



eyelights



Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust Inc.,

**Sankara Nethralaya
OM Trust, USA**

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**Sankara Nethralaya Ophthalmic Mission Trust Inc, USA
reaches its message across to the youth of the nation**



**Asian American
Resource Centre,
Austin, Texas
honours
a well wisher
of
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Nethralaya**

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SN OM Trust members at the MAYURI program at Maryland HOFF theatre

The Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust as part of its ongoing efforts towards reaching out and educating the public on Sankara Nethralaya and its mission and objectives and raising funds in the USA for its community ophthalmology initiatives in India, sponsored the immensely popular inter-collegiate dance competition organized by MAYURI on the 1st of March 2014 at the University of Maryland HOFF Theater. The performances were of a very high order and the entire event was organized most professionally. The event helped the Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust to reach out to a gathering of more than 400 people comprising students from John Hopkins, Rutgers, UT, Georgia Tech, Tuft, University of Pitts, Emory and the College of NJ, their friends and family members.

The SN OM Trust booth registered good footfall and the visitors were given a detailed account about Sankara Nethralaya, its philosophy, goals and objectives, role of the SN OM Trust after which an appeal for financial

assistance was made. The collateral materials displayed at the venue, the detailed video presentation and a brief talk by Shri S.V Acharya, Founder & President, Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust played a major role in the visitors getting a firsthand knowledge about the institution and its march towards Banishing blindness.

Asian American Resource Centre, Austin, Texas honours an old friend and well wisher of Sankara Nethralaya



In what could be a fitting 70th year anniversary gift to a man who has given his best to the country of his birth and the country he chose to make his second home, the prestigious Asian American Resource Centre honoured Shri Sam Sockalingam Kannappan an old friend of Sankara Nethralaya and a driving force of the Sankara Nethralaya Ophthalmic Mission Trust as a “pioneer in software for engineering and an early leader of the Indian Houston Community” in a photo exhibit titled 'History of Indo-Americans in Texas' tracing the genesis of early Asian settlers and their contribution to the State.

The photo exhibit on display included a wonderful photograph of the young Kannappans with their little children, a picture of the imposing Rajagopuram of the Sri Meenakshi Temple at Pearland, Texas which he strived hard to establish and served as Founder Secretary and a current photograph of this most prominent American Indian.

Sankara Nethralaya and the Sankara Nethralaya Ophthalmic Mission Trust express their hearty Congratulations to Shri Sam Kannappan for receiving one more decorative feather to his glorious cap.

Fulfilling the dream of a beloved sibling



Dr C.S Rangarathnam's benevolence to SN

The Raghavans namely Dr TES Raghavan and Mrs. Usha Raghavan settled in the USA have been long time friends and supporters of Sankara Nethralaya, they share a common passion towards Sankara Nethralaya's cause of providing cost free eye care to the poor and needy and donate towards its cause whenever they visit their homeland. They were in India in early 2014 and made a significant donation to Sankara Nethralaya, but this time around there was a poignant story behind their donation and we felt we should share the same with our well wishers.

Dr C.S Rangarathnam brother of Mrs. Usha Raghavan was a man whom Mother Nature would be proud of, a learned man full of compassion to his fellow beings and a great lover of nature; he would spend hours in the solitude of scenic locations savouring the greatness and beauty of nature. He had a great admiration and empathy for the work carried out by the Cancer Institute and Sankara Nethralaya two noble institutions of his city (Chennai) and would often observe to his siblings that if he had the means he would wholeheartedly support these two institutions. He remained single, wedded to his profession and passion and when he had to go back to his creator he bequeathed his entire savings and estate to his siblings Shrimathi Usha Raghavan and Shri Ramadas. The noble siblings of a noble brother decided between them that they would not appportion the same to themselves but use it for a worthy cause in memory and honour of their beloved brother. The gentle and generous Raghavans visited Sankara Nethralaya an institution close to their late brother's heart, in person and presented a good part of their inheritance from their noble brother as a donation check to Dr SS.Badrinath, Chairman Emeritus, Sankara Nethralaya.

Quality eye care rolls by road to the closed communities of rural Tamil Nadu



The Mobile Eye Surgical Unit, Sankara Nethralaya's operation theatre on wheels took off on yet another sojourn of relief and care to the underprivileged citizens living in the backward and interiors pockets of the State. The Outdoor Eye Care team comprising of Dr P.S. Rajesh, Senior Consultant, Shri V.Sivakumar, Administrator, Jaslok Community Ophthalmology Center, Shri Chandra Kumar, Social worker, Shri Padmanabhan, Driver of the Mobile Eye Surgical Unit and Shri Venkatraman, Operation Theatre Assistant left for Vettavelam and Udayarpalayam two interior hamlets located on the Villupuram-Tiruvannamalai route on the 26th of January 2014. The screening camp at Vettavelam was supported by the Sai Trust and Shri Manigandan a local political functionary, a total of 419 patients were screened between the 26th of January to the 3rd of February and 43 patients diagnosed with Cataract were operated upon at the MESU. The post operative screening was completed on the 5th of February and the relief crew left for Udayarpalayam its next port of call on the evening of the same day.

Dr.P.S.Rajesh, Senior Consultant, SN and team at the MESU camp

The Udayarpalayam camp had a special significance for the Sankara Nethralaya team as the Mahaperiyava of Kanchi had camped here and worshipped at the local Shiva Temple. The camp was actively supported by the Zamindar of Udayarpalayam a man held in high esteem and love by the local people. A total of 476 people were thoroughly examined between the 6th and 8th of February and surgeries were performed on 95 patients between the 9th and 13th of February followed by postoperative examination on the 14th of February.

The camp conducted in these two places captured the spirit of the Mobile Eye Surgical Unit by taking eye care to people who had little or no interaction with the outside world beyond the limits of their town and practically no access to health care. The highlight of the camp was that the post operative examination conducted in both the camps indicated zero complication and a jubilant mobile eye care team returned with great memories of the picturesque villages, the Zamindar's old palace, worshipping at the local temple and the great opportunity of being able to bring back vision to the simple village folk.

Students from Premium European B School highly impressed with Sankara Nethralaya's infrastructure and services



Students from the Management Center Innsbruck, Austria

The 'Management Center Innsbruck' is a premium educational institution in Austria which offers MBA, MSc and many Executive Certified programs, the institution also conducts management seminars and research. The institution partners with the IIT-Madras for its management programs and its students spend a part of their semester at the IIT-Madras. The students of the Innsbruck management Center visited the Sankara Nethralaya main campus and the Jaslok Community Ophthalmology Center identified by the IIT-Madras as a preferred destinations for their on the job learning at a healthcare center. The students met the Managing Director Dr KS. Vasan and were thoroughly briefed on the various activities of the institution by Dr SS.Badrinath. They were highly impressed by the Research, patient care, training and teaching and extensive community services being carried out. They had a high word of praise for the staff who served with a smile, their dedication and team work and the low infection rates of the institution even by world standards. The students from Innsbruck and the faculty of IIT were most satisfied and fulfilled with the visit.

Seeds of effort sown by OM Trustee bear fruit

The American Association for Physicians of Indian origin (AAPI) has been a long time friend of Sankara Nethralaya and a supporter of its cause. The members of the Long Island chapter of the AAPI responded most generously to a presentation of Sankara Nethralaya's future plans and cost free community ophthalmology initiatives and earnest appeal for funds to support the same made by Sankara Nethralaya OM Trustee and a member of the AAPI Dr Rajendra Modi some time back and dispatched a check collected from its members to him. Readers may remember that the AAPI had made a similar donation to the SN OM Trust through the good doctor last year too.

Bring the Light of Vision, the Cheer and the Smile back on the face of the visually impaired!

Help Sankara Nethralaya take the **“Light of Vision”** to the darkest corners of India!

All Contributions to OM Trust enjoy 100% IRS Tax Exemption under section 501 (c) (3) in the USA.

For more details on Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust and how you can play a role in their noble mission

Please Contact

Shri SV.Acharya, President, OM Trust,

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How to donate in the United States of America...



Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust Inc.

9710 Traville Gateway Drive, No. 392, Rockville, MD 20850, Phone : (301) 529 7377

www.supportsankaranethralaya.org

Tax Exempt ID No. 52-1611548

For additional details, feel free to contact S. V. Acharya at (301) 529-7377



Donating online at Omtrust.org - All your donations are securely routed through www.groundspring.org.

United Way - Mention the above information on your authorization form. Local chapters will remit your contributions to the SN OM Trust Inc.

Combined Federal Campaign - If you are a US federal employee, make your donations to Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust Inc. CFC No. 68803.

Employer Matching Program - A number of US employers match *dollar for dollar* to employees' contributions. You may be able to double your contributions to SN OM Trust.

Appreciated Stocks - You may donate appreciated stocks to SN OM Trust Inc. and avail of a tax deduction. For additional information, please contact the Trust at the aforementioned phone number.

Contributions by check - Simply make your check payable to SN OM Trust Inc. and mail to the above address.

Payroll Deductions - Please check with your HR office if they are programmed to withhold from payroll and remit to a non-profit organization. A number of organizations provide this as a public service.

Draft from Checking Account - Download from our website www.omtrust.org, the direct debit authorization form and forward your authorization with a 'void check' to the above address. We will draft the funds on the 15th of every month. You can stop your authorization any time by a simple notification to us.

Donate on Special Occasions, as a tribute Festivals, birthdays, wedding anniversaries, in memory of a loved one and provide support in the form of a bequest.

All donations to SN OM Trust are 100% IRS Tax Exempted in US, IRS Registered 501 (c) (3)

How can you help us?

Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust owes its existence and success to its committed volunteers. To realize our mission of 20/20 by 2020, we need many more volunteers. You can be one of our volunteers and can help us by :

- Spreading the word about Sankara Nethralaya.
- Supporting Teleophthalmology & Glass dispensing vans.
- Conducting events for fundraising.
- Helping with accounting, web management.
- Arranging for American students to undertake summer projects at Sankara Nethralaya.
- Personally making small donations

The following employers have supported us through GIFT MATCHING or PAYROLL DEDUCTION programs!

- Microsoft
- Deutsche Bank
- American Express
- Merrill Lynch
- J P Morgan Chase
- GE Foundation
- The Bank of New York Mellon
- Google
- eBay Foundation
- Qualcomm
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