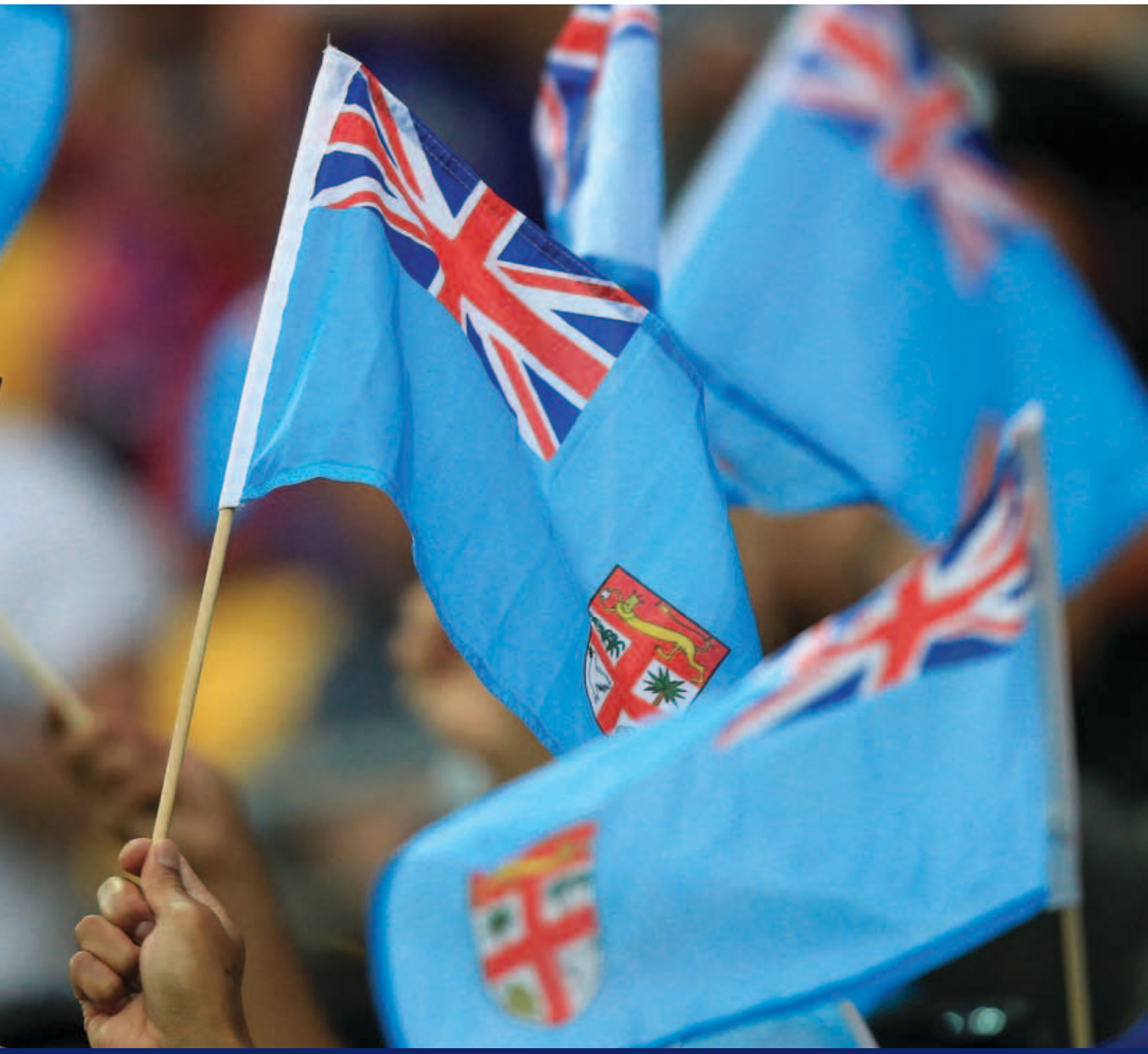
Sai Prema Foundation Fiji

An NGO founded to serve the underprivileged and needy people of Fiji
through Medicare, Educare and Sociocare initiatives



Love & Peace

THE MISSION OF SELFLESS SERVICE IN FIJI

If there is righteousness in the heart,
There will be beauty in the character.
If there is beauty in the character,
There will be harmony in the home.
When there is harmony in the home,
There will be order in the nation.
When there is order in the nation,
There will be peace in the world.

~ Sri Sathya Sai Baba


PROMOTION
PREVENTION
GIFT
OF LIFE
Health
on Wheels

Table of Contents

- Preface - Page 5
- Vision & Mission - Page 7
- Official Launch of Sai Prema Foundation Fiji - Page 8
  - Felicitation of the Cardiac Team by Hon. Acting Prime Minister
- Message from Chairman of Sai Prema Foundation Fiji - Page 13
- Excerpts from the speech by Acting Prime Minister (Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum) - Page 18
- Excerpts from the speech by Minister for Health (Hon. Rosy Akbar) - Page 19
- Project Report: Gift of Life - Page 21
  - Gift of Life Celebration Function
- Project Report: Medical Scholarship Program - Page 28
- Project Report: Health on Wheels - Page 31
  - Triage / Health Screening Report
  - General Practioners Report
  - Dental Report
  - Eye Clinic Report
  - Dietetics Report
  - Obstetrics & Gynaecology Report
  - Pharmacy Report
- Project Report: Sai Annapoorna - Page 43
- Project Report: Be a Hero - Page 48
- Project Report: Children of God - Page 53
- Project Report: Help in Kind - Page 58
- Overview of Upcoming Projects of the Sai Prema Foundation Fiji - Page 62
- Our Inspiration: Sri Sathya Sai Baba - Page 65
  - The Mission in Fiji
  - His Work: The Educare Mission
  - His Work: The Medicare Mission
  - His Work: The Sociocare Mission
  - The Global Mission
- Trustees of the Sai Prema Foundation Fiji - Page 72
- Members of the International Advisory Board of Sai Prema Foundation Fiji - Page 74

© Copyright - Sai Prema Foundation Fiji

> We make a living by what we get,
> but we make a life by what we give.
>
> ***~ Winston Churchill***

Preface

It is indeed an honour to have the opportunity to serve one's motherland and its people. The Trustees and volunteers of Sai Prema Foundation Fiji are deeply humbled to be able to make a difference to the lives of the poor and underprivileged people of Fiji through its Medicare, Educare and Sociocare initiatives.

This magazine is a celebration of our first year of existence of this unprecedented mission in Fiji, the mission of Love & Peace.

Sai Prema Foundation Fiji was officially launched by the Acting Prime Minister of Fiji, Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum on 19th August 2016. We are proud to be a Non-Government Organisation (NGO) working in association with the Government of Fiji on various initiatives in complementing their projects and policies in fulfilling a need or a void in society. The uniqueness of our Foundation is that every volunteer serves out of a desire to serve and help make a difference and is a volunteer without any financial gain or remuneration.

The three-pronged vision that governs the foundation is highlighted in these three ideals:
(1) To promote physical and mental well-being among the underprivileged, through Sociocare and Medicare initiatives;
(2) To raise people's understanding of human values, in a world that is increasingly challenged by a lack of humanity;
(3) To promote love, peace and unity among all Fijians, and promote better spiritual wellbeing.

In this short span of 12 months, the Foundation has successfully impacted the underprivileged and needy people of Fiji with the following initiatives:
Gift of Life – *providing free heart surgeries to the Children of Fiji*
Medical Scholarship – *a Pediatric Cardiology scholarship to train Fiji-based Doctors*
Health on Wheels – *serving the rural population of Fiji through regular free Medical Camps*
Sai Annapoorna – *distributing free food & clothing to poor families*
Be A Hero – *blood collection drives across the towns and cities in Fiji*
Children of God – *looking after the needs of Orphaned children*
Help in Kind – *Disaster or need response initiatives*

To coincide with our first year Anniversary we are launching four new projects to further our reach and impact into society:
Control D – *a Diabetes awareness campaign*
Heart Beat – *a Child Heart Screening initiative*
You Are Not Alone – *a Mental Health awareness program*
Sai Cares – *an Employment initiative for underprivileged women*

In the very near future, we will embark upon two monumental projects:
Sai Prema Ashram – *a Global Centre for Love & Peace in Pacific Harbour*
Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Medical Centre – *a free Medical Centre in the heart of Suva with the aim to expand this into South Pacific's first Pediatric Cardiac Super Speciality Hospital.*

"Be the change that you wish to see in the world."

~ Mahatma Gandhi

Vision & Mission

VISION

Sai Prema Foundation Fiji is a Non-Government Organisation (NGO) founded to serve the poor and underprivileged people of Fiji through Medicare, Educare and Sociocare initiatives. The foundation is inspired by Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

MISSION

(1) To promote physical and mental well-being among the underprivileged, through Sociocare and Medicare initiatives

(2) To raise people's understanding of human values, in a world that is increasingly challenged by a lack of humanity

(3) To promote love, peace and unity among all Fijians, and promote better spiritual well-being



Official Launch of Sai Prema Foundation Fiji

on Nineteenth of August 2016 at Novotel Function Centre in Suva by Acting Prime Minister of Fiji, Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum

Sai Prema Foundation Fiji (SPF) was officially launched on 19th August 2016 by Acting Prime Minister of Fiji, Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum. During this event, two of its key initiatives were launched.

First was the "Health on Wheels" project, which is about taking healthcare to those who are unable to access medical services because of their socio-economic situation. The foundation has acquired a truck to facilitate transport of medical and other related equipment to these medical camps. The second key initiative launched at this event was the "Gift of Life" project. A cardiac team (led by Dr. Ashish Katewa) from Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital, Raipur, India operated on 25 children with congenital heart problems. All of the surgeries were free of charge. These were coordinated by the members of the Sai Prema Foundation Fiji in conjunction with the Fiji Ministry of Health & Medical Services.

At the official Launch function, the chairman of SPF, Mr. Mahendra Tappoo addressed the guests. He spoke about the projects which were carried out by the foundation, and how it will work together with the Fiji government to make a difference. He thanked Dr. Ashish Katewa and his team, who were all present at this event, for their generosity. Apart from the free Pediatric cardiac surgeries, Dr. Katewa and his team from the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital have offered to train a local team at its hospital in central India free of cost. In the meantime, the hospital group has committed to continue to send a specialist cardiac team annually until Fiji is able to

conduct its own Pediatric cardiac surgeries in-house.

Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, the Acting Prime Minister of Fiji and the function's chief guest appreciated the Sai Prema Foundation members for coming together to help the people in need. He also acknowledged the foundation for undertaking the initiative and bringing Dr. Katewa and his team to Fiji for the free Pediatric cardiac operations on 25 children. On behalf of the Fijian government and Sai Prema Foundation Fiji, he presented Dr. Katewa with a token of gratitude. Other members of the cardiac team were also felicitated by the acting Prime Minister.







Felicitation of the Cardiac Team by Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum



1. DR. ASHISH KATEWA
2. DR. YOGESH SATHE
3. DR. RANGANATHAN
4. MISS. KYM STUART
5. MR. SANJAY VERMA
6. MISS. GNANASUNDARI
7. MR. NIBU PHILIP VARKEY
8. MR. RAJVEER SINGH
9. MR. MOHAMMED FAROOQ
10. DR. SREEMAYI CHODAGAM





















16-month old Nihaal Singh receives the “Gift of Life” pack from the Acting Prime Minister of Fiji, Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum and Dr. Ashish Katewa.



4-year old Sione Simone receives the “Gift of Life” pack from the Acting Prime Minister of Fiji, Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, Assistant Minister for Health Hon. Veena Bhatnagar and Dr. Ashish Katewa.

> Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.
>
> ***~Harriet Tubman***

Message from Chairman of Sai Prema Foundation Fiji

Mr. Mahendra Tappoo



My greetings to you all!

Margaret Mead, a famous author and anthropologist, once stated *"never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has"*. This is the philosophical bedrock that drew a group of like-minded people together, many of whom had been involved in volunteerism in some way, shape or form, and were moved to do even more. This is what catalyzed us to form the Sai Prema Foundation (Fiji) - to serve with no expectations of getting something tangible in return except the satisfaction and peace of mind from doing good.

The Sai Prema Foundation Fiji is a Non-Government Organisation (NGO) founded to serve the poor and needy people of Fiji through Medicare, Educare and Sociocare initiatives. This involves free heart surgeries for the children of Fiji, free medical camps in the rural villages, disaster relief, raising awareness on healthy lifestyles and human values, and the promotion of love, peace and unity.

Winston Churchill's proclamation that ***"we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give"*** and the words and teachings of our inspirational master, Sri Sathya Sai Baba, ***"Love all, Serve all, Help ever, Hurt never"*** and ***"Hands that serve are holier than lips that pray"***, is at the very core of our Foundation's values.

As we celebrate our first Anniversary, I reflect back upon a year which has been extraordinarily monumental in ways which are often hard to put in words but easier to express through emotions.

Truly, extraordinary things can happen when we come together in service of others!

Our simple and humble efforts to begin a Foundation, to make a difference to the people of Fiji, is today a growing and an ever-expanding force in society, embarking upon projects and initiatives in such multi-faceted ways that even we would never have imagined.

What is unique about our NGO is that each and every person who has joined hands with us

has done so with the willingness to serve the underprivileged and needy in a quest to bring joy and bliss to the people and to our beloved motherland, Fiji. There are no paid personnel or employees in Sai Prema Foundation Fiji. Our common bond is love and service to mankind.

The Foundation was registered in March 2016 and officially launched by the Acting Prime Minister of Fiji, Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum on 19th August 2016 and guided by three key ideals:

(1) To promote physical and mental well-being among the underprivileged, through Sociocare and Medicare initiatives;
(2) To raise people's understanding of human values, in a world that is increasingly challenged by a lack of humanity;
(3) To promote love, peace and unity among all Fijians, and promote better spiritual well-being.

The foundation is made up of a four member Board of Trustees comprising of my wife Maya Tappoo and myself as Founding Trustees and Mr. Rajen Kumar & Mr. Kamlesh Tappoo as Trustees; An International Advisory Board made up of Mr. Isaac Tigrett, Father Charles Ogada, Mr. Waisale Serevi, Mr. Arvind Thiagarajan, Mr. BN Narasimhamurthy, Mr. C Sreenivas, Mr. Madhusudan Naidu and Mr. Sumeet Tappoo; an Executive Committee comprising of Mr. Pratin Lal, Mr. Remal Tappoo, Dr. Krupali Tappoo, as well as a number of Members including an SPF Volunteer group. All in all a dynamic mixture of youth and adults to spearhead the projects in Fiji.

In this very short time span since our inception and official launch, the following projects have been embarked upon for the benefit of the people of Fiji:

GIFT OF LIFE – providing free heart surgeries to the Children of Fiji. Fiji does not have Paediatric Cardiac facilities available locally. Our 'Gift of Life' project has benefitted and will continue to benefit the great majority of children who do not have financial resources to be treated overseas. In August 2016, the foundation coordinated with the chairman of Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospitals India, Mr. C. Sreenivas, who graciously sent a team of highly experienced Paediatric Cardiac Surgeon, Doctors and Medical staff to conduct free Paediatric Cardiac Surgeries. A new lease of life was given to 23 children whose families had no hope of getting the treatment that the children deserved. 3 children with more complicated diagnoses were sent to India to the Hospital in Raipur for free surgeries and they successfully returned back to Fiji.

MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP – In association with the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital, India and the Government of Fiji, the Foundation is providing a 12-month scholarship to train Fiji-based Doctors to further their skills in Paediatric Cardiology at the Hospital in India completely free of cost.

HEALTH ON WHEELS – serving the rural population of Fiji through regular free Medical and Dental camps by taking Fiji's experienced medical professionals to serve those who are unable to access quality healthcare. Thus far, we have undertaken over a dozen camps and have touched the lives of more than 1,500 people in rural villages of Fiji, providing them with free healthcare in conjunction with The Fiji Ministry of Health and Medical Services who provide Doctors and Medical personnel to complement our team of Medical professionals and volunteers.

SAI ANNAPOORNA – distributing free food, clothing and general living needs to families who are unable to feed themselves. This project also extends out to looking after residents of institutions such as Old-Age Homes, Orphanages, Handicapped children and Blind schools.

BE A HERO – a project to assist the National Blood Service of Fiji in blood collection drives across the towns and cities in Fiji. In a short span of time, our humble efforts have resulted in over 1,300 patients benefitting from this initiative.

CHILDREN OF GOD – looking after the needs of Orphaned children, providing them with the basic necessities of life to make their living comfortable, giving them motivational talks to boost their morale as well as providing them with experiences that any other child in our society would enjoy (e.g. visits to shopping malls, play centres and restaurants).

HELP IN KIND - The Foundation also does its best to be responsive to the needs of Fiji's most vulnerable in times of disaster or need. The Foundation undertook a focussed effort in providing immediate relief to villages in North Eastern Fiji severely ravaged by the devastating category 5 cyclone which hit Fiji in 2016.

To coincide with our first year Anniversary and the visit of our esteemed International Advisory Board to our island paradise, the Sai Prema Foundation is delighted to announce the launch of four new projects to expand its Sociocare and Medicare reach to make a more pronounced impact on the wider community:

CONTROL D – We will launch a Diabetes awareness campaign and a treatment program for underprivileged Diabetes patients across Fiji by an expert international team of Endocrinologists. This program will be conducted in conjunction with the Fiji Ministry of Health.

SAI CARES – We will launch a project that will provide employment opportunities to underprivileged and unemployed women through the development of a product which will not only provide much needed income for the women but will also serve to promote positive human values to the youth of today.

HEART BEAT - We will launch a heart screening initiative for the children of Fiji to identify any potential heart conditions and ensure that they are given the deserving treatment. Children with more complex problems will be referred to the specialist Cardiac Team from the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital in India. This program will be conducted in conjunction with the Fiji Ministry of Health.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE - We will launch a Mental Health awareness campaign, through modern tools such as social media, targeting the Youth of Fiji who are susceptible to conditions such as depression and suicide. This program will be conducted in conjunction with the Fiji Ministry of Health.

The future holds much in store for our people when we all work to shape our destinies. There are a few more big plans afoot that the Foundation hopes to realise in the near future:

SAI PREMA ASHRAM "A GLOBAL CENTRE FOR LOVE & PEACE" - The foundation's Sociocare mission is being fulfilled by the soon-to-be-constructed Multi-Faith Spiritual Centre. This Centre, which will be open to all people from all faiths, cultures and social backgrounds, aims to promote Love, Peace and Unity in Fiji and the Pacific.

SRI SATHYA SAI SANJEEVANI MEDICAL CENTRE - The Foundation's Medicare mission will expand itself into a new dimension through the establishment of a free Medical Centre in Suva, to serve the country's less privileged members of society, with particular emphasis on women and child health and diabetes. The medium to long term plan is to then expand this into South Pacific's first Paediatric Cardiac Hospital which will provide the children of Fiji and the neighbouring South Pacific Island nations with free heart surgeries, giving them a new 'Gift of Life'. We are indeed truly blessed to have received the full support of the Prime Minister and his Government towards this project. A piece of land in the city of Suva has been dedicated by the government to our foundation for this landmark project. Our Foundation will work closely with the Government of Fiji, the Ministry of Health and Medical Services, the Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital India and the international donor agencies in Fiji to realise this monumental project into reality for the poor and needy children of Fiji and the Pacific.

In order to expand the awareness of our projects and initiatives and to ensure that the Foundation is able to spread its wings to impact the lives of as many people as possible, we have appointed three internationally renowned Fijian ambassadors – Fiji's Rugby legend Waisale Serevi, Fiji Football Captain Roy Krishna and Singer Sumeet Tappoo – who will all be the face of our projects.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the International Advisory Board, the Executive Committee, Members and Volunteers of Sai Prema Foundation Fiji, I humbly invite all of you who have the same desire to serve, to join our efforts and help us work towards that common good. Let us try to make a difference. Let us do all that we can to inspire change. Like Mahatma Gandhi said, *"let us be the change that we wish to see in the world"*.

I leave you with two everlasting echoes of the eternal truth – the first from Maya Angelou the great poet who said *"I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver"*, and the second by Martin Luther King Jr. who emphatically stated that *"everybody can be great because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love".*

God Bless Fiji.
Mahendra Tappoo

> Sometimes it falls upon a generation to be great. You can be that generation.
>
> ***~Nelson Mandela***

Excerpts from the speech by the Acting Prime Minister of Fiji on the Occasion of the Launch of Sai Prema Foundation

Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum
Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Public Enterprises, Civil Service and Communications



"The work of organisations such as Sai Prema Foundation will help us realise that our strength is in our ability to get together as a human race and in our ability to get together as individuals. We look forward to working together with you and I want to highlight and appreciate, as Mr. Mahendra Tappoo has said, that he wants to work together with the Government".

"It is very critical for Non-Governmental Organisations, such as Sai Prema Foundation that are going to carry out any form of community work, to be able to complement what the Government is doing".

"I would like to acknowledge the Sai Prema Foundation for undertaking this initiative and bringing Dr. Katewa and his team to Fiji and looking at a much bigger picture and not just providing the Medical services but also looking into investing into the knowledge base of our Doctors. The 25 children you have performed the procedures on, obviously you have given them a new lease of life and you have given those families a renewed sense of hope and that is very very important for us. That is very much appreciated".

"I want to thank the Sai Prema Foundation for its relief efforts during Cyclone Winston. Ladies and Gentleman, as we know, Cyclone Winston killed 44 Fijians and this is the largest death toll we have had from a natural disaster. It left a trail of devastation which was unprecedented. We really appreciate Fijians coming together and organisations such as Sai Prema Foundation coming together to help the people in need. I wish the Sai Prema Foundation all the best".

Excerpts from the speech by Fiji's Minister for Health on the Occasion of the Gift of Life Celebration Function

Hon. Rosy Sofia Akbar
Minister for Health and Medical Services



"On behalf of the Government of Fiji, I would like to convey the greatest appreciation to Sai Prema Foundation for providing the much needed surgical care for these children. It is my sincere hope that the Foundation will continue to develop and prosper in its endeavours to provide the gift of life to many more children and families who need the assistance".

"The Sai Prema Foundation generously facilitated the visit of a 10 member team from the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital in Raipur India. 25 children had free congenital heart disease surgeries. That meant families saved more than $1.3 million dollars. The lives of these children and their families have changed for the better. For these children to be given the surgical treatment that they needed to live productive and fulfilling lives is truly awe-inspiring. And it is humbling to know that there are so many individuals who have given generously of their time and skills to saving lives, to providing the gift of life to those of our children who are in need of surgery".

"To make a worthy program such as this a reality, requires a dedicated team. As such I would like to humbly thank the founding members and Board of Trustees. The success of the Sai Prema Foundation and Gift of Life, have been made possible through the commitment and dedication of these leaders who have gone out of their way to offer their service for a noble cause. Every time these children smile, it is a wonderful reflection of your commitment to serve for the greater good of humankind, to save lives, to restore peace and happiness in the lives of those who need you. You are the champions of these children, you are their heroes, they will always remember you and, I have no doubt, aspire to be like you, to reach out and help others".

"The Ministry of Health and Medical Services will provide all its support to continue developing and to take its success to greater heights".

> The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why.
>
> ***~ Mark Twain***



FREE HEART SURGERIES FOR THE CHILDREN OF FIJI



Gift of Life

Free Heart Surgeries for the Children of Fiji

The Sai Prema Foundation Fiji facilitated a 10-member team from the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital in Raipur (a Paediatric Cardiac Super Speciality Hospital) in conjunction with Ministry of Health and Medical Services Fiji from the 8th to 18th August 2016. The aim was to perform free paediatric congenital cardiac surgeries.

The team arrived on the 5th of August and conducted screenings on the 6th and 7th of August. A total of 74 children were screened.

25 paediatric cardiac surgeries, worth in excess of FJD$1.3 million, were performed totally free of cost.



The 10 member team included Dr. Ashish Katewa - Paediatric Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Dr. Ranganathan – Paediatric Anesthetist and Intensivist from Royal Muscat Hospital, Dr. Sreemayi Chodagam - Anaesthetic Registrar, Miss Kym Stuart - Physician Assistant and Scrub Nurse from Brisbane Australia, Miss Gnana Sundari - Scrub Nurse, Mr. Rajveer Singh - ICU Nurse, Mr. Nibu Varkey - ICU Nurse, Mr. Sanjay Verma - Physician Assistant and Mr Mohammad Farooq - Perfusionist. Dr. Krupali Tappoo, an Australian qualified General Practitioner at Mitchell's Clinic in Suva as well the Medical Coordinator of Sai Prema Foundation Fiji planned, coordinated, managed and executed the visit, working very closely with the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital Raipur and the Paediatric team at CWM Hospital headed by Dr. Ilisapeci Vereti.

There have been a few teams coming to Fiji over the past 20 years to perform Paediatric Cardiac surgeries, however this team was the first team ever to involve the local doctors and nurses during the whole process. Their plan is not only to come to Fiji and perform free Paediatric Cardiac surgeries, but to help Fiji establish its first Paediatric Cardiothoracic Unit. The team will come on an annual basis and will host local doctors/nurses and provide them with free training, accommodation and meals at their Paediatric Cardiac hospital in Raipur India until a local Paediatric Cardiac unit is established. This will be under the auspicies of the "Medical Scholarship" initiative offered by Sai Prema Foundation Fiji.

The Acting Prime Minister Honourable Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum felicitated the 10-member team at the Official Launch of the Sai Prema Foundation Fiji and acknowledged them for their hard work. He said *"the 25 children you have performed the procedures on, obviously you have given them a new lease of life and you have given those families a renewed sense of hope and that is very very important for us. That is very much appreciated; Thank you for your services, your dedication, your compassion and your passion for not only undertaking the surgeries but also offering to provide the services to our Doctors and to Fiji; I would like to acknowledge the Sai Prema Foundation for undertaking this initiative"*.

The Sanjeevani Hospital bore the cost of airfares and all consumables for the team. The Sai Prema foundation Fiji provided accommodation, meals and hosted the team while they were in Fiji. The Sai Prema Foundation Fiji also gave out a 'Gift of Life' pack to every child that was operated on. The pack included a photo of the child with the doctors, toys, books, stationaries, and a 'Gift of Life' Certificate.

The Assistant Minister of Health, Hon. Veena Bhatnagar, was very closely involved in the planning and execution of the project and her support was highly appreciated. The Minister of

Health Hon. Jone Usamate met with team and congratulated them for their assistance to the children of Fiji and assured continued support.

The Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Hon. Rosy Akbar hosted the team for a 'thank you' dinner at the Fiji museum at the conclusion of the surgeries and the support of her Ministry was very much appreciated as well.

The Sai Prema Foundation Fiji will continue with these visits annually in conjunction with the Ministry of Health and Medical Services and the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital in Raipur India.
























Gift of Life Celebration

In Honour of the Recipients of the Gift of Life Heart Surgeries

On February 18th 2017, a very special event titled “The Gift of Life Celebration” was organized by the Sai Prema Foundation. This was in honor of the children who had free heart surgeries done in August 2016 by the team from Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital in Raipur, India. The purpose was to celebrate the lives of the children who had congenital heart disease and were given a “Gift of Life” through the surgeries. It was an opportune time to celebrate not just the children who had surgeries but children all over the world with congenital heart disease, as February 7 to 14 marked congenital heart disease awareness week. And what bigger gift can you give someone, than the “Gift of Life”?

The Minister for Health, Hon. Rosy Sofia Akbar, graced the occasion by being the Chief Guest. It was also an honor to have the Permanent Secretary for Health, Mr. Philip Davies, attend the event. The recipients of the surgeries and their families were present and so were many doctors and medical personnel who had helped during the surgeries, together with volunteers and members of the Sai Prema Foundation.

As the children arrived with their parents, it was a joy to see the beautiful smiles on their faces. Many had grown incredibly in the 6 month period. It was almost a reunion for these families as they had spent time together in the hospital during the postoperative period. The beautiful conference hall was decorated with Gift of life banners and the ceiling was filled with red and purple helium balloons.

The ceremony began with a welcome address by the Chairman of the Foundation Mr. Mahendra Tappoo. This was followed by an address by the Medical Coordinator for the foundation, Dr. Krupali Tappoo, who described the journey and the process of coordinating this monumental task. Fiji does not have a pediatric cardiac unit and hence the need to depend on visiting teams. Sai Prema Foundation Fiji was instrumental in facilitating this visit in conjunction with the Ministry of Health and Medical Ser-

vices which resulted in 25 free congenital heart disease surgeries. She described that one of the greatest experiences of her life was seeing an open beating heart of a child during surgery - truly a breath taking moment. At the conclusion of her speech, many parents, children and members of the audience were left in tears as she recited a poem on children by the famous poet Khalil Gibran.

The Minister for Health spoke highly of the foundation and congratulated the efforts and promised the ongoing support of her Ministry and also the Prime Minister of the country. Next it was time to hear from the recipients of the surgery. A 14-year-old girl spoke about her life after surgery and how well she was feeling. The mother of a 12-month-old baby spoke next and there were tears of joy and gratitude, which left everyone in the audience emotional. A video was then shown of the journey of these children, which included photos and videos pre and post operatively, and a few words by the outstanding surgeon, Dr. Ashish Katewa of the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital, Raipur, India.

All the children were then given a gift pack, which consisted of many toys, books, stationary items and age appropriate gifts. This also provided a photo opportunity with the Minister for Health and the Foundation Chairman. This was followed by a cake cutting ceremony where all the parents and children participated with a cake specially designed with the “Gift of Life” logo. All the members of the Sai Prema Foundation, children and their parents and the Minister took a group photograph, which would serve as a wonderful memory. The day ended with afternoon tea and a sumptuous spread of snacks, which were enjoyed by all. Truly an extremely amazing event, which will be etched in the memories of everyone that was involved.













> Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited, where as imagination embraces the entire world, stimulating progress, giving birth to evolution.
>
> ***~ Albert Einstein***



Medical Scholarship

FREE PEDIATRIC CARDIAC SCHOLARSHIP
TO TRAIN FIJI DOCTORS





Medical Scholarship Program

Free Pediatric Cardiac Scholarship to Train Fiji Doctors

The Sai Prema Foundation Fiji in association with the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital in Raipur (India) have offered a scholarship to a deserving candidate from Fiji for training in non-invasive Paediatric cardiology at the Hospital in Raipur for a period of Twelve (12) months. The position title is fellowship in Non-invasive Pediatric Cardiology for a Fijian citizen who has already completed 3 years of training in Pediatrics.

The Department of Paediatric Cardiology at the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital has two Echocardiography suites and performs approximately six thousand (6,000) Echocardiograms annually covering the entire spectrum of congenital heart disease and managing many rare cases. The scholarship candidate will work under the supervision of a Paediatric Cardiology Consultant and receive extensive training for Transthoracic, Transesophageal and Fetal Echo-cardiography. The trainee will also independently perform and interpret at least one thousand (1,000) Paediatric Echocardiograms under supervision during their fellowship. The candidate would be expected to maintain a logbook and publish at least one original research article in an indexed journal.

The Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital will provide free training, accommodation and meals for the successful candidate for their entire duration of the training. The Sai Prema Foundation Fiji will provide return Air fares (Nadi-Raipur-Nadi) for the successful candidate.

This scholarship has already been offered to the Ministry of Health and they are in the process of identifying an appropriate candidate.

The idea of this medical scholarship program is to build capacity in Fiji and this scholarship will be followed on with many other scholarships in various aspects of Paediatric cardiology such as Paediatric Nursing, Perfusion, and training in Paediatric Surgery.

> Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.
>
> ***~ Ralph Waldo Emerson***



Health on Wheels

FREE MEDICAL CAMPS FOR THE RURAL VILLAGES OF FIJI



Health on Wheels

Free Medical Camps to the Rural Villages of Fiji

As the name implies, Health on Wheels is about taking healthcare to those who are unable to access medical services because of their socio-economic situation. Many of us take for granted our relative ease at being able to go to a public health care facility or a private GP. However, there are many less privileged in Fiji who are not able to enjoy this. Health on Wheels is helping in that area of need. The Sai Prema Foundation takes a well-equipped medical team and a Mobile Hospital into the rural areas where we set up camp and encourage the entire community to take advantage of the free services available. Brief summaries of each department are included in this report.









Triage/Health Screening Report

Triage/Health Screening is usually the first point of contact for the patients once they are registered. At the Sai Prema Foundation Fiji's Health on Wheels Medical Camps, Health Screenings have been run by triage nurses of Korovou Health centers, assisted by staff members from Smart Lab, Diabetes Fiji and volunteers from the Foundation. For all the camps, they check patients' blood pressure, blood glucose, height, weight and BMI (Body mass index). Based on the findings, they are referred to the appropriate medical professional for further investigation. Smart Lab, in conjunction with the Fiji Cancer Society have also provided screening for Prostate cancer for males over the age of 40.

Up until August 2017, more than 1,500 patients have passed through the Triage department in total. The department provides crucial coordination and pre-treatment information for all the other health professionals to ensure smooth operation of the camp overall.

For all the Health on Wheels Medical Camps, there have been values and medical awareness workshops done for the villagers. The workshops have been conducted by Mr. Indra Deo, a former director of National Food & Nutrition Center, and a member of the Sai Prema Foundation Fiji. He has been assisted by other Health on Wheels volunteers. These workshops focus on the holistic view of health, addressing the physical, mental and the spiritual needs of the villagers. Bro. Indra Deo often talks about the 5 human values of truth, peace, love, non-violence and right conduct which are universal to all religions. Villagers are also educated on diet and lifestyle. They are made aware of the prevalence of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD's) and its long-term complications especially if not kept in check. At some of these workshops, free dental kits and soap bars were also handed out to the participants to further drive home the message of good oral/personal hygiene.








General Practitioners Report

The General Practitioner team is an integral part of the Health on Wheels Medical Camps by Sai Prema Foundation Fiji. The team consists of volunteer doctors, mostly from the private sector who are sometimes assisted by a doctor from the Korovou hospital and a nurse practitioner from Lodoni Health center (for medical camps in the Tailevu region). Some private General Practitioners make an enormous sacrifice by even closing their own medical center to come and assist in the camps. In addition, 2 general physicians from the CWM hospital have been assisting in many medical camps with their vast experience across the medical specialities. Between 3 and 6 doctors are present in each medical camp. The doctors see triaged patients and this is usually one of the busiest areas of the camp. Till August 2017, the doctors have collectively seen more than 1300 patients. The consultation includes history taking and a thorough examination of the patient, with an explanation of their diagnosis and management. On many occasions, patients see doctors for a specific medical issue and in other instances, it may be for screening of their blood sugar, blood pressure or other similar issues. The most common medical conditions seen are skin infections, respiratory infections, and non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, hypertension and overweight/obesity. With regards to skin disease the most common conditions are fungal infections such as tinea corporis and tinea versicolor, abscesses, impetigo and scabies. Patients who need further investigations and management are referred to the nearest tertiary hospital or medical center with a detailed referral letter. Those who are critically ill are transferred to the nearest hospital for admission and further care. The general practitioners feel very satisfied providing free services to the villagers and the smiles on the patients faces is the only reward that the doctors desire.
























STOP
LISTEN
THINK

Dental Clinic Report

Up until August 2017, approximately 400 patients have been examined by the dental team of Sai Prema Foundation Fiji's Health on Wheels Medical Camps. The dental team consists mostly of volunteer dentists, dental technicians and assistants from the private sector and Fiji National University. They are assisted by the divisional health center (Korovou Health Centre) who provide their staff and as well as the dental equipment and some consumables. During these camps, the dental team provide the villagers with free consultations, oral examinations, fillings and extractions. Complicated cases are usually referred to health centers/divisional hospitals for further investigation/treatment. As part of oral health promotion, Colgate tooth-pastes and toothbrushes were handed out to the patients seen. These were kindly donated by Colgate-Palmolive.

Sai Prema Foundation Fiji also pays the Ministry of Health and Medical Services for all dental treatments provided to adult patients, however, dental treatment fees for Pediatric patients were provided by the Ministry without cost to the Foundation.

Together with free dental checkups and treatment where required, educational counselling is also provided to patients to ensure that they maintain good oral hygiene. Props are also used to show patients including children how to properly brush the teeth. Dental hygiene issues are commonly encountered at the village level, and with proper treatment and guidance, patients have left the medical camps happy with the treatment and knowledge that they have received.












Eye Clinic Report

The Pacific Eye Institute (PEI) and/or staff from the Eye Department (part of the Colonial War Memorial Hospital or CWMH) support Sai Prema Foundation Fiji's Health on Wheels free Medical Camps by sending their staff to conduct free eye examinations including prescribing free eye glasses where required for rural villagers. So far, at least 300 patients have been examined. Patients requiring further investigation and/or treatment are also referred to the Pacific Eye Institute in Toorak, Suva. Reading glasses, donated by Health on Wheels volunteers, have also been handed out to the villagers where needed.

Some of the conditions encountered include short and long sightedness, cataract and common eye infections such as viral and/or bacterial conjunctivitis. Counselling is also provided to diabetic patients to ensure that they maintain good control of their blood sugar levels and blood pressure which also have a beneficial effect on their eye health. Children who sometimes struggle in school have also been found to have poor eye sight which leads to lack of focus and headaches (usually easily solved with prescription eye glasses).







Dietetics Report

A couple of volunteer dieticians have participated in Sai Prema Foundation Fiji's Health on Wheels free Medical Camps, and provided counselling on types of food, portion sizes, salt and sugar intake and exercise. In some of the camps, some patients who were considered obese were referred to their local health clinics for further management.

Diet & lifestyle is a crucial part of overall health and well-being to prevent non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, obesity, hypertension etc. One of the biggest advantages of having a dietitian present at the medical camps is that it allows for patients to seek guidance in the comfort of their village/nearby school surroundings where they are more likely to open up about challenges that they face with regards to managing their diet and lifestyles.

The counselling provided by the dietitian (in conjunction with the general practitioners) can potentially help prevent pre-diabetic patients from becoming diabetic for example by counselling on foods which are less starchy (a common problem with Fijians who consume a lot of starchy root crops like cassava), less salty and unhealthy fried foods. Instead these can be substituted with more of leafy green vegetables like belle and dalo leaves which can be sourced and/or grown locally.







Obstetrics & Gynaecology Report

The Oxfam Wellness Centre for Women in Toorak, Suva regularly send their team of doctors and nurses to the Sai Prema Foundation Fiji's Health on Wheels free Medical Camps to do free obstetrics and gynaecological checks for women in the villages. Until August 2017, more than 100 women have been examined during these camps. Women are also given advice on personal hygiene, family planning, infertility and general reproductive health. Some women have had their breasts examined for lumps (possible cancer), and also pap smears have been conducted when required to detect possible cases of cervical cancer which can be treatable especially if detected early. A few cases have been referred back to the Wellness Centre in Suva for further examination. Also, young women have been counselled on prenatal and postnatal care. Fiji has a high birth rate especially in rural areas. Together with GP's, a gynaecologist can provide much needed assistance for women living in rural areas who would not have access to such screenings otherwise.









Pharmacy Report

The pharmacy department is a part of the Sai Prema Foundation Fiji's Health on Wheels free Medical Camps Project for the poor and underprivileged. The department is run by a couple of pharmacists who are part of the Sai Prema Foundation. Along with pharmacists, other volunteers including pharmacy assistants, dispensary technicians, pharmacy students and volunteers have assisted with regular Medical Camps since its inception. Medications are sourced from a variety of donors including the Ministry of Health (via the Fiji Pharmaceutical Services), through internal funding (coordinated, packed and sourced from TappooCity Chemist) and through donations from pharmaceutical suppliers, wholesalers and monetary donations from friends, families and fellow members.

All medications are dispensed completely free of cost to patients that attend the camps. Once a patient is issued a prescription by the volunteer health professional (GP/Dentist etc.), then they will bring this to the pharmacy (usually setup in one of the classrooms of the school camp site) where these would be prepared and then dispensed, and the patient counselled about the safe and effective use of the medication to ensure that they receive the best primary health support and care.

As of August 2017, approximately 800 prescriptions and 1,500 items have been dispensed. The most commonly dispensed medications include anti-fungal tablets/topical preparations, antibiotics, painkillers, de-worming tablets and scabicides. Blood pressure and diabetes medications have also been dispensed along with various other primary care medications.

The pharmacy department is one of the integral parts of the Health on Wheels program to bring reliable healthcare to the door steps of the rural poor and needy population who would otherwise not be able to afford such care due to issues such as the prohibitive costs and/or lack of transport available to travel to the nearest health center, associated treatment costs etc. We have also realized from our initiatives that patients are a lot more willing to positively engage and open up to health professionals about their health problems in their local environment rather than in a hospital setting which is out of their comfort zone. A lot of effort is also taken to educate patients about diet and lifestyle activities, which if taken on board, would treat or prevent future health problems from occurring such as diabetes and other non-communicable diseases.




















Health on Wheels
REFERRAL FORM

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.”

~ *Aesop*



Sai Annapoorna

PROVIDING FREE FOOD, CLOTHING AND BASIC NEEDS
TO POOR & NEEDY FAMILIES OF FIJI



Sai Annapoorna

Providing free food, clothing and basic needs to poor & needy families of Fiji

Sai Prema Foundation's Sai Annapoorna volunteers have adopted 3 families to whom they provide basic groceries on a regular basis. These include rice, flour, dhal, sugar, tea leaves, milk powder, noodles and biscuits.

The first family includes 3 disabled adults, currently looked after by their sister, after both parents passed away. The disabled family recognises and welcomes the volunteers with smiling faces every time they visit. Their happiness was so easily noticeable and very beautiful to see.

The second family, consists of six children being looked after by a single mother. The mother, after being motivated by the Volunteers, is upgrading her skills and is undertaking vocational training enabling her to get employment.

The third family, consisting of a single mother with more than 10 dependents, is reliant upon the Sai Annapoorna Team for their grocery requirements. Although the mother is involved in setting up a food stall in her area of living, it is difficult for her to make ends meet due to the number of dependants. Sai Annapoorna Volunteers and members of the Sai Prema Foundation have motivated the elder children of the family to seek both part-time and full-time employment to enable the family to survive on their own.

The Sai Prema Foundation Fiji's Sai Annapoorna vounteers will continue to look after this family until such time that they can become self-sufficient.

In addition to serving food and necessities to the three families, the Sai Annapoorna Team has also extended itself to serving food, providing clothing and looking towards providing essentials to various institutions across Fiji. These include residents of the Fiji Blind School, Gospel School for the deaf, Samabula Old People's Home, Hilton Special School, Home of Compassion, Father Law Home and Sisters of Our Lady of Nazareth Retirement Home.























“You are not a drop in the ocean.
You are the entire ocean in a drop.”

~ Rumi



A BLOOD COLLECTION DRIVE ACROSS TOWNS & CITIES IN FIJI



Be A Hero

A Blood Collection Drive across the Cities and Towns in Fiji

The Sai Prema Foundation embarked on yet another journey and this time to collect some much needed "liquid love" - Blood. Being another initiative for the Foundation, the youth teamed up with the Fiji National Blood Services Department from the Ministry of Health and decided to conduct day long blood drives around Fiji.

This service activity was prompted in lieu of a recent plight by Ministry of Health and Fiji National Blood Service highlighting shortage of blood at their blood banks and hence considering the need of the hour, the "Be a Hero" blood collection drive campaign was born in early 2017.

Over the past few months, amongst other service activities happening simultaneously, the Foundation has collated the below mentioned statistics for the record:

25th February 2017 @ TappooCity **Suva**
16 Pints collected *(approximately 48 lives saved)*

6th May 2017 @ **Lautoka**
41 Pints collected *(approximately 123 lives saved)*

10th June 2017 @ Sharma's Aracde **Nadi**
55 Pints collected *(approximately 165 lives saved)*

17th June 2017 @ TappooCity **Suva**
30 Pints collected *(approximately 90 lives saved)*

15th July 2017 @ **Ba** Bus Stand
70 Pints collected *(approximately 210 lives saved)*

12th August 2017 @ **Tavua**
30 Pints collected *(approximately 90 lives saved)*

26th August 2017 @ TappooCity **Suva**
64 Pints collected *(approximately 192 lives saved)*

28th August 2017 @ **Suva** Bus Stand
33 Pints collected *(approximately 99 lives saved)*

29th August 2017 @ **Suva** Bus Stand
29 Pints collected *(approximately 87 lives saved)*

30th August 2017 @ **Suva** Bus Stand
24 Pints collected *(approximately 72 lives saved)*

2nd September 2017 @ MH **Nausori**
44 Pints collected *(approximately 132 lives saved)*

Total Number of Blood Drives: 11
Total Number of Pints Collected: 436
Total Number of Potential Lives Saved: 1,308



The general workflow and logistics for the drive-day would start as early as 5.30am for the Volunteer youth who took on the challenge of coordinating and hosting the blood drive. The Volunteers would arrange for fresh fruit, sandwiches, biscuits and fruit juice for the donors who were nourished upon completion of their blood donation. While the medical professionals from the Fiji National Blood Services conducted everything, from registration of patients, to screening, to conducting iron tests and down to the overall blood extraction, the Volunteer youth decided to make themselves useful and encouraged people to donate blood by highlighting its need and benefits, especially to encourage first time donors for the need to donate and the potential benefits of donating on a regular basis.

In addition, the Volunteer youth took advantage of this opportunity to chat with the donors and advised them of post-donation care e.g. drinking lots of water and having a proper meal, avoiding any physical exercise for the next 24 hours, etc. This was again acknowledged by the donors and the youth were commended for the “love and care” shown.

The Sai Prema Foundation Fiji through its “Be A Hero” inititative is committed to serve by way of being organisers and facilitators of regular blood collections with the aim that there would not be a situation where doctors or surgeons would need to postpone a crucial surgery due to the lack of blood available at the blood banks around the country.


BE A
HERO

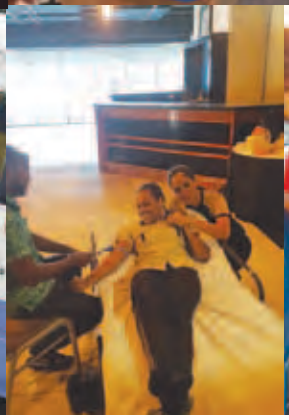




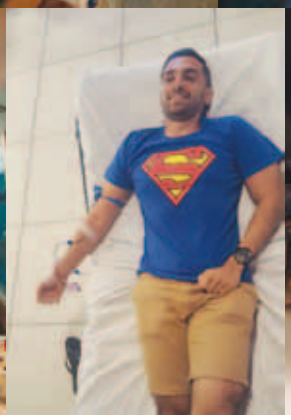














> Love is the vital essence that pervades and permeates, from the centre to the circumference, the graduating circles of all thought and action. Love is the talisman of human weal and woe – the open sesame to every soul.
>
> ***~ Elizabeth Cady Stanton***



LOOKING AFTER THE NEEDS
OF ORPHANED CHILDREN



Children of God

Looking after the needs of orphaned children

"Children of God" is a project undertaken by the Sai Prema Foundation to look after the needs of orphaned children of Fiji. To begin with, the Foundation has chosen to look after the Medicare, Educare and Sociocare needs of the little angels at the Dilkusha Orphanage in Sawani, Nausori. From the beginning of the year, the young adult members of the Sai Prema Foundation have organized various events for the children of Dilkusha Home.

During the first visit on Saturday 21st of January 2017, a group of youth visited the 37 children and provided back to school packs (consisting of books and stationary) and afternoon tea to the children. In addition, the members of the foundation spent some quality time with the children. The children put up a beautiful performance of song and dance and this proved to be an enjoyable afternoon for all.

On the second visit on the 28th of January, a mini medical camp was successfully performed where these children were seen by a doctor, dentist, received nutritional advise from a dietician and were provided with free medication. This was a very successful camp as the children were provided with free medical care from health professionals at their doorstep. The aim of the camp was to screen and assess the children of the orphanage who would otherwise have had to hire a bus and take all 37 children ranging from 8 months to 14 years to the nearest medical center for treatment.

On the third visit on Saturday the 11th of March, three members of Sai prema Foundation conducted a detailed needs assessment so that the service to the Dilkusha home was ac-

tually service of need and not just convenience. A discussion was conducted with the residents (children) and the caregivers with regards to what they felt were the priorities and what they needed to make their stay in the home more comfortable. The feedback from the young children was focused upon their living conditions as well as their educational requirements. The deaconess who was in-charge of the home spoke about the need for discipline and focus on education.

On Saturday 6th of May, members of Sai prema Foundation organised an outing for the children of Dilkusha home where the children and staff were treated to lunch and ice cream at a pizza restaurant in Suva City. 19 children and 3 staff members were the guests to this event. As well as enjoying a sumptuous lunch, the children were given the opportunity to play in the kids play area and the older children to computer games. At the conclusion of the event, children were given gifts and toys and left with beaming smiles on their faces.

On the fifth event on Sunday 18th of June, a few members of the Sai Prema Foundation visited the Dilkusha home and donated 20 ceiling fans. This was a need identified during the needs assessment, as the children felt hot in their dormitories in the summer months. The foundation got the assistance from volunteer electricians to get the wiring done and for wall mounting of the fans in the dormitories. The children greatly appreciated this gesture as this made their stay more comfortable in their home.

The sixth event was a follow up Medical Camp on Saturday 2nd September where the children were seen by Medical and Dental professionals for free in the comfort of their home. The aim of this Medical Camp was to follow up to gauge, reassess and treat existing as well as new health issues that had emerged in the past few months.

The members of Sai Prema Foundation have deeply enjoyed working with the children and staff of Dilkusha home and look forward to continuing the care for the needs of orphaned children of Fiji.






Sai Prema Foundation Fiji













"The Meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away."

~ William Shakespeare



DISASTER AND NEEDS-RESPONSE INITIATIVE



Help In Kind

Disaster and needs-response initiative

The Sai Prema Foundation Fiji also does its best to be responsive to the needs of Fiji's most vulnerable. When Cyclone Winston ravaged parts of Fiji in February 2016, members saw fit to mobilise and offer emergency assistance to the men, women and children in some of the hardest hit areas. Members tapped into their networks to help put together emergency relief packages. Teams were then dispatched to deliver these much-needed food rations. A few weeks later, with many more groups helping to feed those affected, the Foundation diverted its assistance to a school community deep in the interior of Rakiraki (North Eastern Fiji). The school and its students had lost everything.


















HEROIN







"You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give."

~Khalil Gibran

Overview of Upcoming Projects of the Foundation



Sai Prema Ashram - A Global Centre for Love and Peace

The Sai Prema Foundation Fiji's Sociocare mission is being fulfilled by the soon-to-be-constructed Sai Prema Ashram - a Global Centre for Love & Peace. This Centre, which will be open to all people from all faiths, religions, ethinicities, cultures and social backgrounds, aims to promote Love, Peace and Unity in Fiji and the Pacific.

Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Medical Centre

The Sai Prema Foundation Fiji's Medicare mission will expand itself into a new dimension through the establishment of a free Medical Centre in Suva, to serve the country's less privileged members of society, with particular emphasis on women & child health as well as a focus on Diabetes.

Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Super Specialty Hospital

The medium to long term plan is to then expand the Sanjeevani Medical Centre into South Pacific's first Paediatric Cardiac Hospital which will provide the children of Fiji and the neighbouring South Pacific Island nations with free heart surgeries, giving them a new 'Gift of Life'. The Sai Prema Foundation Fiji is truly grateful to have received the full support of the Prime Minister and his Government. A piece of land within the Suva City precinct has been dedicated by the government for the development of this landmark project. The Foundation will work closely with the Government of Fiji, the Ministry of Health and Medical Services, the Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital India and the international donor agencies in Fiji to realise this monumental project into reality for the poor and needy children of Fiji and the Pacific.

HEARTBEAT
A CHILD HEART SCREENING INITIATIVE

Heart Beat - A Child Heart Screening Initiative

From April 2018, the Foundation will launch a National heart screening initiative for the children of Fiji to identify any potential heart conditions and ensure that they are given the deserving treatment. Children with more complex problems will be referred to the specialist Cardiac Team from the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital in India. This program will be conducted in conjunction with the Fiji Ministry of Health.

CONTROL
A DIABETES AWARENESS INITIATIVE

Control D - A Diabetes Awareness Campaign

In April 2018, the Foundation will launch a Diabetes awareness campaign and a treatment program for underprivileged Diabetes patients across Fiji by an expert international team of Endocrinologists. This program will be conducted in conjunction with the Fiji Ministry of Health.

YOU are not Alone!

You Are Not Alone - A Mental Health Awareness Campaign

In 2018, the Foundation will launch a Mental Health awareness campaign, through modern tools such as social media, targeting the Youth of Fiji who are susceptible to conditions such as depression and suicide which is highly prevalent in Fiji. This program will be conducted in conjunction with the Fiji Ministry of Health.

Sai Cares
An Employment initiative for underprivileged Women of Fiji

Sai Cares - An Employment Initiative for Underprivilged Women

In 2018, the Foundation will launch a project that will provide employment opportunities to underprivileged and unemployed women through the development of a product which will not only provide much needed income for the women but will also serve to promote positive human values to the youth of today.

“Hands that serve are
holier than lips that pray.”

~ Sri Sathya Sai Baba

Our Inspiration

Sri Sathya Sai Baba



Born as Sathyanarayana Raju in the tiny hamlet of Puttaparthi in Andhra Pradesh, India, Sri Sathya Sai Baba grew up to be revered by millions the world over as a humanitarian and spiritual teacher. His simple message of Love and Peace provided the much-needed succour and beacon of hope in a world that was constantly hurrying to achieve materialistic goals. People were drawn by His love, felt the need to transform themselves and imbibe the universal and secular human values of truth, righteousness, peace, love and non-violence in their daily lives. Sai Baba's ultimate aim was to help humanity realise the Divinity present within each being.

THE MISSION IN FIJI

The Mission of Selfless Love and Selfless Service has been present in the Fiji Islands for approximately four decades, and is now in the forefront of an accelerated expansion undertaken by the Sai Prema Foundation Fiji.

HIS WORK - THE EDUCARE MISSION

Sri Sathya Sai Baba established a model education system. He established Primary Schools, Secondary Schools and an accredited University with four campuses (Prasanthi Nilayam, Whitefield, Anantapur and Muddenahalli) offering Undergraduate, Masters, and Ph.D. Degrees. No fees are charged to students, and admission is open to all, regardless of race, religion, or economic condition.

The emphasis is pursuit of academic excellence through "Integral Education" – a system designed to foster self-discipline and pro-social conduct. Students are required to take courses on morality and spirituality, and to devote several hours each week to some form of community service.

Baba established Sathya Sai Schools in 37 Countries and 31 Institutes of Sathya Sai Education to train teachers through a system based on Human Values.

In recent times, under the Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Trust, and its allied Trusts - Sri Sathya Sai Saraswathi Education Trust and Prashanthi Bala Mandira Trust, have established many institutions in the rural heartland of Karnataka, as well as a teachers training institute under the banner of Sri Sathya Sai Centre for Human Excellence, has also been started to offer degree courses in Science and Arts along with a Bachelor's degree in Education program.

In a span of five years, as of September 2017, there are 14 Campuses, 27 Institutions in 9 Districts of Karnataka.





HIS WORK - THE MEDICARE MISSION

In 1991, Sri Sathya Sai Baba built an ultra-modern 300-bed hospital in Puttaparthi, which performs open-heart operations, totally free of charge. Another super speciality hospital started operating in 2001 in Whitefield, Bangalore. These 'temples of healing' are run by dedicated doctors, nurses and staff who nurture the patients with utmost love and care.

In continuation of His mission of providing High Quality Speciality care absolutely free of cost, a 200-bed Pediatric Cardiac Care Centre, Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital, perhaps the only one of its kind dedicated exclusively to children's heart care in the entire nation, has been established in Naya Raipur, Chattisgarh in November 2012.

The second of the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani chain of Hospitals, Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani International Centre for Child Heart Care and Research, established by the Sri Sathya Sai Health and Education Trust was dedicated to the nation by the Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi on 27th November 2016 amidst quiet fervour at Baghola village in Haryana's Palwal district.



Already more than 3,600 surgeries and over 20,000 little hearts have been mended, absolutely free of cost, in these two hospitals.

HIS WORK - THE SOCIOCARE MISSION



Sri Sathya Sai Baba's Drinking Water Supply Project was launched in 1994 to provide drinking water to millions of people in drought-ridden villages in the state of Andhra Pradesh. A multitude of humanitarian relief efforts continue to be undertaken throughout the world. Inspired by the teachings of Sri Sathya Sai Baba, Interfaith activities and efforts are being conducted to foster an environment where followers of different religions serve together in harmony and understand the unity of all religions. Community Service initiatives are undertaken globally to serve the poor, underprivileged and needy. For example, the Annapoorna Breakfast Program provides nutritious breakfast, free of cost, to underprivileged children to more than 40,000 children across 600 schools, in 10 states of India.

THE GLOBAL MISSION


NIGERIA


AUSTRALIA


USA


UK


MALAYSIA


SRI LANKA


SINGAPORE


GERMANY


INDONESIA


GREECE


UAE


ITALY


ARGENTINA


MEXICO

THE GLOBAL MISSION - A SUMMARY

NIGERIA: The Aruike Speciality Hospital - a state-of-the-art 34-bed Hospital providing free Medical services in the state of Enugu; Medical camps in Lagos, Nigeria which served 150 Leprosy patients; Breakfast Service initiated by the Sai youth of Nigeria for a government school, Ereko Methodist Primary School in Lagos (Feb 2017); The establishment of The Heart of Love Children's Home in Anuli Village to care for neglected, abused, orphaned and destitute children; The Liquid Love Rural Community Water Project bringing clean water to 10,000 people in the area; The Helping Hands Youth Initiative which includes prison visitation and feeding program, Hospital visits and care for the sick and elderly, food distribution to the poor and care for the environment; The Come and Eat Food Program providing nutritious breakfast/lunch to poor school-going children who cannot afford a day's meal; The Embodiments of Love Academy was established to provide free quality values-based education to the young residents of Heart of Love Children Home.

SRI LANKA: Development of a 9,000 sq ft. Medical Centre providing free service to the poor and needy; Breakfast Service program and a new play Park in Dharmapuram School in Kiranakulam; Workshop on environmental conservation and tree planting campaign, youth education, blood donation and cancer awareness programs carried out in Vaharai, a small war-torn village in Eastern Sri Lanka; Elderly Home visit by Sai Youth in Borella, Colombo, distributing food & entertainment with love; Educare project by the Sai youth of Batticaloa, Sri Lanka. This includes free tuition, spiritual activities such as meditation, veda chanting and bhajans.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Food and clothing distribution to the homeless in Alberta Canada, San Francisco, Southern California and Houston, Texas, USA; Breakfast Service activity was carried out by the youth of the Bay area in Oakland and Berkeley; Feed the Need - The Houston youth group have been getting together for a year now to regularly prepare and hand out snack lunches to the homeless people in Houston, Texas; Alabama Sai Youth - assisted tornado affected families with necessities and provided basic supplies. Also, they began a skills training program with the residents of Jesse's place, the women and children's shelter of the state's largest city; Sai Ashraya, a home for orphaned children aged between 6 to 18 years, was opened in San Francisco Bay area, California, USA in 2017. The home will be a beacon of light for other orphanages; Cook & Serve collaboration with Union Gospel Mission, Seattle, USA where homeless people are lovingly served cooked meals on a regular basis.

INDONESIA: 'Grama Seva' and EHV Guru program was conducted on December 31st, 2016 in Bali. Refurbishment of Sai Pooja Ashram in Indonesia by the Indonesian Sai Youth.

MIDDLE-EAST: Groceries, Toiletries, Dry Ration Distribution along with Tea and Snacks distribution to construction workers in the Middle-East; 'Labour of Love'- Medical camps conducted by the Middle-East youth for construction workers; Women Empowerment Program was done for the ladies at the construction camp site.

GREECE: 'Nectar of Love' program - serving refugees and homeless people with food and other basic necessities. They have refurbished a large warehouse into a Seva Centre in the heart of Athens, which serves as a base for furthering their service activities, which also includes a mobile medical van.

AUSTRALIA: Parcels containing food, stationary, and basic essentials are given regularly to needy families; Dental healthy living sessions provided to the students of Tooggoolawa School in Ormeau by the Southeast Queensland Sai youth. Australian Sai Youth provided food and assistance to people of Murwillumbah after Cyclone Debbie's devastating floods; Breakfast Program in Perth in conjunction with Minnawarra house which is a community house in Armadale, where needy residents in the area come for food, therapeutic and social support. Health in Kind Foundation provide free health check-ups, dental check-ups and mental health to the needy people in the community.

MEXICO: Establishment of the Centre for Human Excellence in Chihuahua, Mexico under progress.

SINGAPORE: 'Meals on Wheels'- a Singapore youth initiative which serve food to an elder care facility every alternate Sundays; 'Ceiling of Desires' project undertaken by the Singapore youth to financially support Aruike Speciality Hospital, Nigeria with their operational expenses.

ITALY: Italian Sai youth volunteering at a homeless canteen in Turin, offering breakfast and lunch on Sundays to homeless people.

UNITED KINGDOM: 'Wheels Appeals' – where volunteer drivers provide free transport to the elderly who are not able to visit the GP's themselves; Blanket Revolution Project - UK youth started a project to provide blankets and hats to the homeless people of London, Birmingham and West Midlands.

MALAYSIA: A Free English with Values Program led by the youths at Sai Ananda for children from slums and lower income housing areas of Batu Caves, Selangor in Malaysia; Malaysian Sai Youth have formed a team to deliver food weekly to the poor and needy around selected areas at Kuala Lumpur and Selangor, Malaysia.

GERMANY: 'Help the elderly' program - German Sai youth have adopted a large nursing home in Munich, Germany.

ARGENTINA: Sai Assis offer love and company to the elderly and help with food and clothing to the people from Venezuela who have just arrived at their country as refugees.





> The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.
>
> ***~ Eleanor Roosevelt***

Trustees of the Foundation



Mr. Mahendra Tappoo

Founding Trustee and Chairman

Mahendra Tappoo was born in Fiji and is the Executive Director and one of the seven Board of Directors of the Tappoo Group of Companies which is a leading and a respected multi-faceted business group in Fiji.

A Law graduate from University of Auckland, he practised his profession for several years as a Barrister and Solicitor before joining his family business. As a music lover and singer, Mahendra was the first artist from Fiji to professionally record and release music albums in India with professional musicians.

Mahendra Tappoo has served as a Board member of the then Fiji Visitors Bureau. His philanthropic efforts have contributed towards helping various charitable organisations and needy causes.

He served as a Trustee of the Sri Sathya Sai Organisation in Fiji. In the 1990's he spearheaded the Unity of Faiths community service project which was commended by the then Prime Minister and Government of Fiji.

As Chairman and Founding Trustee of the Sai Prema Foundation Fiji, he spearheads a noble mission to serve the poor and underprivileged in Fiji through medicare, sociocare and educare initiatives.



Mrs. Maya Tappoo

Founding Trustee

Maya Tappoo was born in Fiji and is a gifted Hindi language public speaker and has delivered various talks on spirituality in Hindi. She has also worked for 9 years as a Radio presenter for a leading and popular 24-hour Hindi radio station in Fiji.

For over three decades, Maya has been involved in philanthropic work having been a part of various charitable and social institutions serving the poor and needy of Fiji. She has spent her time identifying poor and needy individuals and families, serving them and helping them in whatever way that she can.

Over the past two decades, she has been involved with the Sathya Sai Organisation's human values classes, community service initiatives and Spiritual Centre activities and has served as Chairperson of the main Spiritual Centre of the Organisation in the nation's capital, Suva.

As the Founding Trustee of the Sai Prema Foundation Fiji, she is part of an unprecedented mission to serve the poor and underprivileged through medicare, sociocare and educare initiatives.



Mr. Rajendra Kumar

Trustee

Rajendra Kumar was born in Fiji and graduated from University of Wollongong (Aust) in Master of Commerce majoring in Accountancy in 1991 and then completed his MBA from Edinburgh Business School (UK) in 2001.

Rajendra has served in various Executive Finance positions with major Corporate bodies in Fiji including Colonial Group, FMF Group, Carpenters Shipping having commenced his career with Price Waterhouse. He also tutored in Accounting and Auditing with USP and College of Higher Education Studies. His professional memberships include CA membership of the Fiji Institute of Accountants since 1992 and Fellow CPA membership with CPA Australia since 2003. He has had a number of professional publications in the years 1992, 1994 and 2000.

While he is currently a board member with the Frank Hilton Organisation, he has held various positions of President, Vice President and Treasurer. He is also the Treasurer with ABC Foundation (Action For Betterment of the Community) since 2002.

Rajendra has taken an active role in coordinating a combined relief effort bringing together a number of Charitable Organisations focused on providing effective and timely assistance to those affected during disasters faced by the Nation. He involves himself in regular medical camps in areas with limited access to medical facilities, regular food parcel distribution to those in need, regular food preparation and distribution to orphanages, homes caring for children with disabilities and old aged homes, and nation building activities.

He has served as the National Service Convener and National Treasurer with Sri Sathya Sai Service Organisation of Fiji from 1996 to 1999 and has now been appointed as Trustee of Sai Prema Foundation Fiji to accelerate the mission serving the underprivilged and needy people of Fiji.



Mr. Kamlesh Tappoo

Trustee

Kamlesh Tappoo was born in Fiji and is the Executive Director and one of the seven Board of Directors of the Tappoo Group of Companies which is a leading and a respected multi-faceted business group in Fiji.

A Commerce graduate from the University of Auckland, he worked with Coopers & Lybrand, Chartered Accountants, in New Zealand and Australia for 3 years before joining his family business.

His philanthropic efforts have contributed towards helping various charitable organisations and needy causes.

Kamlesh has been deeply inspired by the life and teachings of Sri Sathya Sai Baba since 1993 and has been a part of the Sathya Sai Mission to help the poor and needy for several decades. He served the Sri Sathya Sai Organisation of Fiji in various capacities since the 1990's.

As a Trustee of the Sai Prema Foundation Fiji, Kamlesh Tappoo considers it his noble mission to serve the poor and underprivileged in Fiji through medicare, sociocare and educare initiatives.

International Advisory Board



Mr. Isaac Tigrett – *United States of America*

Founder of Hard Rock Café and House of Blues

Mr. Isaac Tigrett founded the original Hard Rock Cafe at the age of 22 in 1971. Under his guidance as Chairman and CEO, He expanded the brand onto a Global scale and made it public trading both on the American and London stock exchange.

Mr. Tigrett later launched the International House of Blues with His partners which included Disney, Harvard University and Chase Manhattan Bank's Venture Capital Group.

His non-profit Rama Foundation of Zurich Switzerland funded the Sri Sathya Sai Super Speciality Hospital in Puttaparthi, a free hospital for the poor and needy. Mr. Tigrett has served on numerous boards worldwide, a benefactor of the Freedom Award at the National Civil Rights Museum in USA, has been commended publicly on the floor of the United States Senate for his worldwide contribution to American Culture and has been awarded two PHD honorariums for his work in promotion of racial harmony and the promotion of African American Culture. He is a Christian and has been devoted to Sri Sathya Sai Baba and His teachings for nearly 50 years.



Father Charles Ogada – *Nigeria*

Catholic Priest & Philanthropist

Rev. Fr. Charles Ogada is a Catholic priest who spends every waking hour of his life in service to the poor and needy in Nigeria. He is also a committed campaigner for a loving, inclusive, multi-faith approach to spirituality.

When he was seventeen, Fr. Charles had a profound spiritual transformation which changed the course of his life and set him on course for his life of service to his fellow man. Shortly after this he joined the Catholic order of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit (often known as "Spiritans") and entered their seminary to pursue his religious vocation. At the seminary he attained B.A., M.A. and B.Phil degrees in core aspects of religion and philosophy. A key part of the training was individual service to needy people in remote areas of Nigeria. Returning to Nigeria, Fr. Charles became actively involved in community development projects and poverty alleviation programs. He started to hold mobile medical camps in rural villages which have since provided free treatment to thousands of people without any other access to medical care. In 2010 with no resources but his own unquenchable energy he took an enormous leap of faith and founded the Spiritan Self Awareness Initiative (SSAI), a non-profit humanitarian organisation (registered with the National Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja, Nigeria, and with the State Gender Affairs and Human Development Department, Enugu, Nigeria) of which he is the current Executive Director.



Mr. B.N. Narsimha Murthy – *India*

Chief Mentor of the Sri Sathya Sai Institutions, Muddenahalli

Mr. B N Narasimha Murthy served as the Warden for the various campuses (Prashanthi Nilayam, Brindavan, Alike & Muddenahalli) of the Sathya Sai Institutions for over 40 years, and has overseen generations of students right from the 1980s.

He came to Sri Sathya Sai Baba at a tender age of 19, and has authored several books, including Vol 5, 6 and 7 of Sri Sathya Sai Baba's biography Sathyam Shivam Sundaram.

Sri Narasimha Murthy has dedicated his life to the mission of Sri Sathya Sai Baba, and is spearheading the Educare mission by setting up various educational institutions in India.



Mr. C. Sreenivas – *India*

Chairman - Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospitals

Mr. C Sreenivas (M Com & M Phil) is a dynamic social worker in Healthcare and Human Development, and for over 40 years has been instrumental in setting up and managing Sri Sathya Sai Hospitals in Bangalore and Puttaparthi.

He is currently the Chairman of the Sri Sathya Sai Health and Education Trust, spearheading the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospitals – Centres for Child Heart Care, wherein all services are provided Totally Free of Cost to all.

In November 2016, the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani International Centre for Paediatric Cardiac Sciences and Research was inaugurated in New Delhi by the Prime Minister of India, Hon. Narendra Modi.



Mr. Waisale Serevi – *Fiji*

Fiji Rugby Legend and Sporting Icon

Waisale Tikoisolomoni Serevi is a former Fiji rugby union footballer, and coach. Although he played fifteen-a-side rugby throughout his playing career, Serevi is most notable for his achievements in rugby sevens. He is widely considered as one of the greatest rugby sevens players ever. A Fijian Rugby Legend. Inducted into the International Rugby Board (IRB) Hall of Fame. Sevens World Cup Winner

His representative sevens career started in 1989 when he played for Fiji at the Hong Kong tournament. Serevi has also played in the 1993, 1997, 2001, and 2005 Rugby World Cup Sevens, winning the World Cup with Fiji in 1997 and 2005. He won silver at the Commonwealth Games in 1998 and 2002, and captured bronze in 2006.

Serevi has played in the International Rugby Board Sevens Series since its creation in 1999. In 2005 after winning the 2005 Rugby World Cup Sevens Serevi was appointed the Fiji Sevens team's coach. He coached Fiji to the 2005-06 World Sevens Series victory. Serevi's contribution to seven's rugby to the world as Fiji's Ideal Sports Ambassador was most recently recognized in January 2017 when he was presented the Fiji Rugby Union Lifetime Achievement Award.



Mr. Arvind Thiagarajan – *United States of America*

Scientist and Protégé of Former President of India,
Late Hon. APJ Abdul Kalam

Arvind Thiagarajan is the Founder of AT Group (The Advanced Technology Group) and serves as the President & Advanced Technologist. He is an inventor and entrepreneur with a history of founding and building technology companies.

Arvind Thiagarajan was mentored by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, the former President of India. He graduated from the College of Engineering, Guindy, Anna University in India with an engineering degree in Electronics and Communications. Arvind specializes in signal processing and algorithm development with multiple patents and several award winning technical publications under his name.

Arvind is a Charter Member of TiE Organization. AT is also a member of the DICOM Standards Committee Working Group 4 (Compression), the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), and a charitable foundation called SAI Global Mission which focuses on Societal Advancement Initiatives globally by offering free food/healthcare services.



Mr. Madhusudan Naidu – *India*

Trustee – Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Trust

Mr Madhusudan Naidu is the youngest Trustee of Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Trust, a public charitable trust established in 1978, dedicated to the cause of values-based free education in rural India. He is a member of the council of Management of Sri Sathya Sai Centre for Human Excellence, a degree college in Science and Arts which is solely dedicated to training teachers and administrators, for educational institutions.

He is also the trustee of Prashanthi Balamandira Trust, established in 1981, which along with Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Trust, is helping establish schools and colleges all over the state of Karnataka in India, where over 5000 boys and girls are being imparted free values-based integral education. Mr Madhusudan is also passionately involved with Sri Sathya Sai Health and Education Trust, which has served the cause of free and quality medical care to rural poor and under privileged for over 50 years, and is now establishing state-of-the-art free paediatric cardiac hospitals in India, and medical centres in other parts of the world including Sri Lanka, Fiji, and Nigeria.

Before dedicating himself completely to the cause of social service, he worked professionally as a banker in HDFC BANK LTD, the largest private sector bank in India in various capacities for around 6 years, and specialised in Investment Portfolio Management for retail high net worth clientele. He is a multi- faceted alumnus and a Gold Medalist in MBA from Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning, Andhra Pradesh in India. He also has a Masters and a Bachelors degree in Chemistry from the same institution.



Mr. Sumeet Tappoo – *Fiji / India*

Chairman of the International Advisory Board,
Professional Singer & Philanthropist

Sumeet Tappoo is a professional singer and an international concert performer with a base in India's Film and Music Industry capital, Mumbai. Fiji-born Sumeet graduated with Bachelor of Business and Masters in Business Administration (MBA) with Distinction from a premier University in Sydney, Australia.

However, his passion for music, spirituality and philanthropy motivated him to lead a career in Indian music.

Starting from his first public performance at the tender age of 8, he has performed more than 600 concerts covering the Indian diaspora worldwide.

With 25+ albums to his credit, including releases by some of India's leading Music Houses, Sumeet has recorded with and given live performances alongside some of India's music industry legends, with a live performance in the presence of the legendary Mr. Amitabh Bachchan being the highlight of his career.

His lineup of prestigious music awards includes:

· Lions International Gold Award for "Best Emerging Soulful Singer 2014"

· Lions International Gold Award 2016 in recognition of his contribution to community service through music

· An Indian Government Sanskriti Award in 2016 for his "outstanding contribution towards spreading Indian Culture"

· An Award of Excellence by Fiji's Ministry of Education in 2016 for his "outstanding contribution to Music, Arts & Culture"

As a Philanthropist, he assists charitable, social, spiritual and non-profit organisations internationally through his music concerts. He also serves on the Advisory Board of the Fine Arts & Service Society in USA and as Chairman of the International Advisory Board of Sai Prema Foundation Fiji.



Sai Prema Foundation Fiji

www.saipremafiji.com

saipremafiji@gmail.com

Facebook.com/SaiPremaFoundationFiji